



(Image used with permission by Greg Ellison)

To shun one's cross is to make it heavier.

-Henri Frederic Amiel



www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

May 29, 2016
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
 “Now is the time when we bring our own stories before God...”
 Sunday Worship Service
 in the series *Standing Naked Before God***

Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.

* Please rise in body or spirit

We Gather as God's Beloved People

Gathering Music

Converse

-Hobby

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!

Blessing of New Paraments

* Opening Hymn #7 *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

A Time of Confession

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Grace

* **Sung Response — Gloria #759 adapted**

***Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen. Amen.***

* **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 Proclaimed

-Pastor Aaron Roberts

Paul's Advice to Excommunicate

1 Corinthians 5:11-13 I'm writing to you not to associate with anyone who calls themselves "brother" or "sister" who is sexually immoral, greedy, someone who worships false gods, an abusive person, a drunk, or a swindler. Don't even eat with anyone like this. What do I care about judging outsiders? Isn't it your job to judge insiders? God will judge outsiders. Expel the evil one from among you!

"Cut Dead"

No more fiendish punishment could be devised, were such a thing physically possible, than that one should be turned loose in society and remain absolutely unnoticed by all the members thereof. If no one turned around when we entered, answered when we spoke, or minded what we did, but if every person we met "cut us dead," and acted as if we were nonexistent things, a kind of rage and impotent despair would before long well up in us, from which the cruelest bodily torture would be a relief.

-Dr. William James in *The Principles of Psychology* (1896)

Paul on a Better Day - Restoration is Always the Goal

Galatians 6:1 Brothers and sisters, if a person is caught doing something wrong, you who are spiritual should restore someone like this with a spirit of gentleness. Watch out for yourselves so you won't be tempted too.

Express your thoughts via social media at #ColonialUCC.

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

* Hymn #393

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

A Time of Gifts and Offerings

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Beloved Jesus, Here We Stand

-Dupre

(Our weekly offering includes food collected 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

Creator God, you freely offer our bodies, minds, and spirits all that they need daily. For all that and more, we overflow with gratitude. Use these gifts to meet the greatest needs and wants of our community, your kindom. 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

- * **Memorial Hymn #381** *Faith of the Martyrs*
- * **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** *Ach Gott, von Himmel sieh darein* -Pachelbel

Liturgist:	Diane Kuhn
Videographer:	Bruce Wofford
Worship Graphics Operator:	Hayden Huggins
Children's Conversation:	Martha Wofford
Greeter:	Frank Robertson
Head Usher:	Howard Lee
Ushers:	Joan and Jerry Gilson, Missy Flachsbarth, Howard Lee

United Church of Christ Mission Moment
May 29, 2016 - Memorial Day Weekend
Luke 7:1-10

"Love Your Enemies"

Most of those U.S. service men and women whom we honor this Memorial Day weekend died at the hands of an enemy. It is difficult to remember them without also considering the cause of their death. War did not kill them, but some armed enemy who had been driven to hate them. How can we resist hating the enemy in return? Because Jesus told us to. "Love your enemies," he declared. (Matthew 5:44) "Do good to them that hate you."

Impossible? During the early months of the Spanish Civil War of the 1930s, Republican Loyalists murdered almost seven thousand Roman Catholic religious, and burned many churches and monasteries to the ground. One of the martyrs was the parish priest of Torrijos, Don Liberio Gonzalez Nonvela. According to the historian, Hugh Thomas, Father Liberio told the militiamen who took him prisoner, "I want to suffer for Christ."

"Oh, do you?" they answered, "then you shall die as Christ did."

They stripped him and scourged him mercilessly. Next, they fastened a beam of wood on his back, gave him vinegar to drink, and crowned him with thorns.

"Blaspheme and we will forgive you," said the leader of the militia.

"It is I who forgive and bless you," the priest replied.

The militiamen discussed how they should kill Father Liberio. Some wished to nail him to a cross, but in the end they simply shot him. Father Liberio's final request was to be shot facing his tormentors, so that he might die blessing them.

Few of us could follow Jesus' commandment to the lengths that Father Liberio did. But perhaps in the quiet of church or home on this holiday weekend, we can ask God to help us forgive our enemies, employing a prayer of the Eastern Orthodox Church:

Thou who didst pray for them that crucified thee, O Lord, Lover of the souls of men [and women], and who didst command thy servants to pray for their enemies, forgive those who hate and maltreat us, and turn our lives from harm and evil to love and good works: for this we humbly bring our prayer, that with one accord and one heart we may glorify thee who alone lovest humankind. Amen.

Colonial Church Bible Study Guide

Our 10:00am Thursday morning Bible Study is covering the Apocrypha. If you would like to take part in the study, simply come on Thursdays or signup for the group via InFellowship from the church website.

Keep the simple point in mind: our primary purpose is not simply learning information about the Bible. It is hearing God speak.

Lesson 7 - Wisdom of Solomon **Homework - Read Wisdom 1-5**

The Apocrypha is not commonly read or studied. In many Bibles it is not included. During this sixth week of the study, we will read the Wisdom of Solomon, which was written right about the time by Jews living in Egypt. It's an essay on the importance of living with an eye on eternity. For those of you interested in the Sophia (Wisdom) teachings that influence the Gospel of John in particular, you may get some insights from this.

If you would like a copy of the supporting reading, please contact Pastor Aaron to have a copy sent to you.



The Sunday Crier

May 29, 2016

Annual Meeting on June 5

The following slate of candidates will be presented by the Nominating Committee for approval at the annual meeting on Sunday, June 5, following the 10:15 a.m. service. Please plan to attend.

- Moderator: Jayne Quimby
- Assistant Moderator: Kirby Drayer
- Board of Christian Education: Martha Wofford
- Board of Community and Member Development: Elizabeth Uppman
- Board of Property Management: Bill Sanderson
- Board of Stewardship: Jan Parkinson
- Board of Worship: Linda Moses
- Board of Parish Life: Barrie Herbst and Lin Vaughn, Co-Chairs

Ramadan Post-Fast Dinner

Colonial has received an invitation to be a part of a Ramadan post-fast dinner on Monday, June 13 at Colonial in the Social Hall. Registration 8:00-8:15 p.m.; presentation about Ramadan 8:15 p.m.; dinner 8:50 p.m. The 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. It is also an opportunity to strengthen the friendships that have been established at the recent dinners shared in the Colonial Dinner Club. If you would like to be a part of this celebration, please contact Bruce Edwards at 678-662-0956 or Mariam Fleming, 913-648-5848, mariamfleming@gmail.com.

ALTAR FLOWERS: The beautiful flowers on the altar are provided by **Jan Neustrom** in loving memory of her husband, Bob, and son, Ned.

HIGHLIGHTS

A Special Thank You Message From The Colonial Tween Squad. C.T.S. is excited about their Spring Wish List Collection for the Spofford Home. Since May 22, they have collected many useful items as well as monetary donations. Thank you to everyone for making their first community service project a huge success. And special thanks to Colonial Women for recognizing this wonderful group with their generous donation to help furnish the C.T.S. meeting room. The youth are looking forward to making it their own space in the near future.

Standing Naked Before God Study Group. Sitting with the pain and joy of being a human, while refusing to run for any exits, is the only way to become a real human being. Brave is a decision. Email Rev. Caitie Smith at caitie.smith@colonialucc.org if you are interested in joining the study. The group will meet Sundays in the Library immediately after the 10:15 a.m. service.

Sign Up for VBS 2016. Weird animals are taking over VBS June 14-17 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at Colonial. This VBS is all about accepting the differences in yourself and others, and how the world wouldn't work if we were all exactly the same! Register your children and grandchildren, friends and neighbors at colonialucc.org at the bottom of the page. We also need help! Sign up to volunteer at <http://tinyurl.com/colonialvbs-16>.

Become a Stephen Minister. Stephen Ministers are people who are called and equipped and trained to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. A Stephen Minister works with Pastor Aaron in caring for people in our community. Beginning in September, we are looking to train our first group of Stephen Ministers. The training will be Wednesday evenings at Village Church from 6:30-8:30pm, and those completing the training will be commissioned in January 2017. Email Pastor Aaron, at aaron@colonialucc.org to learn more or to register.

Feed the Hungry Donations. This week and every week, don't forget to bring a non-perishable food item for the Food Pantry on Sunday. A hungry family will thank you!

Colonial Women Activities

- Breakfast and Coffee at Big Biscuit. Monday, June 6, at 9:30 a.m. at Big Biscuit.
- Blue Moose Tuesday. Tuesday, June 14, 5:30 p.m. Blue Moose in Prairie Village.
- Book Group. Friday, July 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Stephanie Graff, 4141 W. 111th Terrace, Leawood, KS 66211. The group will be discussing *A Little Life* by Hanya Yanagihara.

THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY — MAY 29

8:30 a.m.—Worship.

9:15 a.m.—That Was the Week That Was, Library.

10:15 a.m.—Worship.

10:30 a.m.—Sunday School.

11:15 a.m.—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room.

11:15 a.m.—Standing Naked Before God Study Group, Library.

MONDAY, MAY 30

Office Closed—Memorial Day.

TUESDAY, MAY 31

9:30 a.m.—Book Group, Heritage Room.

WEDNESDAY, June 1

9:30 a.m. —Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein's in Prairie Village.

THURSDAY, June 2

10:00 a.m.—Bible Study, Pastor's Office.

FRIDAY, June 3

8:30 a.m.—Quiltmakers, Social Hall.

SUNDAY, June 5

8:30 a.m.—Worship.

9:15 a.m.—That Was the Week That Was, Library.

10:15 a.m.—Worship.

10:30 a.m.—Sunday School.

11:15 a.m.—Annual Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary.

11:15 a.m.—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room.

11:15 a.m.—Standing Naked Before God Study Group, Library.

MONDAY, June 6

9:30 a.m.—Colonial Women Coffee, Big Biscuit.

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.

Listen to our Weekly Messages—You can listen to the sermon and get the bulletin and study guide on our website.

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](https://www.instagram.com/colonial_ucc); Twitter:

#ColonialUCC; Follow Pastor Aaron: [@PastorARoberts](https://twitter.com/PastorARoberts)

COLONIAL STAFF

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

Associate Pastor: Rev. Caitie Smith (caitie.smith@colonialucc.org)

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

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

Bell Choir Director: Hayden Huggins

Organist: Dr. Joseph Kern

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

Newsletter Editor: Sally Huggins (sallyhuggins@yahoo.com)

Building Maintenance: Mike McGill

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