



The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 21, 2024

Order of Service - 10:00 am

Please join in the worship liturgy by reading the sections in ***bold italics***.

* - Please rise in body or in spirit

Words of Welcome

The Community Reformed Church of Colonie welcomes you. We are a community bound together and energized by faith, love, and commitment to Jesus Christ. And even though you may not yet share that faith, love, and commitment, you are most welcome to be with us, to belong here, to experience what we're about. Then, if you are attracted and persuaded by what you see and hear, we hope you'll want to set down roots here long-term. And even if you don't, you'll always be a friend. Thank you for worshipping with us.

FOR CONTEMPLATION

**“Add to your believing deeds that prove it true –
knowing Christ as Savior, make Him Master too.
Follow in His footsteps, go where He has trod,
in the world’s great trouble risk yourself for God.”**

Brian Jeffrey Leach, from “Let Your Heart Be Broken” verse 4

PRELUDE “Your Love Oh Lord”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER'S PRAYER – Linda Murphy

THE LIGHTING OF THE Christ Candle

INTROIT “Change My Heart, O God”

CALL TO WORSHIP

As we are called to worship today, it is sobering to remember that when God appeared on earth in the person of Jesus, most of the world did not recognize God's presence and therefore did not worship or serve God. Today, we ask for faith that we might see God in Jesus Christ as well as Jesus present in others. So, people of God, look around and see your God and Savior.

We open our eyes to discover God's glory. We open our ears to listen for God's truth. We open our hands to offer our gifts in Godly service. We open our mouths to proclaim God's praise. We open our hearts to offer God our love. We open our lives to be God's servants.



* HYMN 430 "All Who Love and Serve Your City"

430 All Who Love and Serve Your City

He went on from there to teach and preach in the towns of Galilee. Mt. 11:1

Unison

1. All who love and serve your cit - y, all who
 2. In your day of loss and sor - row, in your
 3. In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed
 4. For all days are days of judg - ment, and the
 5. Ris - en Lord, shall yet the cit - y be the

bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for
 day of help - less strife, hon - or, peace, and
 work and wast - ed play, call to mind the
 Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near to
 cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our

peace and jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless:
 love re - treat - ing, seek the Lord, who is your life.
 word of Je - sus, "Work ye yet while it is day."
 all who spurn him, of - fering peace from Cal - vary's hill.
 Judge, our Glo - ry; be its name, "The Lord is there!"

WORDS: Erik Routley, 1966
 MUSIC: *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Carlton Young, 1964
 Words © 1969 Galliard Ltd. Harm. © 1965 Abingdon Press

CHARLESTOWN
 8.7.8.7.

AN AFFIRMATION OF UNITY FROM THE BELHAR CONFSSION

We believe in the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church through Word and Spirit.

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of the saints called from the entire human family.

We believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.

We believe that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought; one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain.

We believe that this unity must become visible so the world may believe that separation, enmity, and hatred between people and groups is sin and must be resisted.

We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind as Christ's disciples.

We believe that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Together we pray; together we work, together we serve God in this world. Amen

TAIZÉ MEDITATION "Bless the Lord" (3 times)

*Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

For God alone my soul waits in silence. From God will come my salvation.

God alone is my rock and my salvation. God alone is my hope.

On God rests my deliverance and my honor. My sure foundation is in God.

Trust in the Lord at all times. Pour out your heart before the Lord for God alone is our refuge.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgiving God, we repent of all the ways we turn from you. You call, but we do not listen. You invite us to follow, but we want all our questions answered first. You show us the way to follow, but we prefer our own path.

Forgive us. Heal us. Bring us back to you. And in doing this, help us to be equally gracious and kind to others. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Shepherd Me O God” (3 times)

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.***

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

The God who challenges us is also the God who encourages us. The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us. Be assured that God is with us even now, accepting, guiding, and forgiving.

Thanks be to God for such mercy, grace, and kindness given in our time of need.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – Sarah Huiest

DEACON’S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Marv Helf

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

ANTHEM "Jesus Does"

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Isaiah 49:5-6

And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back, and that Israel might be gathered in, for I am honored in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength— God says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Luke 10:25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And Jesus said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on

them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

This is the Word of The Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

THE MORNING MESSAGE:

"Who IS my neighbor ..really?"



*HYMN 502 "Amazing Grace"

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound 502

God is able to make all grace abound to you . . . 2 Cor. 9:8

1. A - maz - ing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears re-lieved;
3. The Lord has prom-ised good to me, his word my hope se-cures;
4. Through man - y dan - gers, toils and snares I have al - read - y come;
5. When we've been there ten thou-sand years, bright shin - ing as the sun,

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.
how pre - cious did that grace ap - pear the hour I first be-lieved!
he will my shield and por - tion be as long as life en-dures.
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

WORDS: John Newton, 1779, alt.; st. 5, anonymous
MUSIC: *Virginia Harmony*, 1831; adapt. Edwin O. Excell, 1900

NEW BRITAIN
C.M.

BENEDICTION

*THE IRISH BLESSING

*May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be ever at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
And the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again, and until we meet again,
May the God who loves us all
Hold you in the palm of His hand.
Amen.*

WORSHIP TEAM

Worship Leader
Rev. Robert Hoffman

Soloist
Brian Rhode

Elder of the Day
Linda Murphy

Sound Technician
Jerry Kallner

Deacon of the Day
Marv Helf

Video Technician
Cameron Kaercher

Liturgist
Karl Coté

Welcome Host
Pam Fitzpatrick

Children's Message
Sarah Huiest

Coffee Hour Host
Jessica and Mark Kaercher

Copyright Licenses

Your Love Oh Lord

Brad Avery, David Carr, Mac Powell, Mark D. Lee,
Tai Anderson
© 1999 New Spring (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson
Music Publishing, Inc.)
Kobalt Music Copyrights SARL (Admin. by Kobalt
Music Publishing America, Inc.)
Used by Permission.
CCLI License # 21149226

Change My Heart, O God

Words & Music: Eddie Espinosa
© 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing.
Used by Permission.
CCLI License # 21149226

All Who Love and Serve Your City

Words: Erik Routley
Music: Southern Harmony, 1835;
arr. Carlton Young, 1964
© 1969 Galliard Ltd. Harm.
© 1965 Abingdon Press
Used by Permission.
CCLI License # 21149226

Bless the Lord

Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taizé
© 1991, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc.,
agent
Used by Permission.
One License #.A 719501

Shepherd Me, O God

Contributors: Marty Haugen
Tune: © 1986, GIA Publications, Inc. Text: Psalm
23; adapt. by Marty Haugen; © 1986, GIA
Publications, Inc.
Used by Permission.
One License #.A 719501

Jesus Does

Music: Stuart Townend & Keith Getty,
arr. Lloyd Larson
© 2022 Angie Feel Good Songs (Admin. by Capitol
CMG Publishing)
Bay19, Capitol CMG, Genesis Capitol, CMG Franni
Cash Designee, Martin Cash Designee,
Neon District Music, Scott Cash Publishing
Designee,
We The Kingdom Music
Used by Permission.
CCLI License # 21149226

ZOOM

To join Sunday Worship via Zoom, use the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6880887155>

Meeting ID: 688 088 7155

By Phone: 1-646-558-8656

In-Person Worship Guidelines - Even though you may be vaccinated, mask wearing continues to be encouraged to protect our vulnerable and medically compromised worshippers. We ask you to respect the distance and comfort levels of others. Reminder: If you are feeling under the weather, please remain home and participate in worship via Zoom

Offerings and gifts to the church may be submitted online via PayPal (link found below or on our website), by mailed check, by direct bank payment or by placing them in the offering box.

PayPal:

https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=N67JS9D5MLMGS

Website:

www.communityreformedchurch.com

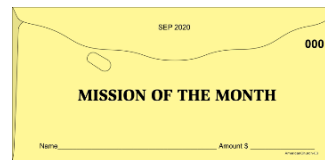
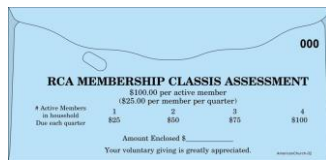
Mailing Address:

Community Reformed Church of Colonie
701 Sand Creek Road
Colonie, NY 12205

Special Offering Envelopes –

The special offering envelopes for January

You may make your offering to these with the envelope provided, mail in the offering to the Church office or through Paypal. If you have any questions, contact Lori Coté at crclori@gmail.com.



Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

Sandy Cornwell
crccsandy@gmail.com
Karen Latta
kmlatta@nycap.rr.com

**COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH OF COLONIE
STAFF AND CONSISTORY**

STAFF E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Rev. Robert Hoffman, Interim Pastor
rev.robert.hoffman@gmail.com

Lori Coté
Church Administrator & Bookkeeper
crcclori@gmail.com

Ben April,
Director of Music Ministries
benapril27@gmail.com

Sarah Huiest,
Youth Coordinator &
Communication/Media Coordinator
crcsarrah@gmail.com

Cameron Kaercher
Technical Director
camkaercher@gmail.com

CONSISTORY

Elders

Karl Coté
Ana Crosbourne
Linda Murphy
Melody York

Deacons

Kevin Bottini
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls
Jessica Kaercher



701 Sand Creek Road, Colonie, NY 12205
Telephone: 518-869-5589

Website - www.communityreformedchurch
Facebook - facebook.com/coloniereformed
Twitter - @ColonieReformed