



*United Church of Christ emblem used with permission.*

**One of the main tasks of theology is to find words that do not divide but unite, that do not create conflict but unity, that do not hurt but heal.**

**-Henri Nouwen**



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

February 18, 2018  
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ**  
**“Why John is ‘The Uneasy Gospel’” Sunday Worship Service**  
**in the series *The Uneasy Gospel***

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

*\* Please rise in body or spirit.*

**We Gather as God’s Beloved People**

**Gathering Music**

*Herzlich thut mich verlangen*

J.S. Bach

**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.*

**Gathering Time**

A Moment to Lay Your Burdens Down

**\* Opening Hymn #202**

*O God, How We Have Wandered*

**A Time of Confession**

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**People: Creating and Renewing God. In this Lenten season clear our eyes of the glaze of indifference and apathy. Help us rid our minds off distractions, obsessions and self-pity so that we don't feel helpless. Help us to start over. Re-orient head and heart so that we may fill our whole selves with life-affirming activities and thoughts.**

Silent Meditation

## Assurance of Grace

**Leader:** Brothers and Sisters, God hears our prayers and, even in our human frailty, promises to be with us in the wilderness times.

**People:** **During this season we will observe, find comfort, and offer with courage to restore and build relationships among God's people. In this we are blessed. 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 leave, 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**

*I Will Lift My Eyes Unto the Hills*

J. Martin

**A Word Proclaimed**

Pastor Aaron Roberts

**A Sampler of Hostile Statements in John about "The Jews"**

**John 7:1**

After this Jesus went about in Galilee; he would not go about in Judea, because the Jews sought to kill him.

**John 7:11-13**

The Jews were looking for him at the feast, and saying, “Where is he?” And there was much muttering about him among the people. While some said, “He is a good man,” others said, “No, he is leading the people astray.” Yet for fear of the Jews no one spoke openly of him.

**John 8:44**

You [children of Abraham] are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

**Jesus’ Prayer for Unity - from which we have the United Church of Christ motto  
John 17:20-21**

“I’m not praying only for them but also for those who believe in me because of their word. I pray they will be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. I pray that they also will be in us, so that the world will believe that you sent me.”

**Our Hope is in Unity****1 Corinthians 12: 14-16**

Certainly the body isn’t one part but many. If the foot says, “I’m not part of the body because I’m not a hand,” does that mean it’s not part of the body? If the ear says, “I’m not part of the body because I’m not an eye,” does that mean it’s not part of the body?

Question? Comment? Express your thoughts with #ColonialUCC.

**We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer**

\* Hymn #388

*Help Us Accept Each Other*

Sung to the tune of AURELIA, #386

## 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

*O Sacred Head Now Wounded*  
Based on *Herzlich tut mich verlangen*

Callahan  
Mary Burnett, clarinet

### 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 all bounty and blessing, receive our lives and our gifts to be  
bounty and blessings to you, our church, and 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 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 #55

*Rejoice, You Pure in Heart*

\* **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**

*Herzlich thut mich verlangen*

Kern

### **Worship Leaders**

|                               |                                 |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Liturgist:                    | Linda Moses                     |
| Videographer:                 | Geoff Robinson                  |
| Worship Graphics Operator:    | Hayden Ferguson                 |
| Children's Conversation:      | Darren Carpenter                |
| Hospitality Table:            | Marsha Owen                     |
| Head Usher:                   | Harry Morrison                  |
| Ushers:                       | Harry Morrison, Kendra Morrison |
|                               | Ed Rowe, Lee Rowe               |
| Coffee and Conversation Host: | Kathi & Jim Cook                |

# One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)

## 2018 Giving Calendar

### ***MORE THAN WE CAN IMAGINE!***

The purpose of the OGHS calendar is to help us focus during the season of Lent on ways that God has blessed each of us, and to give thanks for those abundant blessings. The calendar highlights some of the challenging situations in the world. Each day suggests a donation of coins or bills. Your household can decide what unit works best for you. It is easiest if you select one unit and use it throughout the days on the calendar. Your gift will be a blessing to others!



### **WEEK 1: Disaster Relief**

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>Sunday</b><br/> <i>God provides for us more than we can imagine.</i><br/> <i>Ephesians 3:20</i><br/>           With a thankful heart, share 3 units for all the ways God has provided more in your life than you expected.</p>   | <p><b>Monday</b><br/> <i>Support disaster survivors by becoming an UCC Disaster Recovery Volunteer. Help communities rebuild:</i><br/> <i>ucc.org/disaster.</i><br/>           Share 1 unit if you have ever volunteered at a disaster site, or 2 units if you have not.</p> | <p><b>Tuesday</b><br/> <i>Severe thunderstorms account for 60% of the \$23.8 billion dollars in damages caused by natural disaster in 2016.</i><br/>           Share 1 unit if you have an umbrella and another if you have a raincoat.</p> |
| <p><b>Wednesday</b><br/> <i>The Caribbean was repeatedly impacted by disasters in 2017. Learn more about their resiliency through the Caribbean Initiative at:</i><br/> <i>www.globalministries.org</i><br/>           Give 1 unit for each country you can name in the Caribbean.</p> | <p><b>Thursday</b><br/> <i>Bear one another's burdens, And so fulfill the law of Christ.</i><br/> <i>Galatians 6:2</i><br/>           Give 1 unit for each time in the past week someone has helped you, or you have helped someone else.</p>                                | <p><b>Friday</b><br/> <i>Almost everyone in the fire zone in Northern California had some level of damage from toxic ash, power outages and smoke to linens and bedding.</i><br/>           Give 1 unit for each blanket in your home.</p>  |
| <p><b>Saturday</b><br/> <i>"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice."</i><br/> <i>Philippians 4:4</i><br/>           Share one unit for each person or experience that brought you joy today.</p>  |  |   |



# *The Sunday Crier*

February 18, 2018

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## **Lenten Sermon Series: The Uneasy Gospel**

John – it's the only Biblical account of Jesus' life that isn't given a year in the lectionary cycle. John's perspective on Jesus is challenging and decidedly personal, and it can make us uncomfortable. During this season of Lent, we're going to delve into why this gospel has the power both to make us uneasy but also to offer hope to a divided world.

Why John is the "Uneasy Gospel" – today

Who's In, Who's Out – February 25

Water Into Wine – March 4

Woman at the Well – March 11

Lazarus: The First Resurrection – March 18

Palm/Passion Cantata Sunday – March 25

**New Monthly Centering Prayer.** Colonial's centering prayer group is changing its schedule. We will now meet every second Sunday of the month from 9:30 till 10:00 in the preschool room downstairs. The remaining dates for 2018 are: March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, October 14, November 11, and December 9.

Centering prayer is a good way to find some quiet in your life. Praying in a group can help you keep up a regular prayer practice and find common ground with folks who are on a similar spiritual path. No experience is necessary; all are welcome! For questions, contact Elizabeth Uppman at 913-231-0231 or [eaupman@gmail.com](mailto:eaupman@gmail.com).

**Colonial Friends To Church of the Resurrection.** Colonial Friends will tour the new building and see the stained glass windows of the Church of the Resurrection on Wednesday, February 21. Meet in the Colonial parking lot at 10:15 and leave at 10:30. The tour should take about 45 minutes. The group will eat at a restaurant near the church after the tour. Please contact Joe Cunningham ([runningrev2@aol.com](mailto:runningrev2@aol.com) or 913-341-6303) for reservations. We need to know how many are going by Monday, February 19.

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*Altar  
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by BILL AND SHARON YOHN in celebration of the Yohn and Jones families.

**Serve the Homeless.** It is exciting to be a part of the work that Kar Woo offers to needy area residents and the next meal will be served on the Plaza on February 25. To help with the preparation, bake cookies to serve or to come to the Plaza to share, sign up online at <https://tinyurl.com/AHH-Colonial2018>. 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 at 2:00 p.m. and served by the JC Nichols Fountain on the Plaza, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

**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 March 11.

### **Colonial Women Activities**

- **Book Group.** Friday, February 23, 7:00 p.m., Stacey Algren's home. We will be discussing "Three Daughters of Eve" by Elif Shafak.
- **Alden Guild.** Thursday, March 1, 6:00 p.m., Cacao on 95th St.
- **Breakfast and Coffee.** Monday, March 5, 9:30 a.m. at Big Biscuit.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, March 13, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village Shops.

**March Trivia Madness.** Our annual Trivia Night this year falls between the Winter Olympics and the NCAA Basketball Tournament on Saturday, March 3, at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. The theme is March Madness and teams are invited to dress in the apparel of their favorite college basketball teams and decorate their tables as they wish. Sign up your team as soon as possible on the poster in the narthex. If you don't have a team, we'll help you find a spot on a team. The cost is \$10 per person; limit of six people per team. 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 provided at the church but please let us know how many children you are bringing.

**Colonial's Inclement Weather Policy.** The policy for weekdays is to close the church office whenever the Shawnee Mission School District cancels classes for inclement weather. Canceling activities, other than worship services, is the responsibility of the person in charge.

**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 different local food pantries – Village Food Pantry, Catholic Charities, Cross-Lines Community Services, and Shawnee Community Services. 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!

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## **The Week Ahead**

### **TODAY, February 18**

8:30 am—Worship  
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

### **MONDAY, February 19**

Office Closed

### **TUESDAY, February 20**

9:30 am—Book Group, Heritage Room

### **WEDNESDAY, February 21**

9:30 am—Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein Brothers in Prairie Village Shops  
10:15—Colonial Friends, Church of the Resurrection  
7:00 pm—Colonial Choir

### **THURSDAY, February 22**

9:00 am—Care Committee, Heritage Room  
12:00 pm—Bible Study  
6:30 pm—AA, Oberlin Room

### **FRIDAY, February 23**

7:00 pm—Colonial Women Book Discussion, Stacey Algren's Home

### **SUNDAY, February 25**

8:30 am—Worship  
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  
2:00 pm—AHH Cooking, Social Hall  
5:00—Movie Night, Heritage 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 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, bulletin and study guide 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))