



*Dave Mustaine used with permission by Kmeron.*

**One day, in retrospect, the years of struggle will strike  
you as most beautiful.**

**-Sigmund Freud**



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

August 12, 2018  
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ**  
**“It Could Be Worse” Sunday Worship Service**  
**in the series *The Messed Up Pursuit of Happiness***

*Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.*

*\* Please rise in body or spirit.*

**We Gather as God’s Beloved People**

**Gathering Music**

*Preamble*

Vierne

**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.*

**A Moment to Lay Our Burdens Down**

**\* Opening Hymn #55**      “Rejoice, You Pure in Heart”

**A Back to School Blessing for Our Children, Families and Educators**

**\* 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 Proclaimed**

Pastor Aaron Roberts

#### **Esau Gets Passed Over a Second Time - Genesis 27:30-38**

After Isaac had finished blessing Jacob, and just as Jacob left his father Isaac, his brother Esau came back from his hunt. He too made some delicious food, brought it to his father, and said, “Let my father sit up and eat from his son’s game so that you may bless me.”

His father Isaac said to him, “Who are you?”

And he said, “I’m your son, your oldest son, Esau.”

Isaac was so shocked that he trembled violently. He said, “Who was the hunter just here with game? He brought me food, and I ate all of it before you came. I blessed him, and he will stay blessed!”

When Esau heard what his father said, he let out a loud agonizing cry and wept bitterly. He said to his father, “Bless me! Me too, my father!”

Isaac said, “Your brother has already come deceitfully and has taken your blessing.”

Esau said, “Isn’t this why he’s called Jacob? He’s taken me twice now: he took my birthright, and now he’s taken my blessing.” He continued, “Haven’t you saved a blessing for me?”

Isaac replied to Esau, “I’ve already made him more powerful than you, and I’ve made all of his brothers his servants. I’ve made him strong with grain and wine. What can I do for you, my son?”

Esau said to his father, “Do you really have only one blessing, Father? Bless me too, my father!” And Esau wept loudly.

#### **Esau’s Opportunity for Payback - Genesis 33:1-9**

Jacob looked up and saw Esau approaching with four hundred men. Jacob divided the children among Leah, Rachel, and the two women servants. He put the servants and their children first, Leah and her children after them, and Rachel and Joseph last. He himself went in front of them and bowed to the ground seven times as

he was approaching his brother. But Esau ran to meet him, threw his arms around his neck, kissed him, and they wept.

Esau looked up and saw the women and children and said, “Who are these with you?”

Jacob said, “The children that God generously gave your servant.” The women servants and their children came forward and bowed down. Then Leah and her servants also came forward and bowed, and afterward Joseph and Rachel came forward and bowed.

Esau said, “What’s the meaning of this entire group of animals that I met?”

Jacob said, “To ask for my master’s kindness.”

Esau said, “I already have plenty, my brother. Keep what’s yours.”

Question? Comment? Express your thoughts with #ColonialUCC. 

## **We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer**

\* **Hymn #465**

“Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way”

### **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

“Unclouded Day”      Recommended by Joseph Kern  
Performed by the University of Georgia Hodgson Singers

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:** God of love, we give thanks and ask for blessings on all our gifts. May they be pleasing in your sight. 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 #606

"Nearer, My God to You"

## The Serenity Prayer

Written by Reinhold Niebuhr

**People:      God, give us grace to accept with serenity  
                 the things that cannot be changed,  
                 Courage to change the things  
                 which should be changed,  
                 and the Wisdom to distinguish  
                 the one from the other.**

**Living one day at a time,  
Enjoying one moment at a time,  
Accepting hardship as a pathway to peace,  
Taking, as Jesus did,  
This sinful world as it is,  
Not as I would have it,  
Trusting that You will make all things right,  
If I surrender to Your will,  
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life,  
And supremely happy with You forever in the next.**

**Amen.**

### **\* 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 till we meet again.*

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

**\* Benediction and Postlude**

*Unclouded Day*

Kern

**Worship Leaders**

Liturgist:	Bruce Wofford
Camera Operator:	Tim Taylor
Worship Graphics Operator:	Sally Huggins
Children's Conversation:	Marylee Battaglia
Hospitality Table:	Mary Pelton
Head Usher:	Stacy Kern
Ushers:	Marylee Battaglia, Loren Griffith Stacy Kern, Martha Wofford
Fellowship Host:	Mary Pelton

## Shaping Community: A UCC Mission Moment

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

As Paul's letter to the Ephesians shows us, the church has been made up of flawed human beings for 2,000 years, and probably every organized collection of humans has demonstrated these same kinds of behavior. Behaviors that can tear at the fabric of community. In this passage, Paul particularly addresses those who gossip and spread lies. He asks those in that congregation and likewise each of us to think about what we say before we speak. Perhaps Paul is asking us to pause before opening our mouths.

Did you ever think about how much of our culture is created by our speech? We listen to words that describe our world and we slowly become that world. For example, if we listen every day to language about hate and prejudice and angry descriptions of our neighbors, we will become like that language both angry and prejudiced. That's what happens when we talk about the people around us. Our language begins to build a world. That world might only be as small as our immediate community but if our speech only tears people down then the place we inhabit will be one of torn down people.

The issue for Christians, as this letter confronts, is how will we construct a world in the likeness of Christ with our speech? Can we imagine Jesus gossiping? Probably not. We can imagine him getting angry because he does get angry in the Gospels. But his anger is intended to wake people up to issues of social justice and not to tear down individuals by personal attacks.

With that in mind and aware that many of our churches have endured conflict made worse by thoughtless speech here is a prayer for our congregational life based on this part of Paul's letter.

### **A Prayer for Mindful Speech**

*Dear God, who breathes in the lungs of all people,  
Who makes speech possible and lives through the  
languages of all nations, hear our prayer:*

*Give us the gift of the patient pause, the reflective response.*

*When we speak let our words build your kingdom before our eyes.*

*Let the letters of our speech be a foundation for hope and promise.*

*Let everything we say be to deepen faith and be a sign of your blessing*

*For all people in this world that you call good. AMEN*



## *The Sunday Crier*

August 12, 2018

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**Toothpaste Collection.** The Kansas City, KS Successful Beginnings Head Start needs your assistance. Brushing teeth is one of the many standards required by Head Start. The Board of Outreach has generously agreed for the fifth year to supply child-size toothbrushes for 500 students. If you did not bring any, you can also make a donation, with checks payable to Colonial with “toothpaste” in the memo line. Marylee Battaglia will deliver them to Head Start prior to their first day of school later this month.

**Help Needed to Serve the Homeless!** It may be hot but all the more reason we need to be there to serve needy area residents. Please consider whether you can bake cookies, purchase the food, cook at Colonial the day of or help serve the meal. Meals are cooked at Colonial and served by the JC Nichols Fountain on the Plaza, 4:30-6:00 p.m. Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/colonial-ahh18>. The next opportunity is August 26.

**You Still Have Time to Sign Up for the Colonial Family Getaway.** Whether for one day or for the entire gathering, join other Colonial families for outdoor fun and fellowship at beautiful Pomona State Park in Vassar, Kansas. It’s all happening Saturday and Sunday, September 8-9, the weekend after Labor Day. You can come down for the activities on Saturday and return home or join us on Sunday morning. Whatever best fits your schedule. You can camp in a tent or bring your RV. The park is just over an hour from Colonial. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/colonial-getaway> now to let us know you’re coming.

**Gathering Sunday celebrating Art Foster’s Ministry – September 16.** Please join us for food and fellowship following the 10:15 service on Sunday, September 16. Chicken will be provided, and sides and desserts will be potluck. After the lunch we will have a 1:00 p.m. worship service in the sanctuary to honor Art Foster's calling to ordained ministry in 1948.

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*Altar  
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by Mary Pelton in celebration of her anniversary.

**Bible Study – Amos and Hosea.** In our divided times, Amos’ and Hosea’s message is very relevant. We need to hear about God’s tough love and amazing grace for a people who have often broken God’s heart. On Thursdays at noon, you can come to Colonial Church, attend online at <https://zoom.us/j/341633262>, or dial-in to 646-558-8656 with Meeting ID 341 633 262. To receive the weekly study guide materials, contact Pastor Aaron at [aaron.roberts@colonialucc.org](mailto:aaron.roberts@colonialucc.org).

**Camera Operator Needed.** We are looking for volunteers to run the camera during the 10:15 a.m. service to record our service. If you are interested, please contact the church office to set up training.

**Fair Trade Coffee Change.** Sale of the Fair Trade chocolate bars and ground coffee offered for purchase by the Justice and Witness Committee has changed. Going forward, the coffee will be available only for special occasions later in the year.

**Sermon and Worship Planning Poll.** Plans are underway to craft our sermon and worship themes for the 2018-2019 program year. Is there a particular topic you would like to explore or experience? Let us know by taking the survey at <https://colonialucc.breezechms.com/form/3d9263>.

**Board of Worship Help Needed.** As we gear up for our fall worship schedule, the Board of Worship is looking for volunteers to add to the rotations for the following committees: head ushers and ushers, liturgists, children's conversation, pew supply check, and communion set-up. If you want more information about what is involved, or you're ready to volunteer, please email Charlotte Drayer at [charlotte.drayer@gmail.com](mailto:charlotte.drayer@gmail.com). Becoming involved with your church helps you connect with the members of your congregation!

### **Colonial Women Activities**

- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, August 14, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village Shops.
- **Book Group.** Friday, August 31, 7:00 p.m., Stephanie Graff’s home. We will be discussing *Radium Girls* by Kate Moore.
- **Breakfast and Coffee.** Monday, September 3, 9:30 a.m. at Big Biscuit.
- **Alden Guild.** Thursday, September 6, 6:00 p.m., Zarda’s.

**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. The wagon also swells the first week of the month when Temple Sinai members add their contributions. You can also write a check for the collection plate marked “Food Pantry” on the memo line. You do make a difference.

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**The Week Ahead****TODAY, August 12**

8:30 am Worship

9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library

9:15 Youth Sunday School, Youth Room

9:15 Adult Christian Education, Cambridge Room

9:30 Centering Prayer, Preschool Room

10:15 Worship

10:30 Sunday School

11:15 Fellowship, Heritage Room

**TUESDAY, August 14**

9:30 am Book Group, Heritage Room

5:30 pm Colonial Women Blue Moose, Prairie Village Shops

**WEDNESDAY, August 15**

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

**THURSDAY, August 16**

12:00 pm Bible Study

6:30 pm AA, Oberlin Room

**FRIDAY, August 17**

8:30 am Quiltmakers, Social Hall

**SUNDAY, August 19**

8:30 am Worship

9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library

9:15 Youth Sunday School, Youth Room

9:30 Board of Parish Life, Northampton Room

10:15 Worship

10:30 Sunday School

11:15 Fellowship, Heritage Room

11:30 Council/Administrative Board, Northampton Room

*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](https://www.instagram.com/colonial_ucc)

## **COLONIAL STAFF**

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

Minister of Spiritual Formation: 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))

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))