



Jesus and the Canaanite Woman by Br. Martin Erspamer, OSB



**Colonial Church**  
*in Prairie Village*

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

September 9, 2018  
10:15 a.m.

**The Colonial Church in Prairie Village—United Church of Christ  
“Be Opened” 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**

*Praise to the Lord*

Izaak

**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 #42**

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

**A Time of Confession**

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Leader:** Jesus our Teacher, you taught thousands, and yet were willing to learn from the least of these. We confess that we pretend to know your truth, but in reality we still wonder.

**People:** **Forgive our pretense, that we may open ourselves to unexpected teachers, to fresh ideas, to one another, to you.**

Silent Meditation

## Assurance of Grace

**Leader:** Disciples, followers, students of the living Christ, know that you are forgiven always and freed to begin anew through God's everlasting mercy and love.

**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 Proclaimed

Rev. Nikki Woolsey

#### **Isaiah 35: 4-7a (NRSV)**

Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then the lame shall leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,

and the thirsty ground springs of water;

#### **The Syrophenician Woman’s Faith - Mark 7:24-30 (NRSV)**

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.

He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.”

But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.”

Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

### **Jesus Cures a Deaf Man - Mark 7:31-37 (NRSV)**

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.

Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

### **We Respond with Gratitude and Prayer**

\* Hymn #394

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

### **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

*What a Friend*

Cleotus

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: Generous God, bless these gifts we have gathered today that we may use them to bring wholeness and justice to your world. 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 #547

"Amazing Grace"

### \* 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 till we meet again.*

*O God be with you, God be with you, God be with you till we meet again.*

**\* Benediction and Postlude**

*Marching to Zion*

Fields

**Worship Leaders**

Liturgist:	Joan Gilson
Worship Graphics Operator:	Lyda Cosgrove
Children's Conversation:	Bob Starcke
Hospitality Table:	Jayne Quimby
Head Usher:	Doug Welch
Ushers:	Mariam Fleming, Linda Moses Doug Welch
Fellowship Host:	Diane Kuhn

## Be Opened: A UCC Mission Moment

Mark 7:24-37

What does it mean to be opened? To find oneself changed and transformed, maybe even stopped in one's tracks by the touch of Jesus. Certainly, the touch of Jesus as described in the gospels as an expression of a great love. Love is more than an abstract thing. It is felt by the giving and receiving of it as in our Three Great Loves Campaign – Love of Neighbor, Love of Children and Love of Creation. There are so many ways to love our neighbor. We can feed them and house them and clothe them and welcome them. Another way to show love is to show respect for each other especially when we disagree.

While divisive conversations may seem like a product of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, Benjamin Franklin thought his own age to be quite uncivil. He organized discussion groups in which moral questions, politics and philosophy would be debated with an eye for truth and civility. These groups began with his friends in 1727. His friends were a scrivener, a joiner and two cobblers – not, as you might think, erudite folks from Harvard or Yale, but working people who met with him every Friday evening at a Philadelphia “alehouse” to discuss issues of morality and politics. That was Franklin's answer to incivility in his day – structured discussion with a diverse group of friends.

Churches, today, in the UCC are figuring out ways to have civil discourse about things that matter to our world, among those have been churches who have embarked on loving discussions about LGBT inclusion in the life of congregations. At Rocky Hill UCC, in Rocky Hill, Connecticut, they developed a Covenant that would order these conversations. It says:

*Covenant: Our purpose is to promote understanding. We will treat each other with caring and respect, as God's beloved children. We will take time for prayer. We will speak in the first person "I", and from our own experience. We will speak one at a time. We will listen for understanding, especially when we seem to disagree. We will speak and seek the truth in love. We will allow each other equal "air time." We will ask questions for clarification, not for judgment.*

Rocky Hill UCC understood themselves to be a diverse congregation theologically but they still embarked on a two-year conversation based on the above Covenant. At the end, they voted overwhelmingly to become Open and Affirming. Loving one's neighbor can be about a process as much as a result.



## *The Sunday Crier*

September 9, 2018

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### **Gathering Sunday Potluck Lunch Celebrating Art Foster's Ministry Next Sunday.**

Please join us for food and fellowship following the 10:15 service. Chicken will be provided; **please bring a side or dessert to share.** 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. Note that we will have normal service times – 8:30 and 10:15 a.m. even with the Art Foster Celebration going on.

### **Enneagram Workshop – Saturday, September 29 at 12:30 p.m., Heritage Room.**

What you don't know about yourself can hurt you and your relationships – and even keep you in the shallows with God. Do you want help figuring out who you are and why you're stuck in the same ruts? The Enneagram is an ancient personality typing system with an uncanny accuracy in describing how human beings are wired, both positively and negatively. The Enneagram 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. Prior to this session, you need to complete your Enneagram profile online. It takes about 40 minutes to complete. You'll receive a report about your Enneagram type, which you can bring to our session. You may purchase a code for \$12 and take your test online at <https://tests.enneagraminstitute.com>. Cost for the session is \$20 including box lunch. You can register and pay at <https://colonialucc.breezechms.com/form/41a3c2>

**Youth Game Night, September 14.** Join the fun on Friday, September 14 in the Social Hall for a Colonial youth game night. We will gather at 6:30 p.m. for pizza and adventure. Friends are welcome to join us. Questions? Contact Nikki at [nikki.woolsey@colonialucc.org](mailto:nikki.woolsey@colonialucc.org).

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*Altar  
Flowers*

The flowers on the altar are given by Cheri Van Orman in memory of her mother, Dorothy Van Orman.

**All Church Game Night.** Mark your calendars for an all-church game night Saturday, September 29 at 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.

**Groceries to the Cross-Lines Food Pantry.** We are looking for a volunteer to take Little Red Wagon Groceries to the Cross-Lines Food Pantry after the collection on the third Sunday of the month. Cross-Lines campus is 8 miles from the church, and their need is great. You don't have to deliver on Monday, just so it gets down that week. Call Marilyn Uppman for details or to volunteer.

**Colonial Writers Group.** Fall is almost here, and the moment has arrived to make good on those resolutions to write down the great family stories shared by your mother and father, aunts and uncles, grandparents and sometimes great-grandparents. Join us Wednesday, September 12 when we share our stories, memories and poems. Newcomers are welcome, and we will see you at 9:30 in the Heritage Room.

**Colonial Quilt Show.** Colonial Quiltmakers are hosting a Quilt Show on September 23 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. At the Quilt Show 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 baptisms at Colonial.

### **Colonial Women Activities**

- **Blue Moose Tuesday.** Tuesday, September 11, 5:30 p.m., Prairie Village.
- **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.
- **Book Group.** Friday, October 12, 7:00 p.m. at Stacey Algren's home. We will discuss "Educated: A Memoir" by Tara Westover.

**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. You can also write a check for the collection plate marked “Food Pantry” on the memo line. You do make a difference.

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### **The Week Ahead**

#### **TODAY, September 9**

8:30 am Worship

9:15 That Was the Week That Was, Library

9:15 Youth Sunday School, Youth Room

9:30 Centering Prayer, Preschool Room

10:15 Worship

10:15 Colonial Tween Squad, Salem Room

10:30 Sunday School

11:15 Fellowship, Heritage Room

#### **TUESDAY, September 11**

9:30 am Book Group, Heritage Room

5:30 pm Colonial Women Blue Moose Tuesday, Prairie Village Shops

#### **WEDNESDAY, September 12**

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

9:30 Writers Group, Heritage Room

7:00 pm Colonial Choir, Choir Room

#### **THURSDAY, September 13**

12:00 pm Bible Study

6:30 AA, Oberlin Room

#### **FRIDAY, September 14**

6:30 pm Colonial Youth Game Night, Social Hall

*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](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))