



*Methuselah, White Mountain, California used with permission by Chao Yen.*

**The oldest living things are a record and celebration of our past, a call to action in our present, and a barometer of our future.**

**-Rachel Sussman**



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

June 3, 2018  
10:15 a.m.

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

*Aus tiefer Not schrei ich zu dir*

Sheidt

**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 Your Burdens Down**

**\* Opening Hymn #562**

“Take My Gifts”

**We Gather at the Table**

Invitation

Leader: Heaven declares God’s glory.

**People: The sky proclaims God’s handiwork.**

Leader: Without speech or words or even voice

**People: still the sound fills all the universe with this proclamation:**

Leader: Our Creator is good and loving.

**People: Our Creator is indeed good and loving!**

## Communion Prayer

**Leader:** And so we gather to celebrate the goodness of God, who has made the world and all that is in it. From the beginning, God set forth patterns that remind us of God’s care at every turning: night becomes day, trees grow tall and birds soar, fish swim and dolphins play, kangaroos and elk fill the forests. Day after day, we hear the call of God to care for this amazing Earth and its wondrous creatures.

Sometimes we care; too often, we do not. Caught up in our own concerns we are careless with what God has entrusted to us, and we – as well as other parts of our creation – suffer. Yet God’s love continues to nurture and sustain. In the midst of our ignorance, still Christ comes to us and offers a word of promise, a reminder that God’s love is greater than all our failures and shortcomings. And so we give thanks:

**People: Holy God! Wondrous God!  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna! Glory! Praise!  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God.  
Hosanna! Glory! Praise!**

**Leader:** We remember how Jesus, beloved child of God, even in the face of betrayal, torture, and death, still gathered with closest friends and shared the Passover meal with them. Jesus took bread, gave thanks to God, broke it, and passed it around the table. “Take this and eat it,” Jesus said, “and remember me.”

**People: We remember you, dear Jesus.**

**Leader:** After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine and offered thanks to God. “Take this and drink from it,” Jesus said, “and remember me.”

**People: We remember you, dear Jesus.**

Leader: As you invited us to be your guests, so now do we invite you to remain close to us in this meal and always. When we are afraid, may the memory of this meal sustain us. When we are uncertain, may the memory of this meal ground us in your love. When we feel unworthy, may the memory of this meal remind us that we are never alone.

### Consecration of the Bread and Cup

#### Sharing of 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.*

Communion Offertory    *Come, God, Creator, Holy Ghost*

Dupre

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

**People: We thank you, Holy God, for this feast of life. We are sent forth into this world to live your way, share your joy, and care for your creation. Thanks be to God. 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

#### **Nature Speaks for God - Isaiah 55:12-13**

The mountains and the hills will burst into song before you;  
all the trees of the field will clap their hands.  
In place of the thorn the cypress will grow;  
in place of the nettle the myrtle will grow.  
This will attest to the LORD's stature,  
an enduring reminder that won't be removed.

#### **A Tree is Known by Its Fruit - Luke 6:43-45**

[Jesus taught:] "A good tree doesn't produce bad fruit, nor does a bad tree produce good fruit. Each tree is known by its own fruit. People don't gather figs from thorny plants, nor do they pick grapes from prickly bushes. A good person produces good from the good treasury of the inner self, while an evil person produces evil from the evil treasury of the inner self. The inner self overflows with words that are spoken.

#### **A Mature, Spiritual Statement by Oren Lyons, Native American Faithkeeper of the Iroquois Confederacy**

"Make sure and to make every decision that we make relate to the welfare and well-being of the seventh generation to come...What about the seventh generation? Where are you taking them? What will they have?"

#### **The Secret to Enduring - Philippians 4:11-13**

I have learned how to be content in any circumstance. I know the experience of being in need and of having more than enough; I have learned the secret to being content in any and every circumstance, whether full or hungry or whether having plenty or being poor. I can endure all these things through the power of the one who gives me strength.

Question? Comment? Express your thoughts with #ColonialUCC. 

## We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

\* Hymn

“This Is My Father’s World”

Babcock



1. This\_ is my Fa-ther's world, and\_ to my lis-tening  
 2. This\_ is my Fa-ther's world, the\_ birds their ca-rols  
 3. This\_ is my Fa-ther's world. O\_ let me ne'er for-



ears all na-ture sings, and\_ round me rings the  
 raise, the mor-ning light, the\_ li-ly white, de-  
 get that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God



mu-sic of the\_ spheres. This is my Fa-ther's world: I\_  
 clare their ma-ker's praise. This is my Fa-ther's world: he\_  
 is\_ the rul-er\_ yet. This is my Fa-ther's world: why



rest me in the thought of\_ rocks and trees, of\_  
 shines in all that's fair; in the rust-ling grass I\_  
 should my heart be sad? The\_ Lord is King; let the



skies and seas; his hand\_ the\_ won-ders\_ wrought.  
 hear him pass; he speaks to\_ me ev-ery-where.  
 hea-vens ring! God reigns; let the earth be\_ glad.

## 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 “Bristlecone Pine” recorded by Michael Johnson

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: Holy God, you have covered us with blessing like the leaves of a tree.  
Into your creation we commit these gifts that they may help to grow  
your world toward peace and justice. 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.**





# *The Sunday Crier*

June 3, 2018

**Annual Congregational Meeting on June 10.** The Annual Meeting for Colonial will be Sunday, June 10, 2018 after the 10:15 service. The annual report will be passed out to the congregation at this time and a slate of new board chairs and administrative board members will be presented.

- Moderator: Ancel Neuburger
- Administrative Board: Heather Brasel and Harry Morrison
- Chair, Board of Parish Life: Mary Penrose
- Co-chairs, Board of Property Management: Bill Sanderson and Linda Moses
- Chair, Board of Stewardship: Stacy Kern

Nominations for elected positions may also be made by any two members of the congregation by submitting to the church office the name of the nominee and the written consent of such nominee so that such nominee's name may be included with the published list of nominees.

**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.



*Altar  
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by Jayne Quimby and Jan Parkinson in celebration of their wedding anniversary and Jan's birthday.

**Writers Group.** Join us for Colonial Writers Group on June 13, 9:30 a.m. at the church. Everyone has a story to tell, and there are many good reasons to tell yours. Story telling creates connections, your family will thank you, you'll feel better, and you will have a great time, just to name a few! Veterans and newcomers are welcome to participate.

**More2 Transformation Banquet.** More2 is celebrating with a Transformation Banquet on June 14, 5:30-8:00 p.m. at Union Station to honor Kiku Brooks, Social Action Ministry Leader and Associate Minister of Zion Missionary Baptist Church. The Justice and Witness Committee has bought a table for 10 at the event. We invite and encourage anyone interested in learning how to make Colonial voices louder and our hands more effective to do justice to join us for the party. The committee has worked with other faith groups in MORE2 over the past two years as we address social and economic injustice throughout Metropolitan Kansas City. Our most recent victory came last week when Governor Jeff Colyer signed into law a bill granting compensation to exonerated felons for their years in prison. Today we are having a drawing for 2 free tickets (\$150 value) for this upcoming banquet. If you would like to go, please indicate in the pew pad by putting MORE2 by your name. We'll do the drawing next week and contact you.

### **Colonial Women Activities**

- **Breakfast and Coffee.** Monday, June 4, 9:30 a.m. at Big Biscuit.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, June 12, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village Shops.
- **Book Group.** Friday, June 29, 7:00 p.m., Stephanie Graff's home.

**VBS Is July 10-13.** 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>.

**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.

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**The Week Ahead****TODAY, June 3**

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

**MONDAY, June 4**

9:30 am Colonial Women Coffee, Big Biscuit

**TUESDAY, June 5**

8:00 am Men's Breakfast Group, Perkins

9:30 am Book Group, Heritage Room

**WEDNESDAY, June 6**

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

**THURSDAY, June 7**

12:00 pm Bible Study

3:00 pm Justice &amp; Witness Committee, Library

6:30 AA, Oberlin Room

**SUNDAY, June 10**

8:30 am Worship

9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library

9:15 Adult Christian Education, Cambridge Room

9:30 Centering Prayer, Preschool Room

10:15 Worship

10:30 Sunday School

11:15 Annual Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary

11:15 Coffee &amp; Conversation, Heritage Room

11:15 Fair Trade Coffee, Narthex

*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

## **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))