



Rev. Antoinette Brown - the first woman ordained as a Christian minister in the United States
- used with public domain permission. Rev. Brown was ordained in our UCC tradition in 1852.

**All we are here to do is to subscribe our testimony to the fact,
that in our belief, our sister in Christ, Antoinette L. Brown, is
called by God to preach the gospel of his Son Jesus Christ.**

-Rev. Luther Lee



www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

September 16, 2018
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
“What Ordination Means” Gathering Sunday Worship Service**

Please silence your electronic devices in preparation for worship.

** Please rise in body or spirit.*

We Gather as God’s Beloved People

Gathering Music

O Heilige Dreifaltigkeit

Farlee

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 #70** “God Is Here! As We Your People Meet”

Verses 1-2, 4

A Time of Confession

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Leader: You have called us, O God, but we fail to listen. You have stretched your hand toward us, but we have not taken it. We have refused to be tamed by your wisdom.

People: **Holy One, forgive us when we fail to recognize you and live out the reality of your gospel.**

Silent Meditation

Assurance of Grace

Leader: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it! Hear the good news. In Jesus Christ, the living Word, we are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God! 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 in Music

A New Song

Larsen

A Word Proclaimed

Pastor Aaron Roberts

Priestly Caste Called Levites — Numbers 18:1-2 & Joshua 13:32-33

The LORD said to Aaron, “You, your sons, and your household will bear the guilt of offenses connected with the sanctuary. Bring with you your brothers from the tribe of Levi, your father's tribe, so that they can assist you and serve you and your sons before the covenant tent.”

Moses assigned these territories [to the tribes of Israel] when he was in the Moab plains on the other side of the Jordan, east of Jericho. But Moses gave no territory to the tribe of Levi. The Lord God of Israel is their legacy, exactly as he promised them.

Ancient Clergy Job Description

- Lead worship at the holy place assigned to them
- Teach religious traditions and values expected of God’s people
- Hold government leaders morally accountable

Corruption Held to Account by a Shepherd — Amos 5:21-24 & 7:9-15

I hate, I reject your festivals; I don’t enjoy your joyous assemblies.

If you bring me your entirely burned offerings and gifts of food—I won’t be pleased; I won’t even look at your offerings of well-fed animals.

Take away the noise of your songs; I won’t listen to the melody of your harps.

But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

“The shrines of Isaac will be made desolate, and the holy places of Israel will be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, reported to Israel’s King Jeroboam, “Amos has plotted against you within the house of Israel. The land isn’t able to cope with everything that he is saying. Amos has said, ‘Jeroboam will die by the sword, and Israel will be forced out of its land.’”

Amaziah said to Amos, “You who see things, go, run away to the land of Judah, eat your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s holy place and his royal house.”

Amos answered Amaziah, “I am not a prophet, nor am I a prophet’s son; but I am a shepherd, and a trimmer of sycamore trees. But the Lord took me from shepherding the flock, and the Lord said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

Christian Clergy Job Requirements — Titus 1:6-9

Elders should be without fault. They should be faithful to their spouse, and have faithful children who can’t be accused of self-indulgence or rebelliousness. This is

because supervisors should be without fault as God’s managers: they shouldn’t be stubborn, irritable, addicted to alcohol, a bully, or greedy. Instead, they should show hospitality, love what is good, and be reasonable, ethical, godly, and self-controlled. They must pay attention to the reliable message as it has been taught to them so that they can encourage people with healthy instruction and refute those who speak against it.

Christian Clergy Job Description

- Lead/Shepherd a Christian community
- Teach religious traditions and values expected of God’s people
- Speak the truth with love

Teachers Judged More Strictly — James 3:1

My brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers, because we know that we teachers will be judged more strictly.

Question? Comment? Express your thoughts with #ColonialUCC. 

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

* **Hymn #355** “God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian”

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

We All Believe in One God

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: God our Guide, bless these gifts as they witness our care for a world in need. Use us to embody your love. 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.

Who Are You, Jesus? A UCC Mission Moment

Mark 8:27-38

Jesus doesn't take any prisoners in his denunciation of Peter at Caesarea Philippi. He calls him Satan. That's a pretty strong condemnation for what might seem a small thing.

Jesus has openly declared to his disciples that he's going to be crucified and resurrected. Peter has a kind of "parking-lot-conversation" with Jesus. You know what that means. It's the conversation that happens outside of the regular church meeting where people say what's really on their mind. For whatever reason, Peter doesn't want to "rebuke" Jesus in front of everybody so he pulls him aside. Maybe he even lowers his voice and keeps one hand on Jesus' arm or back, trying to tell him that talk of crucifixion, even with resurrection, is not a marketable message.

But Jesus, who rarely minces words, tells him that it is all or nothing. If you want to follow me, he says, then take up your cross. There is no middle way here. If you want to save your life then you must lose it.

Mark's Gospel is told against the backdrop of the Roman Empire, an empire that fostered inequality and corruption and by the time Mark's Gospel came into being, had destroyed Jerusalem and burned its massive Temple to the ground—scattering a whole population, decimating a religious tradition (Judaism) and slaughtering thousands indiscriminately.

You could not, as Mark's Gospel outlines, work on behalf of the poor and outcast and not be considered an enemy of Rome. It's hard for us to imagine a world where your inclination to help others would be suspect and, that to be a member of a religion might mark you for a horrible death. Mark's world was a world of secret meetings and hushed voices and fear.

When he takes Jesus aside, Peter is embodying that fear. We might think it reckless and, if we cared about Jesus, we might, like Peter, pull him aside and whisper, "Shhhh." That's the kind of thing Jesus did in declaring his death.

So how's that going for you, O twenty-first century Christian? Have you denied yourself? Fought for anything that might get you into trouble? Have you put your life on the line for the Gospel?

What have you done to advance the idea of "A Just World for All?" How has your church led the way? Have we been willing to give up our lives to save them?



The Sunday Crier

September 16, 2018

Gathering Sunday Potluck Lunch Celebrating Art Foster's Ministry Today. Please join us for food and fellowship following the 10:15 service. Chicken will be provided; **please bring a side or dessert to share.** We will have extra guests so please bring extra. After the lunch we will have a 1:00 p.m. worship service in the sanctuary to honor Art Foster's calling to ordained ministry in 1948.

Saint Rogers Sermon Series. Saint is a word for any follower of Christ who attempts to live in Jesus' Way. Fred Rogers is a modern saint who shaped a generation with his honesty and love. Fred wasn't a perfect person. Yet, he proclaimed a greater message of Good News in a powerful way. We're going to turn to lessons from his life and his legacy in our Saint Rogers sermon series. Speaking the Truth With Love – September 23; Authentically Fred – September 29; A Small Group of Thoughtful, Committed People – October 7; 143 at the Core – October 14; Could Fred Do It Today? – October 21.

Sunday Movie Night Next Sunday. Please join us for Movie Night as we view the encouraging and delightful film, "Won't You Be My Neighbor" next Sunday evening at 5:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room. This touching movie highlights Fred Rogers' unforgettable and far-reaching contributions to our society from 1968-2001 in the form of "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood." Popcorn and soda will be served and discussion will follow.

Enneagram Workshop – Saturday, September 29 at 12:30 p.m., Heritage Room. The Enneagram is an ancient personality typing system with an uncanny accuracy in describing how human beings are wired, both positively and negatively. It connects with Christian spirituality for a deeper knowledge of ourselves, compassion for others, and love for God. George Gordon will lead a session for us to explore our personality types and the associated challenges and strengths of your type. Cost for the session is \$25 including box lunch. Register and pay at <https://colonialucc.breezechms.com/form/41a3c2>

*Altar
Flowers*

The flowers on the altar are given by Marianne Foster in honor of the 70th anniversary of her husband, Arthur L. Foster's, ordination.

All Church Game Night. Mark your calendars for an all-church game night Saturday, September 29, 6:00-9:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. What's your favorite board game? Do you have a game you'd like to play? All ages will enjoy this evening to learn new games and play old favorites. Child care will be available for infants and toddlers by reservation to Linda Moses (luvslife48@gmail.com) by September 26. Bring a snack to share.

Care to Join Us? Are you curious about Colonial and the United Church of Christ? Are you interested in joining the church? You are welcome to attend our free, three-session new member class. Classes are at 9:15 on Sunday mornings, September 30, October 7 and October 14 in the Cambridge Room. New members will be received into our membership on October 14 during worship. Interested? Call Heather in the church office to reserve your space: 913-362-7735.

Grandmothers Against Gun Violence Dinner. The Justice & Witness Committee has two tickets for the Grandmothers Against Gun Violence Dinner on October 8. If you would like to go, please contact Heather in the church office.

Colonial Dinner Church: Bread for the Journey, Friends for the Way. Beginning in October, Colonial is launching a new program called "dinner church." We invite you to join with others to share a simple meal, break bread, and reflect on faith in a relaxed environment. Folks will gather at 6:00 p.m. with dinner following at 6:30 p.m. Dinner church will be offered on the first Monday and the third Tuesday of each month. A recommended donation of \$5 per person is requested to help offset the cost of the meal. Would you like to join the hospitality team? Contact Nikki Woolsey at nikki.woolsey@colonialucc.org. Fall 2018 Dinner Church Schedule: Monday, October 1; Tuesday, October 16; Monday, November 5; Tuesday, November 20; Monday, December 3; Tuesday, December 18.

Justice & Witness Survey. We didn't hear from many of you and a technical glitch lost some of your responses. So, we are pleading again to tell us which issues concern you most right now in a swirling pot of many troubling challenges facing our community. Is it affordable housing, immigration policy, or climate change? Is it lack of civil discourse, mental health or LGBT issues? Or, perhaps you have a concern we didn't name. We need your guidance to plan the most effective ways we can educate and take action. Colonial Church is a church that "Walks the walk." Your responses will determine our marching order. Please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8N7FRGJ> You will also have the opportunity to register your opinions September 23 on a paper ballot during worship.

Colonial Quilt Show Next Sunday. Colonial Quiltmakers are hosting a Quilt Show next Sunday between services and after second service in the Social Hall. The Quiltmakers

gather several Fridays a month to share their talents and create beautiful quilts for the community. You will see examples of their work and learn more about the organizations they serve. In 2017 the Quiltmakers created 120 quilts for children's hospitals, shelters, community and international outreach organizations, and Colonial baptisms.

Colonial Women Activities

- **Luncheon.** Monday, September 24, noon, Chuy's on the Plaza. RSVP Kathi Cook (jimandkathicook@gmail.com; text 913-905-9027).
- **Breakfast and Coffee.** Monday, October 1, 9:30 a.m. at Big Biscuit.
- **Alden Guild.** Thursday, October 4, 6:00 p.m., Sawasdee Thai, 11838 Quivira Rd.
- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, October 9, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village.
- **Book Group.** Friday, October 12, 7:00 p.m. at Stephanie Graff's home. We will discuss "Educated: A Memoir" by Tara Westover.

The Week Ahead

TODAY, September 16

8:30 am Worship

9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library

9:15 Youth Sunday School, Youth Room

9:15 Adult Christian Education, Cambridge Room

10:15 Worship

10:30 Sunday School

11:15 Gathering Sunday Potluck, Social Hall

1:00 pm Art Foster Ordination Anniversary Service, Sanctuary

TUESDAY, September 18

9:30 am Book Group, Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY, September 19

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

7:00 pm Colonial Choir, Choir Room

THURSDAY, September 20

12:00 pm Bible Study

6:30 AA, Oberlin Room

FRIDAY, September 21

8:30 am Colonial Quiltmakers, 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](https://www.instagram.com/colonial_ucc)

COLONIAL STAFF

Senior Minister: Rev. Aaron Roberts (aaron.roberts@colonialucc.org)

Minister of Spiritual Formation: Rev. Nikki Woolsey (nikki.woolsey@colonialucc.org)

Sunday School Superintendent: Camille Breckenridge (camille.breckenridge@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)