



Malawi Prison used with permission by Carlos Patricio Vargas.

When you carry out acts of kindness you get a wonderful feeling inside. It is as though something inside your body responds and says, yes, this is how I ought to feel.

-Rabbi Harold Kushner



www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

May 6, 2018
10:15 a.m.

The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
“The God You Deal With” Sunday Worship Service
in the series *How Big is Your God?*

Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

We Gather as God’s Beloved People

Gathering Music

Jesus, meine Zuversicht

Walther

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 #349**

“I Come with Joy”

A Time of Confession

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

People: **Living God, we confess that our faith is sometimes weak, our love for others can be faint, our prayers are often timid, and our gratitude is frequently unconvincing. Yet when we stand looking toward heaven, yet feel far from you, you draw near in mercy to forgive us, and fill us with your power, through the grace of Jesus, our resurrected Savior.**

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Grace

Leader: Sisters and brothers, God's power to create new life is immeasurable. Therefore, proclaim this good news to the ends of the earth:

People: **Through the mercy of Christ, our sins are forgiven. 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

God Reaches Out for a Purpose - Exodus 3:1-8

Moses was taking care of the flock for his father-in-law Jethro, Midian's priest. He led his flock out to the edge of the desert, and he came to God's mountain called Horeb. The Lord's messenger appeared to him in a flame of fire in the middle of a bush. Moses saw that the bush was in flames, but it didn't burn up. Then Moses said to himself, "Let me check out this amazing sight and find out why the bush isn't burning up."

When the Lord saw that he was coming to look, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!”

Moses said, “I’m here.”

Then the Lord said, “Don’t come any closer! Take off your sandals, because you are standing on holy ground.” He continued, “I am the God of your father, Abraham’s God, Isaac’s God, and Jacob’s God.” Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, “I’ve clearly seen my people oppressed in Egypt. I’ve heard their cry of injustice because of their slave masters. I know about their pain. I’ve come down to rescue them from the Egyptians.

Has God Abandoned Us, Or Vice Versa? - Psalm 74

God, why have you abandoned us forever?

Why does your anger smolder at the sheep of your own pasture?
Remember your congregation that you took as your own long ago,
that you redeemed to be the tribe of your own possession—
remember Mount Zion, where you dwell.

March to the unending ruins, to all that the enemy destroyed in the sanctuary.

Question? Comment? Express your thoughts with #ColonialUCC.



A Word in Our Holy Meal

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 Anthem

When Peace Like a River

Leavitt

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

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

Christ Lay in the Bonds of Death

Dupre

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: Almighty God, bless these gifts that we bring in gratitude. Bless our lives of faith and action that we may be your witnesses to the end of the 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 #396 “Where Charity and Love Prevail”

* **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, 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**

Bryn Calfaria

Haller

Worship Leaders

Liturgist:	Brook Carson
Videographer:	Geoff Robinson
Worship Graphics Operator:	Hayden Ferguson
Children's Conversation:	Bob Starcke
Hospitality Table:	Elizabeth Uppman
Head Usher:	Howard Lee
Ushers:	Marylee Battaglia, Loren Griffith
	Howard Lee, Bob Starcke
Coffee and Conversation Host:	Martha Wofford

Collecting our Images of God

Thank you to the following members and friends who submitted pictures for our growing collection of images of God.

Valerie Cable	Night with Her Train of Stars by Edward Hughes
Darren Carpenter	Flint Hills
Hayden Ferguson	Clouds
Stephanie Graff	Geyser
Stephanie Graff	Joy with sprinkles
Stephanie Graff	New beginnings
Stephanie Graff	Peace, comfort, rest
Sally Huggins	Light shining down
Joseph Kern	The Emerald Throne
Carrie Roberts	The Sheltering Hand
Dianne Starcke	Eye of God nebula
Dianne Starcke	Clouds
Pernell Talberg	Child at the church door
Pernell Talberg	Pond at sunset
Janet Weiblen	Infinite ocean

Please continue to submit images as they come to you...

What image comes to your mind when you visually imagine God?

As we worship together over the coming weeks, we would like to curate a collection of images submitted by Colonial members, friends, and guests. You are invited to send us a picture that best communicates “God” to you. Images can be something you create, a piece of art, a photograph, etc. You may include an explanation if you think it would be helpful. Our collected images will be used in worship during the next month.

Digital images may be submitted to GodPictures@colonialucc.org.
You may also submit hard copies of images to Rev. Nikki Woolsey.



The Sunday Crier

April 15, 2018

SOMEDAY Is May 20!

“Someday.”

That's when most of us say we are going to start planning and protecting the financial future of our loved ones. Here's some good news: You can make Sunday, May 20 your "Someday" by signing up for FAMILY FINANCE 101, an overview of key areas that impact your financial future: changes in the new federal income tax law, wills and trusts, social security, advanced directive and power of attorney...and more. The Board of Stewardship and the Investment Committee have assembled a panel of

experts who will make a brief presentation about each of these topics, followed by a light lunch and an opportunity for you to talk directly with our presenters about your specific concerns. Leave behind material will also be provided – all at no charge.

It starts at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, May 20 in the Social Hall. This event is presented as a service to church members and the community, so feel free to invite neighbors or friends. However to provide an accurate count for lunch and printed material, reservations are necessary. To reserve your spot, go to <https://tinyurl.com/col-finance101>.

For Mother's Day, Support Malawi Birthing Center. This Mother's Day honor your mother or the mothers in your life by giving the gift of hope. Consider an alternative gift with a donation to our Malawi birthing center. The birth center is built but funds are still needed for its operation and maintenance. Safe birth is not a given in many parts of the world. Consider giving in honor of those you love. Checks can be made to Colonial with "Mothers Day Malawi" in the memo. Thank you!

*Altar
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by LOREN GRIFFITH in memory of his wife, Jan.

Youth Car Wash. Saturday, May 12, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. in the church front drive. Donations will be used toward Regional Youth Event costs this summer. Please contact Amy Congdon (amy.congdon@colonialucc.org) with any questions.

Tuesday Book Group. Do you have space in your schedule this spring? Join us for the Tuesday Book Group every week at 9:30 in the Heritage Room. Starting May 15th we will begin discussions of Evicted, Poverty and Profit in the American City by Matthew Desmond, (*Library Call Letters: 339.4609 Desmond 02/2016.*) This work offers penetrating and important insights into the for-profit rental market in American cities, and the destructive effects of that market on families.

Colonial Women Activities

- **Breakfast and Coffee.** Monday, May 7, 9:30 a.m. at Big Biscuit.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, May 8, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village Shops.
- **Book Group.** Friday, May 11, Stacey Algren's home. We will be discussing "Fall of Marigolds" by Susan Meissner.

Colonial Friends BBQ Outing. Colonial Friends will have lunch at Zarda Bar-B-Q at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 16. We will meet at the restaurant at 11931 W. 87th Street Parkway, Lenexa, KS, 66215. Please RSVP to Catherine Bowser, bowcat2@aol.com (913)381-0430 by Monday, May 14. Tell Catherine if you need a ride.

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>.

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.

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 is May 13.

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 May 27. 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.

The Week Ahead

TODAY, May 6

8:30 am—Worship
 8:30—Board of Christian Education, Heritage Room
 9:00—Bell Choir, Bell Choir Room
 9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library
 9:15—Adult Christian Education, Cambridge Room
 9:15—Board of Outreach, Oberlin Room
 9:30—Choir Rehearsal, Founders Chapel
 10:15—Worship
 10:30—Sunday School
 11:15—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room

MONDAY, May 7

9:30 am—Colonial Women Coffee, Big Biscuit

TUESDAY, May 8

9:30 am—Book Group, Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY, May 9

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

THURSDAY, May 10

12:00 pm—Bible Study
 6:30 pm—AA, Oberlin Room

SATURDAY, May 12

11:00 am-3:00 pm Youth Car Wash, Front Drive

SUNDAY, May 13

8:30 am—Worship
 9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library
 9:15—Adult Christian Education, Cambridge Room
 9:15—Bell Choir, Sanctuary
 9:30—Choir Rehearsal, Founders Chapel
 9:30—Centering Prayer, Preschool Room
 10:15—Worship
 10:30—Sunday School
 11:15—Coffee & Conversation, Heritage Room
 11:15—Fair Trade Coffee, Narthex

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](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)