



*Solar panel at Pilliga Pottery used with permission by Kate Ausburn.*

**The old and honorable idea of 'vocation' is simply that we each are called, by God, or by our gifts, or by our preference, to a kind of good work for which we are particularly fitted.**

**- Wendell Berry**



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

June 24, 2018  
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ**  
**“Sky” 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**

*Introspection*

Purvis

**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 #8**

“Praise to the Living God”

**A Time of Confession**

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**People:** **Creator God, we have only one sky. It can seem like a great, blue nothingness, and yet we know that it contains the very air we need to breathe in and out every moment of every day.**

**O God, we have hurt the sky. We have polluted it, we have clouded it with skyscrapers, we have burnt holes in the ozone layer through our carelessness and greed. Forgive us. Teach us ways to treat the sky more gently, that it may be a source of wonder and of life. We pray in Christ’s name.**

## Silent Meditation

### Assurance of Grace

**Leader:** When we are overwhelmed and frightened by things we have done, God offers us a word of hope.

**People:** **We are reminded that there is a rainbow after every storm, a dawn after every nighttime, and God's wondrous forgiveness. Thanks be to God! 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 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

#### **Creation is Groaning and Suffering - Romans 8:19-22**

The whole Creation waits breathless with anticipation for the revelation of God's sons and daughters. Creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice—it was the choice of the one who subjected it—but in the hope that the Creation itself will be set free from slavery to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of God's children. We know that the whole Creation is groaning together and suffering...

#### **Church as a Light Before the World - Matthew 5:14-16**

You are the light of the world. A city on top of a hill can't be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket. Instead, they put it on top of a lampstand, and it shines on all who are in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven.

#### **The Gifts for the Common Good - 1 Corinthians 12:7;11-12**

A gift of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good.

All these [gifts] are produced by the one and same Spirit who gives what she wants to each person. Christ is just like the human body—a body is a unit and has many parts; and all the parts of the body are one body, even though there are many.

Question? Comment? Express your thoughts with #ColonialUCC. 

## We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

\* Hymn #563

“We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky”

### 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

Memories from the Regional Youth Event (RYE)

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: As endless as the sky is your love for us, O God. Endless, too, is our love for you. Receive these gifts, offered as tools to help us – through our church – to do your work in 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 #556            "God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens"

### \* 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

*Sing a New Song*

Broughton

**Worship Leaders**

Guest Organist:	Jo Kraus
Liturgist:	Carrie Roberts
Videographer:	Geoff Robinson
Worship Graphics Operator:	Sally Huggins
Children's Conversation:	Darren Carpenter
Hospitality Table:	Sally Huggins
Head Usher:	Chester Bender
Ushers:	Chester Bender, Mariam Fleming Linda Moses, Bruce Wofford
Coffee and Conversation Host:	Sally Huggins

## **In the Boat Together: A UCC Mission Moment**

Mark 4:35-41      Open and Affirming Sunday

How can Jesus sleep so soundly? There's a raging storm blowing all around them and the disciples can't get over how he can sleep so soundly. They're all in the same boat. If the ship is being tossed by waves they're all getting seasick...except Jesus. When they wake him up he stops the storm and goes back to sleep. One gets the idea that the storm was not that threatening after all. Sailors around the world and throughout history have bonded around boats and the sea. Storms are part of that experience.

In our denomination's history, we have played a part in the ongoing ministry to people who make their living on the sea. In 1820, a Congregational minister, Rev. Ward Stafford spoke eloquently to the people of Boston and began a push for a special ministry to seafarers that eventually became the American Seaman's Friend Society and the Mariner's Church by 1830. This organization was, at its inception, an ecumenical affair bringing together Presbyterian, Baptist and Congregational leaders to develop and found a rooming house and an ongoing ministry to the people who work in our maritime industry. As we can tell from reading the opening chapters of Melville's *Moby Dick* there were mixed feelings along the coast of New England about the moral rectitude of whalers and sailors. Melville's hero quickly learns that there is a great variety of men that take to the sea. Our churches took on this ministry recognizing that Jesus called us to be welcoming to those society cast out.

Through the wars of the twentieth century this ministry has endured along with the ups and downs of the shipping industry. Today it is called The Seafarers Friend. It is still ecumenical and is a part of our denomination's heritage of reaching out to the underserved and welcoming all from all parts of the human family.

It is Open and Affirming Sunday, another ministry of our denomination. A ministry that is much younger than seafarers but represents a continual broadening of our understanding of extravagant hospitality. Open and Affirming churches are those that especially welcome Lesbian, Gay, bisexual and Transgendered people as part of the Body of Christ. As of 2012 there are 1000 churches in the UCC that have voted to be Open and Affirming. Our UCC history is full of moments when congregations and leaders identified special ministries as part of our identity, outreach and evangelism. We are indeed in a boat together with others.



# *The Sunday Crier*

June 24, 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.** Whether for one day or for the entire gathering, join other Colonial families for outdoor fun and fellowship at beautiful Pomona State Park in Vassar, Kansas. It's all happening Saturday and Sunday, September 8-9, the weekend after Labor Day. You can come down for the activities on Saturday and return home or join us on Sunday morning. Whatever best fits your schedule. You can camp in a tent or bring your RV. The park is just over an hour from Colonial. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/colonial-getaway> now to let us know you're coming. Questions? Contact Lisa Tierney, Elizabeth Uppman or Martha Wofford.



**Summer Music Survey.** Do you have a favorite song that informs your faith? Do you have a musical piece that you'd like to share vocally or instrumentally? Is there a music video that challenges your ideas of what it means to be church? Over the summer months, you are invited to recommend or provide music to share with the congregation during the offering. At the link below, you can list a song, a video, or sign-up to sing or play an instrument. We need your gifts of music to broaden our experience and witness of faith! Contact Nikki Woolsey for additional information. Visit survey at: <https://colonialucc.breezechms.com/form/481747>

*Altar  
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by Linda Moses and family in loving memory of Harold and Dolcie Offer.

**Sermon and Worship Planning Poll.** Plans are underway to craft our sermon and worship themes for the 2018-2019 program year. Is there a particular topic you would like to explore or experience? Let us know by taking the survey at <https://colonialucc.breezechms.com/form/3d9263>. Please note that our Justice & Witness Committee will be conducting a survey of important social issues in the next few weeks. The results of that survey will be used in planning worship series in addition to the ideas you share through this survey.

### **Colonial Women Activities**

- **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.

**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.

**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. 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.

**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. You can also write a check for the collection plate marked "Food Pantry" on the memo line. You do make a difference.

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**The Week Ahead****TODAY, 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 &amp; Conversation, Heritage Room

11:30 Council/Administrative Board, Northampton Room

2:00 pm Artists Helping Homeless Meal Preparation, Social Hall

**MONDAY, June 25**

Office Closed

**TUESDAY, June 26**

9:30 am Book Group, Heritage Room

**WEDNESDAY, June 27**

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

**THURSDAY, June 28**

9:00 am Care Committee, Heritage Room

12:00 pm Bible Study

6:30 pm AA, Oberlin Room

**FRIDAY, June 29**

Office Closed

8:30 am Quiltmakers, Social Hall

7:00 pm Colonial Women Book Group, Stacey Algren's home

**SUNDAY, July 1**

8:30 am Worship

9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library

9:15 Board of Outreach, Oberlin Room

10:15 Worship

10:30 Sunday School

11:15 Coffee &amp; Conversation, 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 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](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](https://www.instagram.com/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))

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))