



*Plymouth* used with permission by Steve Conger.

**The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more  
there is in life to celebrate.** -Oprah Winfrey



www.colonialucc.org  
913-362-7735

November 18, 2018  
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ**  
**“Celebrating Together” Thanksgiving Sunday Worship Service**  
**in the series *Better Together***

*Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.*

*\* Please rise in body or spirit.*

**We Gather as God’s Beloved People**

**Gathering Music**

*Chant de Paix*

Langlais

**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 422**      “Come, O Thankful People, Come”

**A Time of Confession**

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Written by Rev. Sarah Weaver

**Leader:**    God of amazing grace, you have asked us to give of ourselves, wholly and completely. We have heard your call and have responded with great affirmation and joy.

**People:**    **And yet there are times when we fall short. Times when we forget. Times when we focus on the wrong things. Help us to have faith, O God. Help us to give through that faith. Help us to be blessed by that faith.**

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Grace

Written by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell

**Leader:** When we live into God's abundance, we know that there is enough for all when we share what we have. When we live into God's abundance, we know that there is nothing we can do that will separate us from God's love. Know this: you are forgiven, loved, and restored.

**People:** **We will go to share in God's abundance, and to work for the reign of God on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.**

\* Sung Response

Gloria, hymn 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 in Music**

*All Creatures of our Lord and King*

arr: Fred Bock

**A Word Proclaimed**

Pastor Aaron Roberts

**Congregationalist Thanksgiving — Edward Winslow wrote on December 12, 1621**

Our corn did prove well, and God be praised, we had a good increase of Indian corn, and our barley indifferent good, but our peas not worth the gathering, for we feared they were too late sown. They came up very well, and blossomed, but the sun parched them in the blossom. Our harvest being gotten in, our governor sent four men

on fowling, that so we might after a special manner rejoice together after we had gathered the fruit of our labors. They four in one day killed as much fowl as, with a little help beside, served the company almost a week. At which time, amongst other recreations, we exercised our arms, many of the Indians coming amongst us, and among the rest their greatest king Massasoit, with some ninety men, whom for three days we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five deer, which they brought to the plantation and bestowed on our governor, and upon the captain and others. And although it be not always so plentiful as it was at this time with us, yet by the goodness of God, we are so far from want that we often wish you partakers of our plenty.

### **Israelite Thanksgiving — Leviticus 23:39-43**

On the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered the land's crops, you will celebrate the LORD's festival for seven days. The first day and the eighth day are days of special rest. On the first day you must take fruit from majestic trees, palm branches, branches of leafy trees, and willows of the streams, and rejoice before the Lord your God for seven days. You will celebrate this festival to the LORD for seven days each year; this is a permanent rule throughout your future generations. You will celebrate it in the seventh month. For seven days you must live in huts. Every citizen of Israel must live in huts so that your future generations will know that I made the Israelites live in huts when I brought them out of the land of Egypt; I am the LORD your God.

### **Surviving is Just That — Ephesians 2:8-9**

You are saved by God's grace because of your faith. This salvation is God's gift. It's not something you possessed. It's not something you did that you can be proud of. Instead, we are God's accomplishment, created in Christ Jesus to do good things.

Question? Comment? Express your thoughts with #ColonialUCC.



## 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

*He that Suffereth God to Guide Him*

Dupre

Doxology

Hymn 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: In gratitude for all that you have bestowed upon us, we return a portion of what we have received from you, O God. Bless this offering. Grant that it may continue to sustain and support the ministries of this church to bring the light of Christ into this community and the world beyond. 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.**

## Bringing Our Pledges to Support God's Work through Colonial Church

*At Colonial Church we are truly Better Together. As we sing our consecration hymn, you are invited to come forward to the basket in the front of the sanctuary and place your pledge card in the basket. If you have made your pledge online or already sent it in to the church, you are still invited to come forward as we symbolically make our commitments to the church. There are cards in each of the pews for anyone to bring forward.*

## Consecration Hymn 370 "What Gift Can We Bring?"

### Blessing of the Pledges

Written by Rev. Greg Rickel, adapted

**People: Gracious and loving God, giver of all that is good and true and beautiful and life-giving, these cards represent our work, our dreams, and our lives.**

**The pledges which we make here are but tokens of the gifts that have been given to us. We pledge in thanksgiving for all we have received, for all we have been inspired to be, and for all we are challenged to become in this place.**

**May these pledges be the first fruits of all we have and not only what we have left over. May we see them as our offering to you -- sacred, holy, yet earthy and filled with possibilities.**

**God of amazing grace, bless these gifts, we pray. Amen.**





## *The Sunday Crier*

November 18, 2018

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**Thanksgiving Dinner Today.** Join your Colonial family for Thanksgiving dinner today at 11:15 a.m. in the Social Hall. The Board of Parish Life will provide the traditional elements of the meal: turkey, dressing, potatoes, rolls and beverages. Freewill offering to cover additional expenses.

**2019 Altar Flowers.** Please sign up to purchase flowers for our altar for your chosen Sunday in 2019. 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. You can sign up in the narthex today.

**Sign up to help at the Christmas Store.** Stop by the table in the narthex today and next Sunday. We will be setting up the store November 19-21; the store will be open December 3-8. You can also sign up online at <https://tinyurl.com/cross-lines-christmas>. Helping at the store will make your Christmas more meaningful.

**Poinsettias for the Altar.** Poinsettias will be placed on the altar for the Advent/Christmas season. You can order a plant in memory of or in honor of a loved one by using the order form included, filling it out and placing it in the offering plate or returning it to the church office with payment. Cost is \$15. While we do not purchase a plant for every memorial, plants will be available to be taken home on Sunday, December 30.

**Could You Help?** The Board of Property Management would like to have additional volunteers to add to our list of "Snow Removal People". We are compiling a list of people we could call when it snows on Saturday to clear only the sidewalks around the church for Sunday services. This would have to happen on a Sunday morning before the 8:30 service. Colonial does have a snow blower which will be tuned up and ready to go if we receive any snow. Please call (913-642-1335) or email ([luvslife48@gmail.com](mailto:luvslife48@gmail.com)) Linda Moses to join the team. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

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*Altar  
Flowers*

Thanks to Hayden Ferguson and Missy Flachsbarth for creating our Thanksgiving altar.

**Help for Choir Concert.** We need your help to provide soup, cookies or bread for the Colonial Choir Concert on Sunday, Dec. 9. Please sign up in the narthex today.

**Centering Prayer Update.** Note this change: Starting in 2019, we're moving from the second to the third Sunday of the month. See you on Dec. 9 and Jan. 20.

### **Colonial Women Activities**

- **Lunch Out.** Thursday, November 29, 12:45 p.m., Henry's Tearoom. RSVP to Kathi Cook.
- **Book Group.** Friday, November 30, 7:00 p.m., Stacey Algren's home. We will discuss "The Encore: A Memoir in Three Acts" by Charity Tilleman-Dick.
- **Breakfast and Coffee.** Monday, December 3, 9:30 a.m., Big Biscuit.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday Christmas.** Tuesday, December 11, 6:00 p.m., Lin Vaughn's home (3108 W. 73rd St., Prairie Village). Bring either an appetizer or bottle of Joy. Call 913-961-1247 for directions or questions.

### **Advent Festival – Children's Pageant, Crafts, Chili-Soup Cook-off and Dinner**

Sunday, December 2, 3:30-6:30 p.m. We start with a Children's Pageant, followed by crafts and concluding with a Chili/Soup Cook-Off and meal. **Children's Christmas Pageant** – Sunday school children will present a pageant to kick off the festivities. All children, grandchildren and friends are encouraged to come to Sunday School to be a part of this entertaining presentation. **Crafts Volunteers Needed** – Shifts are 4:00 to 4:45 and 4:45 to 5:30. Please sign up in the narthex today or at <https://tinyurl.com/advent-18>.

**Bright Light Friday.** Do you want to skip the shopping madness on Black Friday? Then join Mr. Stinky Feet's Bright Light Friday on November 23 at 10:30 a.m. at the Plaza Library's Truman Auditorium - 4801 Main St, Kansas City, MO. They'll be collecting winter clothing items for Artists Helping the Homeless. Items of need range from socks and long underwear to gloves, scarves, and hats. All sizes are accepted, with adult large and XL items needed most. This concert is free and open to all ages.

**Calling Colonial Crafters.** If you enjoy spending time crafting, your skills are needed for an upcoming art project for Colonial Church. We are creating a "paper lace banner" for our worship space in the upcoming Advent season. This is also an opportunity to build friendships across the church. Would you like to participate in one or more crafty gatherings? Please contact Nikki Woolsey at [nikki.woolsey@colonialucc.org](mailto:nikki.woolsey@colonialucc.org).

**Christmas Pageant 2018.** Plans are underway for the 2018 Christmas Pageant at Colonial. The pageant will be presented during the worship service at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, December 24. The pageant is led by the Youth Group with support from the Colonial Tween Squad. This year we are also inviting the children's Sunday School class

to participate. For more information or to volunteer to help with the event, contact Nikki Woolsey at [nikki.woolsey@colonialucc.org](mailto:nikki.woolsey@colonialucc.org) or by calling the church office.

**Help Needed for our Meals for the Homeless!** 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. Sign up to at <https://tinyurl.com/colonial-ahh18>. The next opportunity is November 25.

**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. 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. Be a part!

## **The Week Ahead**

### **TODAY, November 18**

8:30 am Worship

9:00 am Bell Choir, Bell Choir Room

9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library

9:15 Teens Connect, Youth Room

9:30 Colonial Choir, Choir Room

10:15 Worship

10:30 Sunday School

11:15 Thanksgiving Dinner, Social Hall

5:30 pm Movie Night, Heritage Room

### **TUESDAY, November 20**

9:30 am Book Group, Heritage Room

### **THURSDAY, November 22**

Thanksgiving Day – Office Closed

### **FRIDAY, November 23**

Office Closed

*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 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 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))

Minister of Spiritual Formation: 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))

## POINSETTIAS FOR THE ALTAR

Poinsettias will be placed on the altar for the Advent/Christmas season. You can order a plant in memory of or in honor of a loved one by filling out the order form below and placing it in the offering plate. Cost is \$15. While we do not purchase a plant for every memorial, plants will be available to be taken home on Sunday, December 30.

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory/Honor of (circle one): \_\_\_\_\_

\$15 per poinsettia. \$\_\_\_\_\_ enclosed.

Colonial Offering Envelope No. (if you have one) \_\_\_\_\_