



Nicodemus used with permission of Librairie de l'Emmanuel
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**“With integrity, you have nothing to fear,
since you have nothing to hide.”**

-Zig Ziglar



www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

January 28, 2018
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
Sunday Worship Service**

Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

We Gather as God's Beloved People

Gathering Music

Deo Gracias

Gabrielson

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.

Call to Worship

Leader: We gather in the Light that was before, is now, and ever will be.

People: **We seek the Light's ancient wisdom.**

Leader: We gather in the Light that is God's continuing gift.

People: **We live into the Light's new wisdom.**

Leader: We gather in the Light that is our own, emerging anew each day.

People: **We seek to share this wisdom, nurtured in the Light of Jesus.**

*** Opening Hymn #177**

God of Change and Glory

A Time of Confession

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Sometimes we feel lost and even consumed by darkness. We wonder if we are loveable. Our actions dim the value and worth of others, and ourselves.

People: **Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.**

Leader: Sometimes we feel lost in shadows of unclear choices. Which way will lead to justice? To transformation? To peace? We are afraid to risk a step out, unsure of the path.

People: **Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.**

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Grace

Leader: In Christ, God has given us a new Light, kindling unconditional love for us, and showing us a well-lit path to wholeness and forgiveness; to courage and clarity.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

* 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

Sing, Sing Glory to the Lord

Wagner

A Word Proclaimed

Rev. Shea Zellweger

John 3:1-21

New English Translation Bible

Now a certain man, a Pharisee named Nicodemus, who was a member of the Jewish ruling council, came to Jesus at night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs that you do unless God is with him.” Jesus replied, “I tell you the solemn truth, unless a person is born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter his mother’s womb and be born a second time, can he?”

Jesus answered, “I tell you the solemn truth, unless a person is born of water and spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be amazed that I said to you, ‘You must all be born from above.’ The wind blows wherever it will, and you hear the sound it makes, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

Nicodemus replied, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you don’t understand these things? I tell you the solemn truth, we speak about what we know and testify about what we have seen, but you people do not accept our testimony. If I have told you people about earthly things and you don’t believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”

For this is the way God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world should be saved through him. The one who believes in him is not condemned. The one who does not believe has been condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the one and only Son of God. Now this is the basis for judging: that the light has come into the world and people loved the darkness rather than the light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone who does evil deeds hates the light and does not come to the light, so that their deeds will not be exposed. But the one who practices the truth comes to the light, so that it may be plainly evident that his deeds have been done in God.

Question? Comment? Express your thoughts with #ColonialUCC.



We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

* Hymn

Come! Live in the Light!

David Haas

GIA Publications, Inc, 1988



1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the joy and the
 2 Come! O-pen your heart! Show your mer - cy to
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that great day when



love of the Lord! We are called to be light for the
 all those in fear! We are called to be hope for the
 all will be one! God will reign, and we'll walk with each



king-dom, to live in the free-dom of the cit-y of God.
 hope-less so ha-tred and vio-lence will be no more.
 oth - er as sis-ters and brothers u - nited in love.

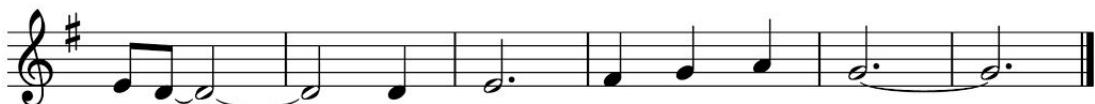
Refrain



We are called to act with justice; we are called to



love ten-der - ly; we are called to serve one an-



oth-er, to walk hum-bly with God.

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

This Day Full of Gladness

Dupre

Doxology

#780 adapted; tune Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, you heavenly host:

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

* Blessing the Offering

People: Loving God, may these gifts reveal to us and to others the Light that is Jesus. And may this Light lead us on into new and challenging ways of living and serving.

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 #181

You Are Salt for the Earth, O People

* **Renewing Our Covenant**

You are invited to turn towards the center aisle as we 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**

Es ist das Heil uns kommen her

Kern

Worship Leaders

Liturgist: Ancel Neuberger

Graphics Operator: Hayden Ferguson

Videographer: Geoff Robinson

Children's Conversation: Martha Wofford

Hospitality Table: Marsha Owen

Coffee and Conversation Host: Mary Pelton

Head Usher: Allan Flentie

Ushers: Allan Flentie, Loren Griffith,

Howard Lee, Marion Taylor



The Sunday Crier

January 28, 2018

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 and we ask that you limit the size of your team to no more than 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 provided at the church but please let us know how many children you are bringing.

Congregational Meeting

A congregational meeting to present and approve the 2018 budget and for approval of the expenditure of up to \$15,000 to replace and upgrade the social hall sound system will be on Sunday, February 4 after the 10:15 a.m. service. The budget will also be presented following the 8:30 a.m. service.

Colonial Friends To Visit Church of the Resurrection

Colonial Friends will be touring the new building and seeing the stained glass windows of the Church of the Resurrection on Wednesday, February 21. Those going will 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 or 913-341-6303) for reservations. We need to know how many are going by Monday, February 19.

*Altar
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by LISARAE TURNBULL
in memory of her mother, Betty Turnbull.

Giving Statements. The Giving Statements for 2017 have been mailed. If you gave and/or pledged for 2017 and did not receive a statement or if you have a question regarding the one you received, please call the church office.

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.

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, from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

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

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 will be February 11.

The Week Ahead

TODAY, January 28

- 8:30 am—Worship
- 9:15—Budget Information Presentation, Sanctuary
- 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

TUESDAY, January 30

- 9:30 am—Book Group, Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY, January 31

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

THURSDAY, February 1

- 12:00 pm—Bible Study
- 3:30 pm—Justice & Witness Committee, Library
- 6:00 pm—Alden Guild, The Tavern in Prairie Village
- 6:30 pm—AA, Oberlin Room

FRIDAY, February 2

- 8:30 am Quiltmakers, Social Hall

SUNDAY, February 4

- 8:30 am—Worship
- 9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library
- 9:15—Board of Outreach, Oberlin Room
- 9:30—Choir Rehearsal, Founders Chapel
- 10:15—Worship
- 10:30—Sunday School
- 11:15—Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary
- 11:15—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage 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 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—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)

Worship Minister: Rev. Nikki Woolsey (nikki.woolsey@colonialucc.org)

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

Youth Group Leader: Amy Congdon (amy.congdon@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)