



**History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but
if faced with courage, need not be lived again.**

-Maya Angelou



Colonial Church
in Prairie Village

www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

February 16, 2020
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
“Color Brave” Worship Service in the series *The Joshua Generation***

Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

We Gather as God’s Beloved People

Gathering Music

Wo Gott zum Haus

Sedio

Welcome and Announcements

Please sign and pass the pew pads. Prayer request cards are available for prayers you would like to offer in our community’s prayer ministry this coming week. Cards may be placed in the offering plate later in the service.

A Moment to Lay Our Burdens Down

*** Hymn #492**

“I Would Be True”

A Time of Confession

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you. We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.

People: Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.

Leader: We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God.

People: Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Grace

Leader: God the Creator brings us new life, forgives and redeems us.

**People: We take hold of this forgiveness, and live our lives in the Spirit of Jesus.
Amen.**

* Sung Response

Gloria, hymn #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

Praise His Holy Name

Hampton

A Word in Scripture

Joshua Calls People to Choose – Joshua 24:1;13-18

Joshua called together all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He called in the elders, chiefs, judges, and officers. They presented themselves before God. Then Joshua addressed all the people:

“I handed you a land for which you did not work, towns you did not build. And here you are now living in them and eating from vineyards and olive groves you did not plant.

“So now: Fear God. Worship him in total commitment. Get rid of the gods your ancestors worshiped on the far side of The River (the Euphrates) and in Egypt. You, worship God.

“If you decide that it’s a bad thing to worship God, then choose a god you’d rather serve—and do it today. Choose one of the gods your ancestors worshiped from the country beyond The River, or one of the gods of the Amorites, on whose land you’re now living. As for me and my family, we’ll worship God.”

The people answered, “We’d never forsake God! Never! We’d never leave God to worship other gods.

“God is our God! He brought up our ancestors from Egypt and from slave conditions. He did all those great signs while we watched. He has kept his eye on us all along the roads we’ve traveled and among the nations we’ve passed through. Just for us he drove out all the nations, Amorites and all, who lived in the land.

“Count us in: We too are going to worship God. He’s our God.”

A Word Proclaimed

Edith Guffey

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

* Hymn #436 “God of Grace and God of Glory”

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

We Christians

Dupre

Doxology

Hymn #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

**God of grace, we bring forth this joyful offering as a token of our abiding love.
Use it to bring peace, justice, and comfort to all the world. 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 creates 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 #282

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

* 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

Wojtkiewicz

Cherwien

Worship Leaders

Guest Preacher:	Edith Guffey, Kansas-Oklahoma Conference Minister
Liturgist:	Bruce Wofford
Videographer:	Austin Henley
Worship Graphics Operator:	Hayden Ferguson
Children's Conversation:	Martha Wofford
Hospitality Table:	Martha Wofford
Head Usher:	Harry Morrison
Ushers:	Linda Moses, Martha Wofford
Fellowship Host:	Martha Wofford

From the Heart: A UCC Mission Moment

Matthew 5:21-37

Today's scripture contains some of the most challenging sayings of Jesus. Not only does Jesus implore us to take care with our behavior, we are even challenged to watch our thoughts. What if we were able to recognize Christ's forgiveness extends even to the violence of our thoughts? Try this guided meditation as a place to start that radical forgiveness.

Imagine a beautiful hill and imagine yourself climbing it, never tired in your body, never tired of looking around at this gorgeous place....

Now imagine that you get to the top of the hill, with a view of the valleys and plains. You can see a long way. Imagine that the place spread before you is the country of your inner life....

It is populated with all the people you have known and every place you have been and everything you have ever done. As you look over it, you can see it at a distance, yet you can see it all clearly....

Take a few moments to locate someone precious, or something that brings you joy, or someplace that brings you peace from sometime in your life. Enjoy your memories and feelings as you look upon that beloved person, object or place....

Now turn your gaze. Somewhere in the vast country of your inner life, there is something that still feels out of place. Somewhere is stored those thoughts that bring you regret.

From your safe place, high on the hill, you can look upon those thoughts with fresh eyes. You can see them for what they are – one part of the country of your inner life, not the whole of it....

Look at it from this distance and with this clarity. See again how the thing you thought, that once seemed so huge, is only one place in the country of your inner life, one part of all the vastness that you have seen and known....

Allow yourself to imagine how it would change the geography of the country of your life if you were to recognize that Christ forgives the thing that needs forgiving....

Would the thing change in shape or color? Would it reflect or absorb the light in a different way? Would it become smaller? Would it disappear altogether, leaving room for something new?

Allow yourself to know that it is already forgiven by a God whose love is more powerful than any human thought....

Notice if anything in you has changed. You might notice that you feel lighter now....

You might feel more satisfied about the future of the country of your life – ready for whatever lies ahead. Renewed, you return back down the hill. You might find yourself walking more quickly now – almost running, your feet almost flying off the ground...

You might want to journal about your experience of entering this meditation, or share it with friends or a spiritual guide like your pastor. Does imagining Christ's forgiveness help it seem closer to you?



The Sunday Crier

February 16, 2020

Sunday Night Movie Tonight. Join us tonight at 5:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room for a viewing of "The Two Popes." Behind Vatican walls, the conservative Pope Benedict and the liberal future Pope Francis must find common ground to forge a new path for the Catholic Church. A struggle commences between both tradition and progress, guilt and forgiveness, as these two very different men confront their pasts in order to find common ground and forge a future for a billion followers around the world. Popcorn and soda is provided. Feel free to bring a snack to share.

Community Concert and Vigil in Support of Immigrants. On Sunday, February 23 at 5:30 p.m., we will hold a community concert and vigil to bring light and keep watch over the fates of our neighbors fleeing violence. Jim Cosgrove will begin with a concert at Colonial Church honoring the 80th anniversary of the writing of Woody Guthrie's "This Land is Your Land." We will then begin a candlelight vigil walk around the Village Shops. At 6:00 p.m. at Colonial Church, we will pray for those in danger and those desperately trying to shelter their children. We will bear witness to their stories and pray for them as we ask God's guidance to serve. We invite all people who wish to reach out with compassion to join us. This is a moment to keep watch and bear light.

Trivia Night. Our annual Trivia Night will be on leap day, Saturday, February 29 at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. That is close enough to March that the theme once again will be March Madness. Teams are encouraged to dress in the apparel of their favorite college basketball teams and decorate their tables as they wish. Sign up your team online at <https://tinyurl.com/colonial-trivia20>. If you don't have a team, we will help you find a spot. Cost is \$10 per person. Teams are limited to six persons to maintain an even playing field. You don't have to pay until that evening. Bring snacks to share with the whole group. Beverages will be provided. Beer and wine tickets are \$2.00. Child care will be available for infants and toddlers by reservation to info@colonialucc.org by February 26.

*Altar
Flowers*

Today's altar flowers are given by Cindy and George Lafferty in celebration of the birthday of their daughter, Holly.

Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate for Sale Today. The Board of Outreach is selling fair trade coffee and chocolate on the third Sunday of each month in the narthex. It's at the price Equal Exchange charges us because we believe offering fair trade products brings justice to those farmers who are trying to support their families with a sustainable income. This supports coffee and cacao bean farmers because our purchases ensure they are guaranteed a fair price for their crops.

Care to Join Us at Colonial? 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. Classes are at 9:15 on Sunday mornings, March 15, 22 and 29 in the Cambridge Room. New members will be received into our membership on March 29 during worship. If you can't make it to class on all three Sundays, we still welcome you to join on the 29th. Interested? Call Heather in the church office to reserve your space: 913-362-7735.

Colonial Pub Night on February 18. The next Colonial Church Pub Night is Tuesday, February 18 at 6:00 p.m. at Kansas City Bier Company (310 W 79th St, Kansas City, MO 64114). People have been gathering in pubs for ages to talk about life. Please let Heather in the church office know if you're planning to go so that we can reserve a table.

Molly's Table Dinner & Game Night, Wednesday, Feb. 26. Help us share an evening full of love, warmth and games with the moms from Sheffield Place. Many of our guests are going through a difficult time of transition and recovery. Molly's Table provides moms with a fun break in a safe and welcoming environment. We need your help to make it all possible. Please consider preparing, or donating food for the dinner, or by signing up to play a tabletop game with our guests. For more information about this special event visit and to sign up go to: <https://tinyurl.com/molly-Feb>. To learn more about Sheffield Place visit <https://www.sheffieldplace.org>. Contact jeni@jimcosgrove.com with questions.

Colonial Women Activities. All women of Colonial Church are invited to gather with others in casual fellowship opportunities, whether you prefer breakfast, happy hour or discussing a book. Check out the options below. No reservations required.

- **Book Group.** Friday, February 28, 7:00 p.m., Stephanie Graff's home. We will discuss "Code Name Verity" by Elizabeth Wein.
- **Coffee/Breakfast.** Monday, March 2, 9:30 a.m., Big Biscuit.
- **Dinner Group.** Thursday, March 5, 6:00 p.m.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, March 10, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village Shops.

Help Needed for our Meals for the Homeless in 2020. We need volunteers to help with the meal we serve the fourth Sunday of each month to the homeless. We need people to bake cookies and come to the church kitchen the afternoon of the meal to prepare the food for

2020. Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/colonial-ahh20>. Meal preparation usually starts around 2:00 p.m., so the meal can be available in Mill Creek Park by about 4:00 p.m.

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 to Colonial for the collection plate marked "Food Pantry" on the memo line.

The Week Ahead

TODAY, February 16

8:30 am Worship

9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library

9:30 Centering Prayer, Salem Room

10:15 Worship

10:15 Youth, Youth Room

10:30 Sunday School

11:15 Fellowship Time, Heritage Room

11:30 Council/Administrative Board, Northampton Room

5:30 pm Movie Night, Heritage Room

MONDAY, February 17

Presidents Day – Office Closed

TUESDAY, February 18

9:30 am Book Group, Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY, February 19

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

7:00 pm Colonial Choir, Choir Room

THURSDAY, February 20

10:30 am Bible Study

3:00 pm Care Committee, Northampton Room

6:30 pm AA, Oberlin Room

FRIDAY, February 21

9:00 am Quiltmakers, Social Hall

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, 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 10:15 a.m. worship service to go to class.

Tween Squad—The Colonial Tween Squad meets the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 10:15 a.m. in the Cambridge Room for all students in the 4th, 5th and 6th grades.

Youth—The Colonial Youth Group welcomes 7th-12th grade students. The group meets every other Sunday beginning in the youth room (Savoy) during the worship service at 10:15 a.m. Fellowship, learning, and service activities are planned throughout the year. Friends are welcome anytime, to class meetings or our outside activities.

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 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)

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

Youth Leader: Michelle Turpen

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)

Engagement Coordinator: Julie Luttmann (julie.luttmann@colonialucc.org)