



(Butterfly used with permission by Janet Weiblen)

Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything that is beautiful for beauty is God's handwriting.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson



www.colonialucc.org
913-362-7735

September 3, 2017
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ
Labor Day Weekend 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

Adagio

-Mendelssohn

Welcome (Please sign and pass pew pads and fill out Prayer Request cards you may have. You can place the Prayer Request cards in the offering plates later in the service.)

* Hymn #433

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Opening Prayer

Unison Prayer

God of all wisdom, renew our sense of awe and wonder as we gather before you, the Source of creation. Draw us away from our own devices that we may truly listen to the witness of creation speaking of wonders we may well have ignored. Give us eyes to see beauty in all that surrounds us.

Time of Silent Prayer

Pastoral Response

* **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** (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 to worship or to participate in our Sunday School.)

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

We Hear a Word from God

A Word Proclaimed

-Rev. Janet Weiblen

Psalm 19:1-4

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
 And the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.
 Day to day pours forth speech,
 and night to night declares knowledge.
 There is no speech, nor are their words;
 Their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the earth,
 and their words to the end of the world.

Express your thoughts via social media #ColonialUCC

A Word for our Holy Meal

Communion Prayer:

Leader: Our God is a God of incredible hospitality.

People: Jesus shared that hospitality as often as he could.

Leader: It is a time for us to shatter all barriers.

People: Jesus welcomed everyone; no one was excluded. What a blessing that is!

Leader: Then, as now, sharing a meal was special; it is a symbol of community.

People: It is a way of saying to those gathered: YOU are important, you are someone about whom I care; you are family.

Sung Response—Hymn #283

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Consecration of the Bread and Cup

Pastor: Holy God, we join together with you to celebrate one of the mysteries of our faith.

People: It is through this mystery that you share with us your Spirit of Hospitality, one that includes all people.

Pastor: Our Creator is a gracious, abundant and generous host. Over billions of years, God has spread out for our delight a banquet of rivers and lakes; rain and sunshine; rich earth and amazing flowers; handsome trees and dancing fishes; too many things for us to even imagine. Creation is God's banquet for us. And God declared it very good.

God wants us to share all the gifts of God's creation—including bread made from wheat and juice made from grapes. And so Jesus welcomed everyone.

He took bread, blessed it and broke it: This is the bread of life; take it and be filled. Likewise, he took a cup of wine, blessed it and shared it: This is the cup of the new covenant; drink of it and be filled with the love of God.

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Share these gifts and be blessed.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

(Come forward and take a piece of bread, then dip only the bread into the chalice – no fingers please. Return to your seat by the outside row.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Loving and gracious God, we thank you for sharing your gifts of Creation and Hospitality with us. Help us to be sustained by these gifts, not just in this moment but in each day of our lives. Amen.

We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer

A Time of Gifts and Offerings

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *By the Rivers of Babylon* -Dupre
 (Our weekly offering includes food collected in the red wagon to help fill local pantries.)

Doxology (#780 adapted; tune Old Hundredth)

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God, all creatures here below;
 Praise God above, you heavenly host:
 Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.***

* Blessing the Offering

Accept these gifts that we bring to you this day as a sign of our gratitude for all the many wonders you lay before us each and every day, Great God. May we recognize them as a sign of your love for us. Amen.

A Time of Prayer

Prayers of the People

Believing that each joy and/or 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 whatever name for God you find most meaningful (Father, Mother, Creator, God, etc.). These 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 #398

Shadow and Substance

* **Renew Our Covenant** (Turn towards the center aisle as we bless one another with the promise of our 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**

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

Liturgist:

Diane Kuhn

Videographer:

Geoff Robinson

Worship Graphics Operator:

Hayden Ferguson

Children's Conversation:

Janet Weiblen

Hospitality Table:

Elizabeth Uppman

Head Usher:

Linda Moses

Ushers:

Randy Freeman

Sue Freeman

Rosalie Henry

Linda Moses

United Church of Christ Mission Moment - September 3, 2017

Spirit-Led Living - Romans 12:9-21

It seems like such an easy thing, doesn't it? Love good and hate evil. Who wouldn't go along with that as a life motto? There's an opportunity here for coffee mugs and t-shirts. The "Loving Good, Hating Evil" line of products. The front of the t-shirts – "LOVE GOOD." The back – "HATE EVIL." And truly, if you don't have some evil in this world to hate then you probably aren't paying attention. However, there is a danger here, says Paul the Apostle. Paul's letter to the Romans cautions that that we could be overcome by evil. Don't become the evil you hate, says Paul.

Hate visited two UCC congregations earlier this year. It came in the form of spray-painted racist slogans and swastikas. It came to downtown Medford, Oregon, where posters appeared that said, "Imagine a Muslim-Free America." It came to Annandale, Virginia, when anti-Semitic slurs were painted on a Jewish Community Center. In both cities, UCC houses of worship were also defaced—attacked for their radical inclusion and extravagant welcome to all people. In Oregon, the Medford Congregational United Church of Christ, and, in Virginia, The Little River United Church of Christ both had their buildings defaced with graffiti.

It seems that opening one's doors to all people, while expressing the good news to some, is a reason for fear and loathing to others. The question for Christians is not simply that we stand up to evil but how we do it. "When we go through something traumatic like this it's important to be witnesses, that we see it, to understand what happened, to recognize the hatred that was here and move through that, and through these wounds we can begin to move forward," says the Rev. David Lindsey, pastor of Little River United Church of Christ. Little River found companions in their community who came to wash the red paint from their walls and gathered together with them in a prayer vigil.

In Medford, the congregants, along with townspeople, handed out posters that read "Hate has no Business Here." The signs were all over town, at businesses on people's lawns and in front of the church, flooding the community with expressions of love and welcome. The congregation also decided it was time to get serious about discussing white privilege among themselves and in the community. Our congregations know how to fight evil without becoming hateful.



The Sunday Crier

September 3, 2017

Gathering Sunday Picnic – September 10. Please join us for fun, games and good food on September 10 following the 10:15 a.m. service. We will gather at Roe Park (10400 Roe Ave, Overland Park, KS 66207). Chicken will be provided, and sides and desserts will be potluck. Families with last name starting with A through I bring dessert to share, J through Z bring a salad or side dish. A free will offering will be accepted.

Reservations! This fall we are trying something new: Dining Out Groups. In October and November, each group of 5-8 adults (or groups of 5-12 for families) will meet at a specified restaurant for food and fellowship. There are several Adult-Only Dining Out Groups, as well as, two Family Fun Groups. We ask that each group stay together for both months to provide continuity as well as an opportunity to try two different restaurants. The dates are set, the restaurants are reserved, all you need to do is sign up (via links below or by calling the church office), show up, and meet up with Colonial friends and families. Each person is responsible to pick up their own tab and tip. Child care arrangements can be made through the church office.

The Dining Out Groups are as follows:

Friday Fun – Adults only on October 6 and November 3 at 6:30 p.m.

Restaurants: Cacao Authentic Mexican Restaurant in Prairie Village and Garozzo's Italian Restaurant in Overland Park (two groups of 5-8). Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/dinner-group-01> OR <http://tinyurl.com/dinner-group-02>

Sunday Brunchers – Adults only on October 22 and November 26 at 11:45 a.m.

Restaurants: Summit Grill in Waldo and Grunauer in the Crossroads (two groups of 5-8). Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/col-brunch01> OR <http://tinyurl.com/col-brunch02>

Family Fun – Saturday, October 14 and Saturday, November 11 at 5:30 p.m.

Restaurants: Waldo Pizza and Winsteads on Roe in Overland Park (two groups of 5-12). Sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/col-familygroup01> OR <http://tinyurl.com/col-familygroup02>

*Altar
Flowers*

The beautiful flowers on the altar are given by JIM AND GLENNA LOOMIS in loving memory of Glenna's father, Roy Snyder.

Men's Breakfast Group. Chuck Nigro, Chair of the Johnson County Commission on Aging, will be the speaker at the September meeting of the Men's Breakfast Group. Everyone is welcome to the breakfast on Tuesday, September 5, at 8:00 a.m. at Perkins (87th St between I35 and Alt. 69 Hwy). The Commission supports and advocates for needed services for the 107,000 seniors in Johnson County.

Centering Prayer for Summer's End. School starts and life gets busy. Are you looking for some time apart? Centering prayer helps quiet the internal jangling so you can just be. Join us on September 3, 10, and 17 in the Preschool room between 9:30 and 10:00. We'll spend a little time checking in and talking about centering prayer, and then we'll pray together. No preparation is necessary; all are welcome.

Colonial Writers Group. Sharpen your pencils and plan to join us for Writers Group on Wednesday, Sept. 13, 9:30 a.m. at the church. Veterans and newcomers are welcome.

Dialogue Institute Invitation to Brunch. The Dialogue Institute of the Southwest has invited Colonial to a brunch on Saturday, October 28 at 10:00 a.m. at the institute (4215 Shawnee Drive, Kansas City, Kansas). Vern Barnett, founder of the Kansas City Interfaith Council, will speak on "The Healing Power of World Religions." Do not miss this unique time to hear an interesting speaker, strengthen friendships and enjoy a delicious meal. RSVP by signing the sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex or online at <http://tinyurl.com/dialogue-brunch>

Colonial's 7th Annual Holiday Bazaar. The 2017 Colonial Holiday Bazaar is Saturday and Sunday, November 11 and 12! Calling all artists, we have a few spots left. As always we can use volunteers for the following activities: planning, advertising, placing of signs and table set-up. Plus 10% of all sales go to the Board of Outreach. Please consider giving an hour or two of your time. If interested in exhibiting or helping, contact Heather in the office, Kim Mann (kim@mannmadedesign.com) or Lisarae Turnbull (lisaraephoto@me.com).

Colonial Women Activities

- **Coffee.** Monday, September 4, 9:30 a.m., Big Biscuit. Yes, we know it's Labor Day. Come anyway!
- **Alden Guild** – Thursday, September 7, 6:00 p.m., Cozy's (6740 W 75th St, Overland Park, KS 66204).
- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, September 12, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village.
- **Book Group** – Friday, October 6, 7:00 p.m., Stephanie Graff's home. We will be discussing "The Secret Keeper" by Kate Morton.

Fair Trade Coffee and Chocolate. Justice and Witness Committee offers a selection of Fair Trade chocolate bars and ground coffee for purchase in the narthex following the 10:15 service on the second Sunday of each month. The next opportunity will be Sunday, September 10.

Feed the Hungry Donations. Thanks to all who make a habit of bringing a contribution of food for the red wagon in the narthex. Each Sunday the contents are delivered to the Village Church Food Pantry, who distribute items to patrons all over the Kansas City area. 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, September 3

8:30 am—Worship
 9:15—That Was the Week That Was, Library
 9:15—Board of Outreach, Oberlin Room
 9:30—Centering Prayer, Preschool Room
 10:15—Worship
 10:30—Sunday School
 11:15—Coffee & Fellowship, Heritage Room

MONDAY, September 4

Labor Day—Office Closed
 9:30 am—Colonial Women Coffee, Big Biscuit

TUESDAY, September 5

8:00 am—Men's Breakfast Group, Perkins
 9:30 am—Book Group, Heritage Room

WEDNESDAY, September 6

9:30 am—Visit with Pastor Aaron, Einstein Brothers in Prairie Village Shops
 7:00 pm—Colonial Choir

THURSDAY, September 7

10:00 am—Bible Study, Pastor's Office
 6:00 pm—Alden Guild, Cozy's
 6:30 pm—AA, Oberlin Room

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. Aaron Roberts, our senior pastor, is here Monday-Thursday of each week and his email address is aaron@colonialucc.org.

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. Sunday gatherings are in the youth room (the Savoy Room) 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 the Choir Room, September-May.

Watch our Weekly Services and Sermons—You can watch our worship services on YouTube at <http://tinyurl.com/colonialworship-online> and get the sermon, bulletin and study guide on our website. Our 10:15am 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, Twitter and Instagram. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/colonialucc>; Instagram: [colonial_ucc](#); Twitter: [#ColonialUCC](#); Follow Pastor Aaron: [@PastorARoberts](#)

COLONIAL STAFF

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

Connecting Minister: Rev. Lisa Tierney (lisa.tierney@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)

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Building Maintenance: Edson Palacios-Castrejon (edson.palacios-castrejon@colonialucc.org)