



(Photo used with permission by Jared Lind on Unsplash.)

**Learn and obey the rules very well, so you will know
how to break them properly.**

-Tenzin Gyatso, the Dalai Lama



www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

December 9, 2018
10:15 a.m.

* **Hymn 110**

“Now Bless the God of Israel”

* **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

Amen! Tell it on the Mountain

arr. Mary McDonald

A Word Proclaimed

Pastor Aaron Roberts

Receiving the Rules – Exodus 32:16-19

Moses then turned around and came down the mountain. He carried the two covenant tablets in his hands. The tablets were written on both sides, front and back. The tablets were God’s own work. What was written there was God’s own writing inscribed on the tablets. When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, “It sounds like war in the camp.”

But Moses said, “It isn’t the sound of a victory song. It isn’t the sound of a song of defeat. The sound of party songs is what I hear.”

When he got near the camp and saw the bull calf and the dancing, Moses was furious. He hurled the tablets down and shattered them in pieces at the foot of the mountain.

Changed By Glory, and Now Ready – Exodus 33:12-34:5

Moses said to the LORD, “Look, you’ve been telling me, ‘Lead these people forward.’ But you haven’t told me whom you will send with me. Yet you’ve assured me, ‘I know you by name and think highly of you.’ Now if you do think highly of me, show me your ways so that I may know you and so that you may really approve of me. Remember too that this nation is your people.”

The LORD replied, “I’ll go myself, and I’ll help you.”

Moses replied, “If you won’t go yourself, don’t make us leave here. Because how will anyone know that we have your special approval, both I and your people, unless you go with us? Only that distinguishes us, me and your people, from every other people on the Earth.”

The LORD said to Moses, “I’ll do exactly what you’ve asked because you have my special approval, and I know you by name.”


Moses said, “Please show me your glorious presence.”

The LORD said, “I’ll make all my goodness pass in front of you, and I’ll proclaim before you the name, ‘The LORD.’ I will be kind to whomever I wish to be kind, and I will have compassion to whomever I wish to be compassionate. But, the LORD said, “you can’t see my face because no one can see me and live.” The LORD said, “Here is a place near me where you will stand beside the rock. As my glorious presence passes by, I’ll set you in a gap in the rock, and I’ll cover you with my hand until I’ve passed by. Then I’ll take away my hand, and you will see my back, but my face won’t be visible.”

The LORD said to Moses, “Cut two stone tablets like the first ones. I’ll write on these tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke into pieces. Get ready in the morning and come up to Mount Sinai. Stand there on top of the mountain in front of me. No one else can come up with you. Don’t allow anyone even to be seen anywhere on the mountain. Don’t even let sheep and cattle graze in front of the mountain.” So Moses cut two stone tablets like the first ones. He got up early in the morning and climbed up Mount Sinai, just as the LORD had commanded him. He carried the two stone tablets in his hands. The LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him.

“You Have Heard it Said, But I Say to You...” – Matthew 5:17-19

[Jesus said,] “Don’t even begin to think that I have come to do away with the Law and the Prophets. I haven’t come to do away with them but to fulfill them. I say to you very seriously that as long as heaven and earth exist, neither the smallest letter nor even the smallest stroke of a pen will be erased from the Law until everything there becomes a reality. Therefore, whoever ignores one of the least of these commands and teaches others to do the same will be called the lowest in the kingdom of heaven.

Question? Comment? Express your thoughts with #ColonialUCC. 

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

Sacrament of the Baptism of Isaac Richard Kromnacker

Leader: Friends in Christ, we are here to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

People: **There is one body and one Spirit. There is one hope in God’s call to us. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Creator of us all.**

Leader: Jesus came to John to be baptized by him. John tried to stop him and said, "I need to be baptized by you, yet you come to me?"

People: **Jesus answered, "Allow me to be baptized now. This is necessary to fulfill all righteousness." So John agreed to baptize Jesus.**

Leader: When Jesus was baptized, he immediately came up out of the water. Heaven was opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God coming down like a dove and resting on him.

People: **A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son whom I dearly love; I find happiness in him."**

Leader: At another time Jesus said: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything that I've commanded you.”

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.

Mission Moment for the Christmas Fund

Doxology: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Hymn 116, Verse 2

O come, O Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and night;

To us the path of knowledge show, and help us in that way to go.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

* Blessing the Offering

People: Holy One, let our gifts point to your presence in the world. Guide us to further your dream for the world through Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us. 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.

Colonial As a Community of Care

You are invited to send a wish of good cheer to the members and friends of Colonial on our ongoing care list. Cards will be collected in the mailbox in the foyer after the service. The artists for this year's cards are Chloe Cook, Lyda Cosgrove, Willa Cosgrove, Sophia Gardner, and Johnny Keane.

We Depart to Serve

* Hymn 133

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

* **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**

Hymn 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**

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Walcha

Worship Leaders

Liturgist:	Jules Burik
Camera Operator:	Tim Taylor
Worship Graphics Operator:	Hayden Ferguson
Children's Conversation:	Darren Carpenter
Hospitality Table:	Rosalie Henry
Head Usher:	Howard Lee
Ushers:	Heather Brasel, Loren Griffith Howard Lee
Fellowship Hosts:	Joan and Jerry Gilson

Isaac Kromnacker is the son of Nick and Kelli Kromnacker.

“Draw Near” Advent Banners

The Advent banners are the design of a creative liturgical arts team called “A Sanctified Art”. The collective works to create visual and written worship resources for local churches. The image for the banners was received as a digital file. This was then projected onto a wall covered with paper. The negative spaces were traced and then cut out with a craft knife. Rev. Nikki Woolsey crafted the banners over the course of a week.

A close look at the banner reveals many images of the Advent and Christmas seasons. The central image is the Madonna and Child. The star of Bethlehem rises while shepherds gaze up from the fields. A sheep stands in the foreground in a field of wildflowers. Theological themes are represented with sky, stars, leaves, tree branches, raindrops, horizon lines, curling waves, roots of the tree, and sun rays.



The Sunday Crier

December 9, 2018

Choir Christmas Concert and Soup Today! Join us in the sanctuary for an early evening of joyful singing by the choir followed by a dinner of delicious soups, breads and cookies. Our concert begins at 5:00 p.m., lasting approximately one hour and followed immediately by dinner. During the concert, a freewill offering will be taken to help the choir continue to purchase needed items for the music program. The soup dinner is free. Childcare is available.

Advent at Colonial Church

- Christmas Cantata – December 16, 8:30 and 10:15 a.m. Colonial Choir presents “Star in the East” by Dr. Joseph Kern.
- 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 Worship.
6:00 p.m. Pageant presented by Colonial Youth
8:00 p.m. Communion Worship

The Light Is Surely Coming: 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.

*Altar
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by Catherine Bowser in loving memory of John V. Bowser.

Deadline for Poinsettias Is Today! If you would like to provide a poinsettia for the altar in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please pick up a form in the narthex and place it with your payment of \$15 in the offering plate today. While we do not purchase a plant for every memorial, plants will be available to be taken home on Sunday, December 30.

Colonial Writers Group. Storytelling is what connects us to our humanity. It is what links us to our past, and provides a glimpse into our future. Since humans first walked the earth, they have told stories, before even the written word or oral language. Through cave drawings and over fires, humans have told stories as a way to shape our existence. Join the Colonial Writers Group on Wednesday, December 12, at 9:30 a.m. in the Heritage Room. Everyone is welcome.

Colonial Friends Christmas Lunch. Join your friends from Colonial for a Christmas gathering at Bravo! on Wednesday, December 19 at 11:30 a.m. RSVP to Sharon Yohn by December 16 to let her know you are coming and whether you need a ride from the church. Everyone is welcome! Address is: 5005 W. 117th St in Leawood in Town Center.

Roberts Family Love Gift. We are again this year offering every member the opportunity to contribute to a special Christmas Love Gift for the Senior Minister's family in recognition of their faithful ministry in this church and the community. The gift will be from the "Congregation," as no individual names will be listed. Participation is totally up to each individual family. If you choose to participate, please put your money in an envelope and mark it "Love Gift for the Roberts Family." Make checks payable to Colonial Church.

Advent Booklet. Advent is the season of expectant waiting and preparation for the birth of the Christ child. An Advent booklet written by members of the congregation is available, one to a family. The cover art was created by our own Lisarae Turnbull. Pick yours up in the narthex.

Colonial Giving Statements with information on 2018 giving through November 30, 2018 will be emailed out the first week in December. If you do not have an email address, the statement will be mailed to you. If you have any questions you may contact Jayne Quimby, Financial Recorder, at jqm333@aol.com or 816-807-3592. If you have not returned your Pledge Card and need another copy, please contact Heather in the office or Jayne Quimby and another copy can be sent to you.

Help Needed on December 23 to Feed the Homeless. The next Artists Helping the Homeless meal in the park is Sunday, December 23. Please call the church office at 913)362-7735 or signup online at <https://tinyurl.com/colonial-ahh18> if you can help. Meal preparation usually starts around 2:00 p.m., so the meal can be available in Mill Creek Park by the Plaza about 4:00 p.m. By 5:00 p.m, all are usually on our way home. This meal is a way for AHH to stay in touch with homeless in the area and to build trust.

Please Help Fill the 2019 Altar Flower Calendar. We only have 3 dates left for you to sign up – January 27, November 10 and December 29. Your cost is \$50 and you may take the flowers following the 10:15 a.m. service or designate them for the Care Committee to take to homebound or hospitalized members. Call the office to reserve one of these dates.

Colonial Women Activities – Blue Moose Tuesday Christmas. Tuesday, December 11, 6:00 p.m., Lin Vaughn's home (3108 W. 73rd St., Prairie Village). Bring either an appetizer or bottle of Joy. Call (913)961-1247 for directions or questions.

Red Wagon Donations. Thanks to all who make a habit of bringing a contribution of food for the red wagon in the narthex. Contents are delivered to four food pantries in 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!

The Week Ahead

TODAY, December 9

8:30 am Worship
 9:15 Bell Choir, Sanctuary
 9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library
 9:15 Adult Christian Education, Cambridge Room
 9:30 Teens Connect, Youth Room
 9:30 Colonial Choir, Choir Room
 10:15 Worship
 10:15 Tween Squad, Salem Room
 10:30 Sunday School
 11:15 Fellowship Time, Heritage Room
 5:00 pm Choir Concert and Soup Supper

TUESDAY, December 11

9:30 am Book Group, Heritage Room
 6:00 pm Colonial Women Blue Moose, Lin Vaughn's home

WEDNESDAY, December 12

9:30 Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein Brothers, Prairie Village Shops
 9:30 Writers Group, Heritage Room
 7:00 Colonial Choir, Choir Room

THURSDAY, December 13

10:00 am Bible Study
 6:30 AA, Oberlin Room

For the full church calendar, visit our website at 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 9:00 a.m. to noon. 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—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)

Minister of Spiritual Formation: Rev. Nikki Woolsey (nikki.woolsey@colonialucc.org)

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

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

Bell Choir Director: Hayden Ferguson

Organist: Dr. Joseph Kern

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

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

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