



(Aaron and candles used with permission by Joe Goldberg.)

**Our ancestors acknowledged doubt, while practicing faith. We moderns are drawn to faith, while practicing doubt.**

**-Adam Gopnik**



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

December 17, 2017  
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ**  
**“The Great Hanukkah Rebellion: The Tale of the Maccabees”**  
**Sunday Worship Service**  
**in the series *Untold Tales Leading to Christmas***

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

\* Please rise in body or spirit

**We Gather as God’s Beloved People**

**Gathering Music**

*Veni, Emmanuel*  
*Christmas Bell Rejoicing*

-Peeters  
 -arr. Ryan  
 Colonial Bell Choir

**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: It is good.

**People: It is good to be.**

Leader: It is good to be here.

**People: It is good to be here together.**

\* **Opening Hymn #126 *Angels, from the Realms of Glory***

\* **Advent Lighting the Candle of Joy – Psalm 30:5**

Leader: Around this time of year on the first night of Hanukkah, Jesus’ household would likely have spoken these words:

**People: Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who performed wondrous deeds for our ancestors in days of old at this season.**

Leader: As the household of Jesus today, we light candles today for Joy. Remembering these ancient and true words:

**People: Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**

Leader: The power of Joy is strong and resilient. Today we light our Advent candles to push back the darkness.

## Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy

-Cosgrove Family

### \* Advent Song of Praise – Come, O Long-Expected Jesus (#122 vs 1)

*Come, O long-expected Jesus, born to set all people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; grant us your true liberty.*

### \* 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

*The Christ Child*

-Matthews

### A Word Proclaimed

-Pastor Aaron Roberts

#### Bringing Light into the Ruins

**1 Maccabees 4:36-40** At that time Judas and his brothers said, "Look, our enemies have been crushed. Let's go up to cleanse and rededicate the sanctuary." All the army gathered together and went up to Mount Zion. They found the sanctuary deserted, the altar treated with disrespect, and the gates burned. In the courts, bushes had sprung up like in an open field or on one of the mountains. They saw that the priests' chambers were in ruins as well. So they tore their clothes and mourned with great sorrow. They sprinkled their heads with ashes and fell facedown on the ground. When the trumpets sounded a signal, they cried out to heaven.

## Each Household Chooses

**Joshua 24:15** “Choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

**1 Timothy 5:4** “Let them learn that religion begins at home.”

Express your thoughts via social media #ColonialUCC

## We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

\* Hymn #124

*Away in a Manger*

## A Time of Gifts and Offerings

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

*The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy*

-Evans

Phil Eatherton, baritone

(Our weekly offering includes food collected in the red wagon to help fill local pantries.)

\* Doxology – *What Child Is This* (#148 verses 3 and 1)

***So bring him incense gold and myrrh; Come humbly to revere him;  
The King of kings salvation brings; Let faithful hearts draw near him.  
This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds seek and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him praise, the babe, the son of Mary!***

\* Blessing the Offering

-Ken Sloane

**Generous God, as we move through this Advent season we are reminded of those days when your people lived in hope of a Savior. As it was then, there are other voices that claim to have the means to save us: money, possessions, power, and status. As we share in this offering to you, may we hear in our hearts the only voice that can truly save, that can reach into the despair and the alienation of our world to offer the words of hope. We look again for the coming of a Savior, in whose name we pray. 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 #116 vs 1-3      *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*
- \* **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 — *God Be With You #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**      *Veni, Emmanuel*      -Kern

Liturgist:	Joan Gilson
Advent Candlelighters	Cosgrove Family
Videographer:	Geoff Robinson
Worship Graphics Operator:	Hayden Ferguson
Children's Conversation:	Camille Breckenridge
Hospitality Table:	Martha Wofford
Head Usher:	Doug Welch
Ushers:	Randy Freeman, Sue Freeman Bill Yohn, Doug Welch
Coffee and Conversation Host:	Martha Wofford



**Mary Baumgart and Family**

In loving memory of Norm.

**Catherine Bowser**

In memory of John V. Bowser.

**Judy Diamond**

In honor of my seven grandchildren.

**Heather Drake and Shelley  
Barenklau**

In memory of Earl Barenklau.

**Art and Marianne Foster**

In memory of Christmas past.

**Loren Griffith**

In memory of Jan Griffith.

**LaVonne Grossman**

In memory of Richard Grossman.

**Honey Hannah**

In memory of Carl Migliazzo.

**Pauline Hixon and Family**

In memory of George Hixon.

**Brad and Karen Hodges**

In honor of Ann Hodges.

**Brad and Karen Hodges**

In memory of Glen Froelich.

**Howard and Sally Huggins, Matt  
and Hayden Ferguson, Stacy  
Huggins and Joseph Kern**

In memory of Ray and Mary Grace  
Morgan.

**Stacy Huggins and Joseph Kern,  
Matt and Hayden Ferguson, Sally  
and Howard Huggins**

In memory of Gordon and Shirley  
Huggins and Marty Puckett.

**George and Cindy Lafferty**

In memory of Ray and Mary Morgan  
and Digby and Libby Lafferty.

**Anne Mann and Family**

In memory of Russell G. Mann.

**Helen Minteer**

In memory of Dick Minteer, Dan  
Minteer, Nathan Schall.

**Harry and Kendra Morrison**

In honor of our grandsons Henry and  
Charlie.

**Linda Moses and family**

In loving memory of Harold and  
Dolcie Offer and Tom Moses.

**Marsha and Jean Owen, Rick and MaryIn Golub**

In memory of Moyne Mohs.

**Jan Parkinson and Family**

In memory of Marsha Parkinson.

**Marty and Lynn Sample**

In memory of Joe Sample.

**Carolyn Steffen and Julie Burik**

In memory of Rev. Norman and Kathryn Steffen.

**Susie Stroud**

In memory of my husband Tom and daughter Teresa.

**Tyler Stroud and Sarah Potter**

In memory of Tom Stroud (Poppa).

**Tim and Marion Taylor**

In honor of Valerie and Hayley Volkmer and Zach Taylor.

**Vonda Van Pelt**

In memory of Micky Henry.

**Lin Vaughn and Family**

In memory of John Vaughn.

**Janet Weiblen**

In honor of my daughter, Lisa Rusterholz.

**Martha and Bruce Wofford**

In honor of our children and grandchildren.

**Bill and Sharon Yohn**

In honor of our grandsons.

**Wayne and Phyllis Yost**

In honor of all loved ones.



## *The Sunday Crier*

December 17, 2017

**Sunday Night Movie Tonight.** December's Sunday Night Movie tonight will be critically acclaimed "Beasts of the Southern Wild." In a forgotten but defiant bayou community cut off from the rest of the world by a sprawling levee, a six-year-old girl exists on the brink of orphanhood, buoyed by her childish optimism and extraordinary imagination. (*Rotten Tomatoes* review). We will gather at 5:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room for popcorn and snacks. Please join us!

### **Advent at Colonial Church**

- **Longest Night Communion Worship Service** – December 21, 7:00 p.m. Our Longest Night service honors the feeling that a number of us have about this season. It is the "long, dark night of the soul," "the winter of our discontent," in which memories of past experiences and the pain of present experiences can become painful. This is a special service to be with God in Spirit and in Truth.
- **Christmas Eve Morning** – One service at 10:15 a.m
- **Christmas Eve Worship.**
  - 6:00 p.m. Pageant presented by Colonial Youth
  - 8:00 p.m. Communion Worship

**Shepherding the Light: The Christmas Fund.** Purple offering envelopes are in the pews for the Christmas Fund, the annual UCC offering to help retired clergy, and clergy with difficulties. The Christmas Fund supplements the small pensions of some UCC clergy and lay employees and their families, helps retired clergy pay for health insurance, and sometimes keeps the heat on. The Christmas Fund also supports active clergy and lay employees who have medical emergencies or unexpected misfortunes that require more money than they have. This offering contributes more than \$2 million a year in assistance.

**Coffee & Conversation.** Please join us in the Heritage Room following the 10:15 a.m. service for coffee and fellowship time.

### **Poinsettia Display**

Thank you to Missy Flachsbarth and Hayden Ferguson for arranging the poinsettias on the altar.

**Colonial Friends Christmas Lunch.** Colonial Friends will have their Christmas lunch at Lidia's Kansas City, 101 West 21st Street, in the Freight House district by Union Station at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 20. To carpool, meet at the church parking lot at 10:45 a.m. to leave at 11:00 a.m. RSVP to Joe Cunningham at [runningrev2@aol.com](mailto:runningrev2@aol.com) or call 913-341.6303. We need to have a count by tomorrow.

**Feed the Homeless on the Plaza.** Join Artists Helping the Homeless and Colonial Church on the 4th Sunday of every month as we seek to serve those in need. Help is needed for shopping, cooking, baking, and serving the meal. Meals will be served by the JC Nichols Fountain on the Plaza, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/AHH2018> for information and to sign up to help.

**Giving Statements.** The Giving Statements for the period January 1, 2017 through November 30, 2017 have been mailed. If you gave during that period and did not receive a statement or if you have a question regarding the one you received, please call the church office.

**Be a Host for Coffee and Conversation on Sunday.** Fellowship time after the 10:15 a.m. service provides an opportunity to catch up with one another and welcome visitors. But we need you to host a Sunday. You just provide cookies and coffee. We need volunteers to keep this tradition going. This typically requires 15 minutes before end of service for setup and 30 minutes after church for hosting and clean-up. Sign up as Coffee and Conversation Host online at <https://tinyurl.com/worship-2018> or contact Heather in the church office.

**Feed the Hungry Donations.** Thanks to all who make a habit of bringing a contribution of food for the red wagon in the narthex. Each Sunday the contents are delivered to the Village Church Food Pantry, who distribute items to patrons all over the Kansas City area. You can also write a check for the collection plate marked "Food Pantry" on the memo line. You do make a difference. Be a part!

### **Colonial Women Activities**

- **Alden Guild.** Thursday, January 4, 6:00 p.m. Summit Grill, 520 W. 75th St., Kansas City, MO 64114. Everyone welcome. Call Glenna Loomis for reservations.
- **Breakfast and Coffee.** Monday, January 8, 9:30 a.m. at Big Biscuit. Note date change!
- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, January 9, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village Shops.
- **Book Group.** Friday, January 12, 7:00 p.m., Stephanie Graff's home. We will be discussing "Small Great Things" by Jodi Picoult.

**Men's Breakfast Group.** Colonial Men shared Christmas traditions and experiences over breakfast on December 5. The men will meet again on January 2, at 8:00 a.m. at Perkins on 87th between I-35 and 69 Alt. Bob LeVeau will lead the program – which, he assures us, will not delve into prior New Year's Eves.

### **The Week Ahead**

#### **TODAY, December 17**

8:30 am—Worship  
 9:00—Bell Choir, Bell Choir Room  
 9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library  
 9:30—Centering Prayer, Preschool Room  
 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  
 5:30 pm—Sunday Night Movie, Heritage Room

#### **TUESDAY, December 19**

9:30 am—Book Group, Heritage Room

#### **WEDNESDAY, December 20**

9:30 am—Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein Brothers in Prairie Village Shops  
 11:30 am—Colonial Friends, Lidias  
 7:00 pm—Colonial Choir

#### **THURSDAY, December 21**

12:00 pm—Bible Study  
 6:30 pm—AA, Oberlin Room  
 7:00 pm—Longest Night Service, Sanctuary

#### **SUNDAY, December 24**

9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library  
 9:30—Choir Rehearsal, Founders Chapel  
 10:15—Worship  
 10:30—Sunday School  
 11:15—Christmas Store Meeting, Oberlin Room  
 2:00 pm—AHH Cooking, Social Hall  
 6:00—Pageant, Sanctuary  
 8:00—Communion Worship

*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 online. 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 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 and bulletin 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](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))

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