



Tatuagem Blessed by Micael Faccio used with permission.

Everything is a gift. The degree to which we are awake to this truth is a measure of our gratefulness, and gratefulness is a measure of our aliveness.

–David Steindl-Rast



www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

January 5, 2020
10:15 a.m.

The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
“What’s Luck Got to Do with It?” Worship Service
in the series *Experiencing Gratitude*

Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

We Gather as God’s Beloved People

Gathering Music

Es ist ein Ros

Leavitt

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

Gathering Together in Our Holy Meal

Communion Prayer

Leader: God, you are with us.

People: You are always with us.

Leader: May we open our hearts.

People: May we know your presence...

Leader: ...in thanksgiving...

People: ...and in deepest honor and reverence.

Leader: Therefore, with people of every nation, tribe, and language, with the whole Church throughout the ages, we bring ourselves: all that we are, and all that we are not, joyfully giving thanks and singing:

Sung Response — *Sanctus* #793

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!

My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, God.

Consecration of the Bread and Cup

Pastor: Holy God, we honor you in whom our lives are founded, and in whom our futures lie.

People: We remember and honor also the human searching over the centuries that has perceived your presence and meaning for all of life.

Pastor: We remember that, on the night before his death Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to those gathered at the table and said, “Take; this is my body.” He took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.” In remembrance of this, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ’s Spirit renews our lives.**

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Those who choose may come forward by the center aisle to receive the communion elements. Please take a piece of bread and then dip only the bread in the chalice. You may return to your seat by the outside aisle. All bread is gluten-free.

*** Communion Hymn #127 “Est ist ein’ Ros entsprungen”
(Lo, how a Rose E’er Blooming)**

*** Prayer of Thanksgiving**

People: Eternal, loving God, we thank you for this simple meal that brings the spirit and reality of Christ into our hearts, and brings us closer to you. May our lives be sustained and inspired by your love. May your love touch others through us. 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 Proclaimed

Pastor Aaron Roberts

A Threatening Blessing – Luke 2:34-35

Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “This boy is assigned to be the cause of the falling and rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that generates opposition so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your innermost being too.”

Jesus on Being “Blessed” – Luke 6:20-21; 24-25

Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh...

But woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort.

Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry.

Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep.

Questions

- Would you use the word “blessing” or the word “luck?”
- What constitutes a blessing?
- What are the potential hazards of each?
- How can we show gratitude without coming across as arrogant or entitled?

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

* Hymn #584

“I Am the Light of the World”

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

The Old Year is Passed Away

Dupre

* Doxology

“As with Gladness Those of Old”

Hymn #159 verse 3

*As they offered gifts most rare at that manger plain and bare,
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin’s alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you from whom they spring.*

* Blessing the Offering

Thank you, God. Thank you for touching lives with blessings that we in turn may share with neighbors, near and far. Use our best efforts to extend the influence of your realm. 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 #393

“Blessed Be the Tie That Binds”

* 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

Angelic Songs

Sedio

Worship Leaders

Liturgist:	Whitey Ackley
Videographer:	Austin Henley
Worship Graphics Operator:	Hayden Ferguson
Children's Conversation:	Jayne Quimby
Hospitality Table:	Sharon Yohn
Head Usher:	Allan Flentie
Ushers:	Bruce Wofford, Martha Wofford Bill Yohn
Fellowship Host:	Diane Kuhn



The Sunday Crier

January 5, 2020

Experiencing Gratitude – Sermon Series. Gratitude is healthy. Yet, experiencing gratitude can be elusive. We want to feel grateful, but we don't always act gratefully. In our January sermon series, we are going to explore the feeling and practice of gratitude. Growing in gratitude may be exactly what your spirituality needs in these days. What's Luck Got to Do with It? - today; Growing in Gratitude - January 12; Sometimes You Just Need to Have a Party - January 19; Blessings for All! - January 26.

Get Ready for Some BBQ! Colonial Friends will journey to Brobeck's BBQ on Wednesday, January 15, for a monthly luncheon. Please arrive at 11:15. They normally don't do reservations, but are making an exception in our case because we are special. Brobeck's is on Indian Creek Parkway between Roe and Mission Road. Please RSVP to Bill Sanderson ASAP at bills043@gmail.com.

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 2019. Sign up to 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 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.

All-Church Game Night. Mark your calendars for an all-church game night on Saturday, January 25 at 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. What's your favorite board game? Do you have a game you'd like to play? All ages will enjoy this evening to learn new games and play old favorites. Child care will be available for infants and toddlers by reservation to info@colonialucc.org. Bring a snack to share.

*Altar
Flowers*

Today's altar flowers are given by Marion Taylor in loving memory of her brother, Bill Rayburn.

Year-End Giving Statements. Year-end giving statements for 2019 will be mailed out January 15. If you have any questions about these statements, please contact Jayne Quimby, Financial Recorder, at jqm333@aol.com or 816-807-3592.

Can You Give the Altar Flowers on May 31? We only have 1 date left for you to sign up - May 31. 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. 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.

- **Coffee/Breakfast.** Monday, January 6, 9:30 a.m., Big Biscuit.
- **Colonial Women Dinner Group.** Thursday, January 9, 6:00 p.m., C Frog's in Prairie Village. RSVP to Jayne Quimby at jqm333@aol.com.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday Christmas.** Tuesday, January 14, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village Shops.
- **Lunch Out.** Wednesday, January 22, 11:30 a.m., Tatsu's French Restaurant. RSVP to Kathi Cook (913-236-8292).
- **Book Group** – Friday, January 24, 7:00 p.m., Stacey Algren's home. We will be discussing "City of Girls" by Elizabeth Berg.

Memorial Service Team. Would you like to serve in a small way, but make a big impact on our families who need assistance during a difficult time in their lives? The Memorial Service Committee is looking for couples or individuals to join our committee. There are no meetings. You serve by ushering, answering questions from the families, making the families comfortable and making sure the sanctuary is ready before the service and cleaned up after the service. We rotate responsibility and training is provided. Please consider joining our team. This is a service that touches more lives than you know. Contact Linda Moses at 913-522-7308 or luvslife48@gmail.com.

Study Group of *The Universal Christ*. Our Thursday 10:30 a.m. Study Group is reading Richard Rohr's New York Times Best Seller *The Universal Christ*. Rohr's central premise is that "God loves things by becoming them," and Jesus was a powerful example of this. If you are looking for a new appreciation of the incarnation of God in Jesus this Christmas season, this study is for you. Our group meets at 10:00 in Pastor Aaron's office at Colonial, or you can connect online at <https://zoom.us/j/8796465039>

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.

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 food pantry uses these dollars to purchase items from Harvesters at a very good price.

The Week Ahead

TODAY, January 5

8:30 am Worship

9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library

9:30 Board of Outreach, Oberlin Room

10:15 Worship

10:15 Youth Group, Youth Room

10:30 Sunday School

11:15 Fellowship Time, Heritage Room

MONDAY, January 6

9:30 am-Colonial Women Coffee, Big Biscuit

TUESDAY, January 7

9:30 am Book Group, Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY, January 8

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

9:30 Writers Group, Heritage room

7:00 pm Colonial Choir, Choir Room

THURSDAY, January 9

10:30 am Bible Study

6:00 pm Colonial Women Dinner Group, C Frog's in Prairie Village

6:30 pm 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, 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)