



*Moon used with permission by amesuke.*

**It is like a finger pointing a way to the moon. Don't concentrate on the finger or you will miss all that heavenly glory.**

*-Bruce Lee in *Enter the Dragon**



[www.colonialucc.org](http://www.colonialucc.org)  
913-362-7735

April 15, 2018  
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ**  
**“Images of God” Sunday Worship Service**  
**in the series *How Big is Your 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**

*Bridegroom*

Biery

**Welcome and Announcements**

*Please sign and pass the pew pads. Prayer request cards are available for prayers you would like to bring to the clergy and/or congregation. Cards may be placed in the offering plate later in the service.*

**Call to Worship**

**Leader:** We are here to worship a remarkable God.

**People:** **The love of God welcomes us, the grace of Christ awaits us, the joy of the Spirit enfolds us.**

**\* Opening Hymn #1**      *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

**A Time of Confession**

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**People:** **Holy and uncontainable God, for trying to contain you, forgive us.**

**Loving and limitless God, for trying to limit you, forgive us.**

**Gracious and boundless God, for trying to bind you, forgive us.**

**We are foolish enough to believe that we can reduce you to something we can comprehend. Forgive us, Holy God.**

## Silent Meditation

### Assurance of Grace

Leader: In the name of God: the Creator, the Christ, and Holy Spirit, your plea has been heard. God's promises are sure: your sins are forgiven. Peace be with you. Amen.

### \* 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

*Please take a moment to 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 in worship or to participate in our Sunday School program. As the children gather and disperse, the congregation sings together:*

***This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. (Repeat 3 times.)  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.***

## We Hear a Word from God

### A Word in Music

*Walk By Faith*

Raney

### A Word Proclaimed

Pastor Aaron Roberts

### Image of a Warrior God: Deuteronomy 33:29

God is the shield that helps you, your majestic sword!  
Your enemies will come crawling on their knees to you,  
but you will stomp on their backs!

**Image of God Walking About in the Garden: Genesis 3:8-9**

During that day's cool evening breeze, they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden; and the man and his wife hid themselves from the LORD God in the middle of the garden's trees. The LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

**Image of Jesus as God: Colossians 2:9**

All the fullness of deity lives in Christ's body.

**Image of God as Spirit - Part of the Colonial Church Covenant: John 4:24**

[Jesus said,] "God is spirit, and it is necessary to worship God in spirit and truth."

Question? Comment? Express your thoughts with #ColonialUCC.



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**Homework Assignment**

*What image comes to your mind when you visually imagine God?*

As we worship together over the coming weeks, we would like to curate a collection of images submitted by Colonial members, friends, and guests. You are invited to send us a picture that best communicates "God" to you. Images can be something you create, a piece of art, a photograph, etc. You may include an explanation if you think it would be helpful. Our collected images will be used in worship during the next month.

Digital images may be submitted to [GodPictures@colonialucc.org](mailto:GodPictures@colonialucc.org).  
You may also submit hard copies of images to Rev. Nikki Woolsey.

## We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

\* Hymn #11

*Bring Many Names*

### A Time of Gifts and Offerings

Invitation to the Offering

*Our weekly offering includes food items collected in the red wagon to help fill our local food pantries.*

Offertory

*The Glorious Day Has Come*

Dupre

Doxology

#778; tune Old Hundredth

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.***

\* Blessing the Offering

**People: Holy One, we dedicate our lives and all that we have to the work of life, of love, of peace. Receive our gifts and lead us in wisdom and courage. Amen.**

### A Time of Prayer

Prayers of the People

*Believing that each joy and 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 the name for God that you find most meaningful which may include Father, Mother, Creator, God, etc. The diversity of 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 #25

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

\* **Renewing Our Covenant**

*You are invited to turn towards the center aisle and bless one another with the promise of the Colonial 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**

*Easter Hymn*

Powell

**Worship Leaders**

Liturgist:	Whitey Ackley
Videographer:	Geoff Robinson
Worship Graphics Operator:	Hayden Ferguson
Children's Conversation:	Pastor Aaron Roberts
Hospitality Table:	Mary Pelton
Head Usher:	Chester Bender
Ushers:	Chester Bender, Ed Rowe Lee Rowe, Bill Sanderson
Coffee and Conversation Host:	Mary Pelton

It seems obvious to us, now, after centuries of practice that it is in a shared meal that communion is found. For Christians, we understand that there is something in the Lord's Supper that binds everyone wherever and whenever it is offered. Knowing that the last thing Jesus did on the night he was betrayed was break bread with his disciples, makes sitting down to table essential to our communities. Many resurrection accounts, like the one in this passage from Luke, tell how Jesus ate with them. In these days food has become a kind of litmus about our world. The kinds of food we eat, how it is prepared and grown and shipped has taken on larger concerns around the environment and how we treat this earth. Putting these two things together, food and worship, is creating a kind of table theology in many of our churches. A theology born of love of food, love of the earth and love of neighbor – all bound in the communal and welcoming settings of our local churches.

On the first Tuesday of every month at Newman Congregational United Church of Christ in Rumford, Rhode Island people gather in the church kitchen to prepare a meal. They bring the ingredients trying to source them locally and mindfully. Together, everyone – children too, and those who know their way around a kitchen and those who don't – chip in to help prepare the meal. The tables are set. As they sit around them to eat they talk about a passage from scripture and share communion. The ministry is called "Nourish."

There is a dinner church for young adults that meets the fourth Sunday of every month at the First Congregational Church UCC in Santa Rosa, California. Like other dinner churches, they offer fellowship and deep sharing around a meal and children are always welcome! In Northampton, Massachusetts at First Churches their Dinner church meets twice a month. They grow a lot of what they serve at three plots they maintain in a local community garden. Their gathering is called "Common Ground." This is from their website:

*Our vision is to feed those who are hungry in body, mind, and soul: hungry for bread, hungry for meaning, hungry for beauty, truth, purpose, and community. Through the ministry of Common Ground we are striving to help people connect to the earth, one another, and the God whose good gifts we freely share.*

(<http://www.firstchurches.org/news-events/common-ground/>)

What kind of dinner church could your congregation serve to a hungry world?



## *The Sunday Crier*

April 15, 2018

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**Tearing Down Walls: Finding a Path to Religious Understanding.** Relationships between religious people around the world is one of the most significant issues of the 21st century as ignorance leads to intolerance and even violence. “Tearing Down Walls” is an event aimed at learning skills in interreligious dialogue with the hope of promoting peace through interreligious understanding and cooperation. Nationally-recognized scholars will lead sessions on Friday and Saturday, April 20-21, at Colonial. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/colonial-walls>. An Armin and Shirley Limper Program in Christianity and World Religions through Eden Seminary.

**Movie Night – April 29 at 5:30.** Please join us as we view “The Hundred-Foot Journey,” (2014) starring Helen Mirren. The Kadam family leaves India for France where they open a restaurant directly across the road from Madame Mallory's Michelin-starred eatery. The resulting rivalry eventually escalates in personal intensity until it goes too far. In response, there is a bridging of sides initiated by the parties involved that encourages an understanding that will change both sides forever. (IMDb) Popcorn and soda will be served. Feel free to bring a snack to share.

**Care to Join Us? New Member Class Starts Next Sunday.** Are you curious about Colonial and the United Church of Christ? Are you interested in joining the church? You are welcome to attend our free, three-session new member class. Call Heather in the church office to reserve your space: 913-362-7735.

**Serve the Homeless.** The next meal, which will be served on the Plaza next Sunday is being prepared and served by Colonial Women. To help with the preparation, bake cookies to serve or to come to the Plaza to share, contact Kathi Cook at 913-236-8292.

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*Altar  
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by RANDY AND SUE FREEMAN.

**Colonial Friends April Event.** On Wednesday, April 18, Colonial Friends will visit City Union Mission in downtown Kansas City to learn more about this significant organization within the inner city. Perhaps some of you are already supporters. Afterwards we will lunch together at Manny's on Southwest Boulevard. Meet at the church by 9:20 to carpool. Call or email Bob Starcke at [913-406-3572](tel:913-406-3572) or [rstarcke@gmail.com](mailto:rstarcke@gmail.com).

**VBS Is July 10-13.** Get ready campers to prepare for an outdoor adventure that starts in our own backyards and gets bigger each day as we spread the love of Jesus into our neighborhoods and communities. Camp dates are July 10-13 from 9:00-11:30 a.m. with a performance Sunday morning July 15 at the 10:15 service. Sign up your children and grandchildren at <https://tinyurl.com/ColonialVBS-18>. If you have any questions please contact Camille Breckenridge or call 913-707-9602.

### **Colonial Women Activities**

- **Feed the Homeless.** We will provide the meal on April 22 on the Plaza. Call Kathi Cook at [913-236-8292](tel:913-236-8292) if you can help.
- **Lunch Out.** Wednesday, May 2, 11:30 a.m. Tatsu's at 4603 W 90th St.
- **Breakfast and Coffee.** Monday, May 7, 9:30 a.m. at Big Biscuit.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, May 8, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village Shops.
- **Book Group.** Friday, May 11, Stacey Algren's home. We will be discussing "Fall of Marigolds" by Susan Meissner.

**Feed the Hungry Donations.** Thanks to all who make a habit of bringing a contribution of food for the red wagon in the narthex. Donations are delivered to four local food pantries – Village Food Pantry, Catholic Charities, Cross-Lines Community Services, and Shawnee Community Services.

**Participate in Bible Study.** Our Bible Study is online. To participate, each Thursday at noon either go to <https://zoom.us/j/684548229> on your computer or call in at [646-558-8656](tel:646-558-8656) with meeting ID 684-548-229.

**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 next opportunity is May 13.

**Colonial Family Getaway.** Join other Colonial families for outdoor fun and fellowship at beautiful Pomona State Park in Vassar, Kansas on Saturday and Sunday, September 8-9, the weekend after Labor Day. Come for the day or stay overnight in an air-conditioned cabin, on a plug-in RV site, or in your own tent. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/colonial-getaway> now to let us know you're coming.

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## **The Week Ahead**

### **TODAY, April 15**

8:30 am—Worship  
 9:00—Bell Choir, Bell Choir Room  
 9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library  
 9:30—Choir Rehearsal, Founders Chapel  
 10:15—Worship  
 10:30—Sunday School  
 11:15—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room  
 11:30—Council/Administrative Board, Social Hall

### **TUESDAY, April 17**

9:30 am—Book Group, Heritage Room

### **WEDNESDAY, April 18**

9:30 am—Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein Brothers in Prairie Village Shops  
 9:20 am—Colonial Friends, City Union Mission  
 7:00 pm—Colonial Choir

### **THURSDAY, April 19**

12:00 pm—Bible Study  
 6:30 pm—AA, Oberlin Room

### **FRIDAY, April 20**

7:00 pm—Limper Event, Social Hall

### **SATURDAY, April 21**

8:00 am—Limper Event, Social Hall

### **SUNDAY, April 22**

8:30 am—Worship  
 9:00—Bell Choir, Bell Choir Room  
 9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library  
 9:15—New Member Class, Cambridge Room  
 9:30—Choir Rehearsal, Founders Chapel  
 10:15—Worship  
 10:30—Sunday School  
 11:15—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room  
 2:00 pm—AHH Cooking, Social Hall

*For the full church calendar, visit our website at [colonialucc.org](http://colonialucc.org).*

## **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.

**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. Bible study at 9:15 a.m. Sunday in the youth room (the Savoy Room) with Sunday school 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 Founders Chapel, September-May.

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

**[www.colonialucc.org](http://www.colonialucc.org)**—Learn more about Colonial and its programs.

**Social Media**– Stay up to date with what’s happening at Colonial through Facebook and Instagram. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/colonialucc>; Instagram: colonial\_ucc

## **COLONIAL STAFF**

Senior Minister: Rev. Aaron Roberts ([aaron.roberts@colonialucc.org](mailto:aaron.roberts@colonialucc.org))

Worship Minister: Rev. Nikki Woolsey ([nikki.woolsey@colonialucc.org](mailto:nikki.woolsey@colonialucc.org))

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

Youth Group Leader: Amy Congdon ([amy.congdon@colonialucc.org](mailto:amy.congdon@colonialucc.org))

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

Bell Choir Director: Hayden Ferguson

Organist: Dr. Joseph Kern

Church Administrator: Heather Winker ([heather.winker@colonialucc.org](mailto:heather.winker@colonialucc.org))

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

Building Maintenance: Edson Palacios-Castrejon ([edson.palacios-castrejon@colonialucc.org](mailto:edson.palacios-castrejon@colonialucc.org))