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**People and land need healing which is all inclusive -
holistic.**

- Allan Savory, Ecologist



www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

June 17, 2018
10:15 a.m.

The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
“Land” Sunday Worship Service in the series *Care of Creation*

Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

We Gather as God’s Beloved People

Gathering Music *Prelude and Petit Plein Jeu in the Second Tone*

Guilian

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.

A Moment to Lay Our Burdens Down

*** Opening Hymn #21** “God Reigns o’er All the Earth”

A Time of Confession

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Leader: As we feel the soil in our hands, we remember and confess:

People: **We remember the dry land that rose from waters in the beginning, the plants that emerged from the soil to cover the land with vegetation, and the rich diversity of animal life. We remember the gardens and the fields of our childhood, the places where we played in the sand, when we felt close to the ground, to magic flowers, and to baby animals.**

Leader: Jesus Christ, you who were once buried in Earth, hear our cry:

People: We regret that we have become alienated from Earth, and treated this garden planet as a beast to be tamed, as a domain to be dominated, and as a place to be ruled for our gain.

Leader: We remember and confess how we have violated and polluted the lands of our garden planet.

People: We are sorry. We have killed living soils with chemicals, we have turned fertile fields into lifeless plains, we have cleared rich lands of wildlife. We are sorry. Forgive us, we pray.

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Grace

Leader: God hears our confession, forgives our sins against the land, and calls us now to open our ears and our hearts to protect rather than to destroy our soils, soils that God has filled with life and love.

People: Holy One, teach us to love Earth as our home and to know all living creatures as our kin. Help us to return home to Earth. Amen.

* Sung Response

Gloria #759 adapted

Glorify 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 Proclaimed

Pastor Aaron Roberts

The Fifth of the Ten Commandments - Exodus 20:12

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

Caring for the Land is Caring for People - Exodus 23:10-12

For six years you are to sow your fields and harvest the crops, but during the seventh year let the land lie unplowed and unused. Then the poor among your people may get food from it, and the wild animals may eat what is left. Do the same with your vineyard and your olive grove.

Six days do your work, but on the seventh day do not work, so that your ox and your donkey may rest, and so that the slave born in your household and the foreigner living among you may be refreshed.

Consequences for Pursuing What Was Worthless - Jeremiah 2:5-7

This is what the LORD says:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me that made them wander so far?

They pursued what was worthless and became worthless.

They didn't ask, "Where's the LORD who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us through the wilderness, in a land of deserts and ravines, in a land of drought and darkness, in a land of no return, where no one survives?"

I brought you into a land of plenty, to enjoy its gifts and goodness, but you ruined my land; you disgraced my heritage.

People Need Rest - Mark 2:27

[Jesus taught:] "The Sabbath was created for humans; humans weren't created for the Sabbath."

Question? Comment? Express your thoughts with #ColonialUCC. 

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

* Hymn #484

“O Come to Me, You Weary”

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

“Come to Me”

Christopher Grundy

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 our Creator, through your love you have given us these gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our thanksgiving and as a sign of our concern for those in need, including all our fellow creatures on planet Earth. 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 #20

"God of Abraham and Sarah"

* **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 till we meet again.

O God be with you, God be with you, God be with you till we meet again.

* **Benediction and Postlude**

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Behnke

Worship Leaders

Guest Organist:	Jo Kraus
Liturgist:	Frank Robertson
Videographer:	Geoff Robinson
Worship Graphics Operator:	Sally Huggins
Children's Conversation:	Marylee Battaglia
Hospitality Table:	Rosalie Henry
Head Usher:	Bill Yohn
Ushers:	Marylee Battaglia, Bob Starcke Bill Yohn
Coffee and Conversation Host:	Mary Pelton

Flourishing: A UCC Mission Moment

Mark 4:26-34

Father's Day

We talk about seeds a lot in the church. Faith and Mustard seeds. Scattering seeds as a parable about the kingdom. There is the harvest of the righteous. Agricultural metaphors and images jump across the pages of the Bible pointing to a land and a time when the rhythms of life revolved around harvests and planting. Flourishing was as visible as green shoots and wind blowing through a wheat field. The natural world fed people. Food was not presented in a box with plastic wrapping or in a can but right outside your back door, under your feet growing by your own hand. Rural congregations get to see their food growing every spring. City congregants must travel or wait for the weekend farmer's market to taste and see the freshness that nature offers.

But around the country, in many cities our UCC churches are cultivating a love of creation and a recognition of the gift and labor that food represents by developing a part of their property as a community garden. The Kimball Avenue United Church of Christ is in the middle of Chicago and it has a plot of land on a busy street corner which is now dubbed "The Oasis." Rows of tended vegetables, raised beds, honey bees, paths and a labyrinth are the result of cultivated partnerships with the community, local businesses and an afterschool program. Since they began the garden in 2013 more than 200 high schoolers have participated in maintaining the garden. The garden is open to everyone. What a way to love creation and your neighbor and children!

Many miles from Chicago, in Arvada, Colorado the Common Earth Community Garden began its garden cultivation in 2016 as a partnership between the First United (UCC) church of Arvada and Denver Urban Gardens. The mission statement of the garden says: *Common Earth Community Garden is established to grow and distribute vegetables, provide a source of wholesome food to local food banks, provide nutritional and cultural education for youth, a place of fellowship for multigenerational families, and outreach to our diverse neighbors on this shared common earth.*

Besides garden plots, the space will include a gazebo, picnic facilities, a meditation bench, and beehives. Perhaps an inclusive way to express our three loves is by gardening. It is a way to cultivate your church's neighborhood in more ways than one.



The Sunday Crier

June 17, 2018

Register Now for VBS! Get ready campers to prepare for an outdoor adventure that starts in our own backyards and gets bigger each day as we spread the love of Jesus into our neighborhoods and communities. Camp dates are July 10-13 from 9:00-11:30 a.m. with a performance Sunday morning July 15 at the 10:15 service. Sign up your children and grandchildren at <https://tinyurl.com/ColonialVBS-18>.

Colonial Family Getaway. Join other Colonial families for outdoor fun and fellowship at beautiful Pomona State Park in Vassar, Kansas on Saturday and Sunday, September 8-9, the weekend after Labor Day. Come for the day or stay overnight in an air-conditioned cabin, on a plug-in RV site, or in your own tent. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/colonial-getaway> now to let us know you're coming.



Colonial Friends Bus Trip to Jamesport on September 5. Spend the day with the Amish and experience the old ways of life in the Amish Colony. See candle making, shopping in the Amish stores, an Amish style family dinner at the Gingerich Dutch Pantry Restaurant and a visit to the Countryside Bakery. Some of the shops accept cash only. This bus trip is provided by the Lenexa Senior Center and will leave from there. Cost is \$71, which includes lunch. The trip will be from approx 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. To register for the trip call the center at 913-477-7100. The cut off for registration is when the bus is full or Aug 1. If you have any questions call the center or Bill Yohn 913-339-9862.

*Altar
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by Jill Buckstead.

Colonial Women Activities

- **Colonial Women's Lunch Out.** This Wednesday, June 20, 11:00 a.m., Vivilore Restaurant (10815 E Winner Road, Independence MO 64052). RSVP immediately to Mary Penrose (913-707-8907, penrose.mary@gmail.com).
- **Book Group.** Friday, June 29, 7:00 p.m., Stacey Algren's home.
- **Breakfast and Coffee.** Monday, July 2, 9:30 a.m. at Big Biscuit.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, July 10, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village Shops.

New: Colonial Community Billboard. We are creating a private social network for the Colonial Church community as an easy way for you to communicate with members of our church community. Do you:

- Have something to give away or lend. Perhaps health equipment that is no longer needed or which can be lent until needed. Perhaps you are downsizing and have things you would like to give away.
- Have something you need that someone in our community could give you or lend to you.
- Need to hire a young person to help with something.
- Need a ride to an appointment

This is free for your use. It is a monitored message board so that only appropriate information is posted. It is not intended for commercial purposes, so please do not advertise your business through posts here. Only members of the email group will be able to view content. Go to <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/colonial-community> to register. You will sign in with your Google account. If you do not have one, you can create one. Please use your name as your user name so everyone will know who is posting. (The default is your email address which is not always a good indication of your identity.)

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 June 24. 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.

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 local food pantries – Village Food Pantry, Catholic Charities, Cross-Lines Community Services, and Shawnee Community Services. The wagon also swells the first week of the month when Temple Sinai members add their contributions. Food suggestions: Canned and Jar Food: vegetables, soup, stews, fruit, peanut butter, beans, tuna, chili, canned chicken, canned

salmon, canned beans, preferably low-sodium items; Boxed and Bagged Food: Cereals (preferably whole grain and low sugar content), crackers, macaroni and cheese, flour, pasta, pancake mix, rice (brown, white or basmati), sugar, breakfast items, snack bars, gluten-free items, dry beans, nuts. You can also write a check for the collection plate marked “Food Pantry” on the memo line. You do make a difference.

The Week Ahead

TODAY, June 17

8:30 am Worship

9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library

10:15 Worship

10:30 Sunday School

11:15 Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room

TUESDAY, June 19

9:30 am Book Group, Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY, June 20

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

11:00 Colonial Women Lunch Out, Vivilore Restaurant

THURSDAY, June 21

6:30 pm AA, Oberlin Room

SATURDAY, June 23

11:00 am Bob Buehler Memorial Service, Sanctuary

SUNDAY, June 24

8:30 am Worship

9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library

10:15 Worship

10:30 Sunday School

11:15 Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room

11:30 Council/Administrative Board, Social Hall

2:00 pm Artists Helping Homeless Meal Preparation, 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, 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 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)

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)