



(We Found Love.. used with permission by Luis Fernando Rabelo de Castro.)

If a relationship is founded on love it doesn't end.
-Rosanne Cash



www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

September 25, 2016
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
“Finding Love” Sunday Worship Service
in the series *Relationship Matters***

Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.

* Please rise in body or spirit

We Gather as God’s Beloved People

Gathering Music

Lied

-Vierne

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!

* **Opening Hymn #27** *From All That Dwell below the Skies*

A Time of Confession

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

We confess to you, God, that we often have failed to be loving, that we often have taken for granted the people for whom we care most. We selfishly neglect and strain the bonds that unite us. We hurt those who love us and withdraw from the community that supports us. Forgive us. Renew within us an affectionate spirit. Enrich our lives with the gracious gift of your love so that we may embrace others with the same love. Give to us a new joy and responsiveness to the relationships we cherish; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

(UCC Book of Worship)

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 in Music

Soon and Very Soon

-Crouch/arr. Harlan

A Word Proclaimed

-Pastor Aaron Roberts

Finding Love 21st Century Style

We live in a world where people are afraid to feel anything genuine, or at the very least, are afraid to show it. When someone is angry with you, there's no phone call asking to talk about it. Instead you get a passive aggressive response to a text message or a suspiciously relevant subtweet, quietly calling you out in 140 characters or less. If you like someone, you don't tell them how you feel; rather you act interested enough for them to pick up on it, but not enough to freak them out.

(“Why Modern Dating Makes Me Want to Punch Myself in the Throat” by Melissa Moeller)

Finding Love 3,000+ Years Ago Style

Genesis 24:2-28 The servant took ten of his master's camels and all of his master's best provisions, set out, and traveled to Nahor's city in Aram-naharaim. He had the camels kneel down outside the city at the well in the evening, when women come out to draw water. He said, "LORD, God of my master Abraham, make something good happen for me today and be loyal to

my master Abraham. I will stand here by the spring while the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water. When I say to a young woman, 'Hand me your water jar so I can drink,' and she says to me, 'Drink, and I will give your camels water too,' may she be the one you've selected for your servant Isaac. In this way I will know that you've been loyal to my master."

Even before he finished speaking, Rebekah - daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother - was coming out with a water jar on her shoulder. The young woman was very beautiful, old enough to be married, and hadn't known a man intimately. She went down to the spring, filled her water jar, and came back up. The servant ran to meet her and said, "Give me a little sip of water from your jar."

She said, "Drink, sir." Then she quickly lowered the water jar with her hands and gave him some water to drink. When she finished giving him a drink, she said, "I'll draw some water for your camels too, till they've had enough to drink." She emptied her water jar quickly into the watering trough, ran to the well again to draw water, and drew water for all of the camels.

The man stood gazing at her, wondering silently if the LORD had made his trip successful or not. As soon as the camels had finished drinking, the man took out a gold ring, weighing a half shekel, and two gold bracelets for her arms, weighing ten shekels. He said, "Please tell me whose daughter you are. Is there room in your father's house for us to spend the night?"

She responded, "I'm the daughter of Bethuel, who is the son of Milcah and Nahor." She continued, "We have plenty of straw and feed for the camels, and a place to spend the night."

The man bowed down and praised the LORD: "Bless the LORD, God of my master Abraham, who hasn't given up his loyalty and his faithfulness to my master. The LORD has shown me the way to the household of my master's brother."

The young woman ran and told her mother's household everything that had happened.

A Loving Blessing to the People in Your Life

Colossians 3:12-15 As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on

love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.

Express your thoughts via social media at #ColonialUCC

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

* Hymn #362

When Love is Found

A Time of Gifts and Offerings

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *O Christ Who Art the Light of the World* -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

The words of honor that we speak and sing to you, LORD, we now put into effect in what we sacrifice. Use these gifts in the cause of Love. 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 #393

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

* **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**

Confidence

-Kern

Liturgist:	Joan Gilson
Videographer:	Geoff Robinson
Worship Graphics Operator:	Hayden Ferguson
Children's Conversation:	Martha Wofford
Hospitality Desk:	Elizabeth Uppman
Head Usher:	Chester Bender
Ushers:	Sue and Randy Freeman, Bill Yohn, Chester Bender

Colonial Church Bible Study Guide

Our 10:00am Thursday morning Bible Study is beginning a read through of the entire Bible over the course of a few years. Each week we will meet to discuss the readings and explore any questions that come up. 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.

Even if you cannot come on Thursday mornings, you can email Pastor Aaron.

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

This week's readings:

Sunday, September 25 - Worship

Monday, September 26 - Read Genesis 27 Abraham's Descendants: The Next Generation

Tuesday, September 27 - Read Matthew 9:1-26 The Call of Matthew, The Question about Fasting, and the Healing of Two Women

Wednesday, September 28 - Read Genesis 28 - Jacob's Dream

Thursday, September 29 - Bible Study

Friday, September 30 - No Readings

Saturday, October 1 - Matthew 9:27-38 Healings and Harvest

Sunday, September 25 - United Church of Christ Mission Moment
 Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

Covenant Faith

Sitting in a city under siege and locked in the palace, the prophet Jeremiah had no reason to think that things would ever get better, and yet when God told him to go out and buy some land, that's just what Jeremiah did. He bought land in a battlefield while the battle was going on! Now that's faith!

We aren't exactly in the middle of a battlefield, but the local church may feel under siege these days. There's a whole lot of data that points to the decline of mainline Protestant denominations. It's not the same trauma as having the Babylonian army destroy your city, but it is a time to be reminded of our faith and re-covenant with each other to live faithfully. John Dorhauer, ever since he became President and General Minister of the UCC, has been saying that he believes the Holy Spirit envisions a future in which the UCC matters. Envisioning that future was the theme of his installation service—all three of them.

The installation of Reverend John Dorhauer took place in three cities over three days in April – New York, Chicago and Seattle. Three cities because we are a denomination spread across this country and not in one place. Three services planned to follow in succession, each service building on the other and culminating in Holy Communion at the last service in Seattle. Three services so that there would be room to accommodate all those who came to bless this ministry. Three services and nine preachers! Nine different visions of that future the Holy Spirit has in store for us. The music! The prayers! The people! And, at the final service, when he was duly installed, all the people said these words in unison:

We receive John Dorhauer as General Minister and President, promising to labor with him and support him in our common ministry of the gospel. We covenant with John as a sign of our mutual ministry in Christ's name. Amen.



The Sunday Crier

September 18, 2016

Movie Night – Tonight: My First Mister

My First Mister, the story of an alienated teen (Leelee Sobieski) who forms an unlikely friendship with a lonely clothing store manager (Albert Brooks), will be shown in the Heritage Room tonight at 5:30 p.m. The film is strangely appropriate at this time of political, ethnic, economic, educational, ideological and racial division in our country. It is a story of surprising reconciliation and unification. Sobieski is brash, abrasive and vulnerable as a teenage child of divorce who hides her pain behind a mask of hard-edged gothic rebellion. Brooks plays a man who is her total opposite, a precise and well-ordered menswear store owner of 49. Soft drinks and popcorn will be provided and you're encouraged to bring a snack to share.

Come to Measure and Cut!

Thursday, September 29, Mayflower Guild will meet in the Social Hall to measure and cut hat and scarf sets for the Johnson County Christmas Bureau. We will be measuring, cutting, and chatting from 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. Come when you can, leave when you must. Bring a pair of scissors. A yardstick or T square would be helpful, but not necessary. Bring a sack lunch or go to Hen House for a salad. Cookies and coffee for all. RSVP to Marilyn Uppman (gmuppman@aol.com, 913-722-1070).

Important Rummage Sale Information

The Colonial Rummage Sale is rapidly approaching (Oct. 18-21) so get your donations ready. Drop-off dates are Thursday, Oct. 13–Sunday, Oct. 16. Start collecting your items and remember hangers—we find that clothing is much more profitable if it is clean, wrinkle-free and on hangers. In addition to items, we need your help. **Monetary Donations**—We are accepting donations to help defray the cost of food for volunteers, advertising and truck rental. Any amount is accepted. Mark your check with “rummage sale” in the memo. **Volunteers**—Help is needed to sort, work the sale and provide food for the workers. Sign up to help online at <http://tinyurl.com/colonial-rummage16>.

*Altar
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are provided by JIM AND JANE WHILES in loving memory of our parents.

HIGHLIGHTS

India Missionary Speaker

On Wednesday, October 5, at noon Colonial Women Mayflower Guild and the Justice and Witness Committee are co-sponsoring a program about the Christian Hospital Mungeli and the Rambo Memorial English Medium School in Mungeli, India. Join us to hear from missionaries Anil and Teri Henry. The mission is co-sponsored by the UCC and Disciples of Christ Global Ministries. A light luncheon and dessert will be served. RSVP to church office or Kathi Cook (913-236-8292). Everyone is welcome.

Meet One of the Holiday Bazaar Vendors

Please join us for our 6th Annual Holiday Bazaar Saturday, November 12th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm and Sunday, November 13 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. This year we are shining the spotlight on our vendors so you can get to know them a little better. First up Kim Mann. She, along with Lisarae Turnbull, is one of the people who got the Bazaar off the ground six years ago. Kim loves to knit and crochet. If you've ever seen her booth at the Bazaar you know she keeps her hands busy. Primarily she makes kids shoes and toys but also hats for the whole family. She also creates a variety of household items such as like sleep masks, ice cream koozies, coasters, ornaments and items for the kitchen.

Hospitality: a New Focus for Sunday Morning

The Community and New Member Development Board is trying something new: a Hospitality Desk.. Stop by the desk in the Narthex on Sunday morning to get your bulletin and a friendly reminder to wear your nametag. If you don't have a nametag, let the Hospitality Desk person know and we'll get you one! Nametags are arranged alphabetically by last name in the two cabinets at the sides of the Narthex. Wear yours during the service and when chatting afterwards, and drop it in the basket on your way out the door. Having a Hospitality Desk where everyone stops before entering the Sanctuary should make it easy for us to identify first-time guests and ease them into their first Sunday at Colonial. If you're interested in helping out at the Hospitality Desk, contact Elizabeth Uppman at 913-231-0231.

Colonial Dinner Club Groups Forming For Fall

Colonial Dinner Club is a great way to get to know people in the church. Small groups of 7-8 meet in individual homes throughout the year for dinner. The groups meet once every two months for a total of 4 times during the year Oct.-Nov., Dec.-Jan, Feb.- March, April-May. The host provides the main dish, and the others bring side dishes. The main purpose is to have fun and get to know each other better. Please contact Kathi Cook for more information: jimandkathicook@gmail.com or 913-236-8292.

Colonial Women Activities

- **Coffee and Breakfast**, Monday, October 3, 9:30 a.m., Big Biscuit.
- **Alden Guild**, Thursday, October 6, 6:00 p.m., Cacao, 5200 W 95th.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday**. Tuesday, October 11, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village.
- **Book Group**. Friday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Stephanie Graff. All are welcome to join the group. We will be discussing *The Secret Chord* by Geraldine Brooks.

THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY, September 25

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.

MONDAY, September 26

9:30 a.m.—Colonial Women Board, Oberlin Room.

TUESDAY, September 27

9:30 a.m.—Book Group, Heritage Room.

WEDNESDAY, September 28

9:30 a.m.—Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein Brothers - Prairie Village Shops.

7:00 p.m.—Colonial Choir, Choir Room.

THURSDAY, September 29

9:00 a.m.—Mayflower Guild, Social Hall.

10:00 a.m.—Bible Study, Cambridge Room.

FRIDAY, September 30

8:30 a.m.—Quiltmakers, Social Hall.

SUNDAY, October 2

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.

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)

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

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