



(Glass of Milk with permission by Russell James Smith)

The perception of beauty is a moral test.

-Henry David Thoreau



www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

May 14, 2017
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
 Mother's Milk Mystery Sunday Worship Service
 In the series "Crazy Kinfolk"**

Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.

* Please rise in body or spirit

We Gather as God's Beloved People

Gathering Music

Simple Gifts

-Kerr

Welcome and Call to Worship

(Please sign and pass pew pads and fill out Prayer Request cards you may have. You can place the Prayer Request cards in the offering plates later in the service.)

Leader: God is good...

People: all the time!

Leader: All the time...

People: God is good!

Sacrament of Baptism of Michael Knoll

Pastor: Friends in Christ, we are here to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

People: There is one body and one Spirit. There is one hope in God's call to us. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of us all.

Pastor: Jesus came to John to be baptized by him. John tried to stop him and said, "I need to be baptized by you, yet you come to me?"

People: Jesus answered, "Allow me to be baptized now. This is necessary to fulfill all righteousness." So John agreed to baptize Jesus.

Pastor: When Jesus was baptized, he immediately came up out of the water. Heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and resting on him.

People: A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son whom I dearly love; I find happiness in him."

Pastor: At another time Jesus said: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I've commanded you."

Baptismal Hymn #326 *Crashing Waters at Creation*

* **Sharing God's Welcome** (Greet everyone in the hope of peace and friendship.)

Children's Conversation

(Children of all ages are welcome to come forward to the chancel steps. Following the Conversation, children are welcome to remain to worship or to participate in our Sunday School.)

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

We Hear a Word from God

A Word in Music

River in Judea

-arranged by John Leavitt

A Word Proclaimed

-Pastor Aaron Roberts

A Perception of Jesus

Matthew 11:19 The Human One came eating and drinking, and they say, "Look, a glutton and a drunk, a friend of tax collectors and sinners."

How Do You Perceive?

Matthew 16:13-15 [Jesus asked,] "Who do people say the Human One is?"

They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the other prophets."

He said, "And what about you? Who do you say that I am?"

The Choice of Perception

Matthew 25:14-30 "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who was leaving on a trip. He called his servants and handed his possessions over to them. To one he gave five valuable coins, and to another he gave two, and to another he gave one. He gave to each servant according to that servant's ability. Then he left on his journey.

After the man left, the servant who had five valuable coins took them and went to work doing business with them. He gained five more. In the same way, the one who had two valuable coins gained two more.

But the servant who had received the one valuable coin dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money.

Now after a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five valuable coins came forward with five additional coins. He said, 'Master, you gave me five valuable coins. Look, I've gained five more.'

His master replied, 'Excellent! You are a good and faithful servant! You've been faithful over a little. I'll put you in charge of much. Come, celebrate with me.'

"The second servant also came forward and said, 'Master, you gave me two valuable coins. Look, I've gained two more.'

His master replied, 'Well done! You are a good and faithful servant. You've been faithful over a little. I'll put you in charge of much. Come, celebrate with me.'

Now the one who had received one valuable coin came and said, 'Master, I **knew that you are a hard man**. You harvest grain where you haven't sown. You gather crops where you haven't spread seed. So I was afraid. And I hid my valuable coin in the ground. Here, you have what's yours.'

His master replied, 'You evil and lazy servant! You knew that I harvest grain where I haven't sown and that I gather crops where I haven't spread seed? In that case, you should have turned my money over to the bankers so that when I returned, you could give me what belonged to me with interest. Therefore, take from him the valuable coin and give it to the one who has ten coins. Those who have much will receive more, and they will have more than they need. But as for those who don't have much, even the little bit they have will be taken away from them. Now take the worthless servant and throw him outside into the darkness. People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth.'

Express your thoughts via social media #ColonialUCC

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

* Hymn #28

For the Beauty of the Earth

A Time of Gifts and Offerings

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *Christ lay in the bonds of death* -Dupre
 (Our weekly offering includes food collected in the red wagon to help fill local pantries.)

Doxology (#780 adapted; tune Old Hundredth)

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God, all creatures here below;
 Praise God above, you heavenly host:
 Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.***

* Blessing the Offering

**God, bless these tithes and offerings,
 that they may heal and make whole the lives of all your children.
 And bless those who give and those who long to give,
 that we may become living stones of mercy, grace and justice
 in the house of your creation. Amen.**

A Time of Prayer

Prayers of the People

Believing that each joy and/or concern expressed is indeed a prayer, after each expression, the Pastor will say:

LORD, in your mercy.

And the people may respond:

Hear our prayer.

Praying in Silence

Our Lord's Prayer ("Our Father" is the traditional way this prayer begins. You are invited to use whatever name for God you find most meaningful (Father, Mother, Creator, God, etc.). These names for God create a beautiful chorus.)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on Earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us, not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

We Depart to Serve

*** Hymn #429**

God, Bless Our Homes

*** Renew Our Covenant** (Turn towards the center aisle as we bless one another with the promise of our covenant.)

We covenant with the Lord and with one another and do bind ourselves in the presence of God to walk together in Christian Love. We seek to worship God in spirit and in truth and to love our neighbors as ourselves. With God's help we will honor Colonial Church in our conduct, support its program, and extend the influence of Christ throughout the world.

*** Congregational Song of Blessing #809 *God Be With You***

God be with you, God be with you, God be with you till we meet again.

O God be with you, God be with you, God be with you till we meet again.

*** Benediction and Postlude**

Bryn Calfaria

-Haller

Parents of the Baptized Child: Sean and Danielle Knoll

Liturgist:	Linda Moses
Videographer:	Geoff Robinson
Worship Graphics Operator:	Hayden Ferguson
Children's Conversation:	Aaron Roberts
Hospitality Table:	Martha Wofford
Head Usher:	Chester Bender
Ushers:	Chester Bender, Randy & Sue Freeman, Mary Pelton

United Church of Christ Mission Moment - Sunday, May 14, 2017
Enduring Witness - John 14:1-14

“I am the way, the truth and the life.”

No gospel words mean more to us than these.

The way is a path where we stand and it is also the direction and manner in which we walk. If Jesus is the way then we might stop and observe what is under our feet and in what direction are we walking? Who is on this path with us? If the way is how we live, then what do we do to live? How does our work serve the world? Who are our friends and how do they reflect Jesus in the midst of what we do and where we go, and who is it we love? If Jesus is the way, where is he on your journey, right now, reading these words?

The truth has become as malleable as clay depending on who is molding its contours. Are all truths equal if Jesus is the truth? We disagree about many things—about how to manage our natural resources, about the role of government, about taxes and healthcare... but not all ideas are true and good. What we believe about the worth and value of others is not open to debate. The truth is that all beings and all nature in the universe is declared “Good” every day by our still-speaking creator God. Jesus is the truth of that. He, fully human and fully divine, represents what is true about all of us. We are beloved and accepted and never to be demeaned.

The Life is what gives breath and pumps air every second. It is tangible and touchable. Jesus is life because he breathes with his human lungs in each of us, as close as the sinews that hold our heart in place.

In Barmen, Germany in May, 1934, the German Protestant churches organized to mount a resistance to Hitler. They produced a document now called the Barmen Declaration. It begins by stating what it calls its first evangelical truth: **I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE. John 14:6**



The Sunday Crier

May 14, 2017

Support Effort to End Hunger Justice and Witness Committee members have petitions in the narthex to be sent to Rep. Kevin Yoder and Senators Roberts and Moran. We invite everyone to add their name to ours as we do our part to realize God's vision where all people "will hunger no more" (Revelation 7:16). We will also have contact information for those who care to call or email their legislator. Colonial Church cares about hungry people. Each Sunday generous members bring food to fill our red wagon and write checks to the food pantry. These donations help folks locally next week, but what about the week after that and after that? And, what about the nearly 800 people around the world who lack sufficient nutrition? The Justice and Witness Committee believes we can do more. We can support Bread for the World, a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad by 2030. We can add our voices to the thousands of others who are urging Congress to make funding decisions that support programs helping families alleviate hunger and get out of poverty.

Mother's Day Diaper Drive. There is always a shortage of diapers at Cross-Lines and all the other places that distribute them. All the Moms know that if you don't change diapers often enough, then babies get diaper rash, and cry all the time – a disaster for Moms who themselves weren't very well raised and don't know how to be a good mother. Diapers help! The grocery cart is in the narthex, or write a check to Colonial with "Diaper Drive" in the memo line. Agencies can get diapers at very good prices from Harvesters. Remember, your Mother would want you to do it.

Ramadan Post-Fast Dinner — Colonial Church is hosting a Ramadan post-fast meal with our Muslim neighbors with the Dialogue Institute on Tuesday, May 30 in the Social Hall. Registration 8:00-8:15 p.m.; presentation about Ramadan 8:15 p.m, dinner 8:50 p.m. This late start is required so that the Ramadan fast not be broken until after sunset. It is a great opportunity to learn more of the religious holiday, to visit with some of the Muslim faith and to expand on our goal to reach out to our brothers of another segment of the Abrahamic religions. Reserve your place at <http://tinyurl.com/colonial-ramadan>.

*Altar
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by LOREN GRIFFITH in loving memory of his wife, Jan.

Colonial Friends To OP Arboretum. Colonial Friends will tour the Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Gardens on Wednesday, May 17 at 9:30 a.m. Admission is \$3 per person. Following the tour, the group will have lunch at Carrabba's, 10586 Metcalf Lane, 66212. Meet at Carrabba's at 9:00 a.m. to carpool to the arboretum (8909 W. 179th Street, 66013). RSVP to Catherine Bowser (Bowcat2@aol.com or 913-381-0430).

Sign Up for VBS! July 11-14 – God Built You for a Purpose! Calling all kids 4 years old through 6th grade. Join us for four days of fun, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Go to <http://tinyurl.com/colonial-vbs17> to register children. **Shoes that Grow** – We would like to again purchase “Shoes That Grow” for our VBS mission project. Last year the kids raised funds for 100 pairs of shoes. We would like to send the shoes to Malawi with Stacey Algren when she goes in July. Since she leaves the week before VBS we need to sell car wash coupons before the car wash. This is an interesting economics lesson for the kids. We will be showing the shoes and collecting cash or checks in the Heritage Room after the second service. If you would like to donate in the collection plate, just mark your checks for “VBS shoes.”

Colonial Tweens Fundraiser. The Colonial Tweens are collecting pet supplies and funds for Pawsitive Tails canine rescue as their 2nd annual spring Community Service Project. Pawsitive Tails is a not for profit organization focused on finding forever homes for dogs and puppies in the Kansas City and Topeka areas. All rescues live as family members in loving, volunteer foster homes until they are adopted. Please consider donating the following new, or gently used items: *water and food bowls, crates, collars, leashes, pet beds, Kong brand toys, or IAMS PROACTIVE HEALTH Smart Puppy Dry Puppy Food.* Stop by the CTS room for refreshments and drop off your contributions on **Sunday, May 21 and 28.** We will also accept cash, or check donations. All checks must be made payable to Pawsitive Tails.

Help with Worship Music During the Summer. This summer we want your help with planning our special music during worship. So, we'd like you to tell us what hymn, instrumental, or spiritually significant song that you'd like to have as part of our Sunday morning worship. You are welcome to offer to perform the music, have Joseph play it, or suggest the recorded version that we use. Please enter your suggestion at: <http://tinyurl.com/summer-worship>

Thursday Morning Bible Study. Next Thursday, we'll look into the death of John the Baptist, the Feeding of Five Thousand, and Jesus' Walking on Water. This is Matthew 14:1-33.

More2 Annual Banquet. Each year, MORE2, an interfaith social justice organization, holds a celebration banquet to acknowledge the successes of the past year and look into the future. It serves as a fundraising event, where member faith communities, businesses, and supporters can come together to speak about the issues and be inspired

for the work yet to be done. This year the event is Thursday, June 8, at the Marriott Muehlbach Imperial Ballroom, 1201 Wyandotte, Kansas City, MO. Social hour at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m. Speakers are Rev. DaNiece Welch, senior pastor at Bidwell Street Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA, and Rev. Dr. John Welch of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Register at <https://colonialucc.infellowship.com/Forms/359232>. Cost is \$65 per person.

Colonial Women Activities

- **Coffee.** Monday, June 5, 9:30 a.m., Big Biscuit.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, June 13, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village.
- **Book Group.** Friday, June 19, 7:00 p.m., Stacey Algren's home. The group will discuss America's First Daughter by Stephanie Day and Laura Kamoie.

Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate — The Justice and Witness Committee offers a selection of Fair Trade chocolate bars and ground coffee for purchase the second Sunday of the month following the 10:15 service.

The Week Ahead

TODAY, May 14

8:30 am—Worship

9:00—Bell Choir, Pilgrim Room

9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library

10:15—Worship

10:30—Sunday School

11:15—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room

11:15—Fair Trade Coffee & Chocolate, Narthex

TUESDAY, May 16

9:30 am—Book Group, Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY, May 17

9:30 am—Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein Brothers - Prairie Village Shops

9:30 am—Colonial Friends, Overland Park Arboretum

THURSDAY, May 18

10:00 am—Bible Study, Pastor's Office

6:30 pm—AA, Oberlin Room

FRIDAY, May 19

8:30 am—Quiltmakers, Social Hall

GUEST INFORMATION

Welcome to Colonial Church in Prairie Village! We are glad you have worshiped with us today. If you have questions or concerns, feel free to call our church office at 913-362-7735. Aaron Roberts, our senior pastor, is here Monday-Thursday of each week and his email address is aaron@colonialucc.org.

A fully staffed nursery is available each Sunday morning from 8:20 to 11:30 a.m. Ask any of the ushers for directions to the nursery.

Hearing Devices—Hearing-assisted devices and large-print bulletins are available in the narthex. The worship service this morning can also be heard in the library.

Giving Cards—Giving Cards are available in the pew racks for anyone who contributes financially through EFT or periodically. To participate in the offering, take a card and place it into the offering plate as they are passed.

Children's Sunday School—Children preschool through 6th grade may leave after the Children's Conversation at the 10:15 a.m. worship service to go to class.

Youth Group—The Colonial Church Youth Group welcomes 7th through 12th grade students. Sunday gatherings are in the youth room (the Savoy Room) at 10:15 a.m. The room is open for youth to come, relax, and enjoy one another's company prior to the Sunday service. Service and fellowship activities are planned throughout the year.

Colonial Choir—Choir for all ages. The choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room, September-May.

Watch our Weekly Services and Sermons—You can watch our worship services on YouTube at <http://tinyurl.com/colonialworship-online> and get the sermon, bulletin and study guide on our website. Our 10:15am worship service is live-streamed, so please contact the church office if you have a privacy concern.

www.colonialucc.org—Learn more about Colonial and its programs.

Social Media— Stay up to date with what's happening at Colonial through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/colonialucc>; Instagram: [colonial_ucc](#); Twitter: [#ColonialUCC](#); Follow Pastor Aaron: [@PastorARoberts](#)

COLONIAL STAFF

Senior Minister: Rev. Aaron Roberts (aaron@colonialucc.org)

Connecting Minister: Rev. Lisa Tierney (lisa.tierney@colonialucc.org)

Youth Group Leader: Michelle Turpen (michelle.turpen@colonialucc.org)

Sunday School Superintendent: Camille Breckenridge (camille.breckenridge@colonialucc.org)

Music Director: Kirk Carson (kirk.carson@yahoo.com)

Bell Choir Director: Hayden Ferguson

Organist: Dr. Joseph Kern

Church Administrator: Pauline Anthan (paulinea@colonialucc.org)

Communications Manager: Sally Huggins (sallyhuggins@yahoo.com)

Building Maintenance: Mike McGill (mike.mcgill@colonialucc.org)