



Beseeching
by Hannah Garrity
Inspired by Matthew 16:21-23
Ink on paper

“God forbid it!” says Peter to Jesus (Matthew 16:22). In this image, Peter beseeches Jesus to avoid the cross, to not let the prophecies become reality.

The Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 10, 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.

This is Communion Sunday. If you wish to receive gluten free bread, please inform the elder or the pastor before the Service begins.

FOR CONTEMPLATION

Peter worries about human things.
How weighty and legitimate those things feel.
Jesus does not blame Peter,
instead, he calls out Satan from within his friend.
In doing so, he offers us a much-needed reminder to refocus.

Hannah Garrity

PRELUDE “What Wondrous Love is This”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER’S PRAYER – Melody York

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE LENTEN CANDLES

INTROIT “Come and Find the Quiet Center”

CALL TO WORSHIP

On our worst days,
God is good.

On our best days,
God is good.

When life is consistent,
God is good.

And when life turns on its head,
God is good.

Day and night, Monday through Sunday,
God is good. God is here. God is love.
Hold tight to that good news. Let us worship God!

* HYMN “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High” (2 times)

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises.

I'm so glad you're in my life; I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heav-en to earth to show the way, from the earth to the cross

my debt to pay; from the cross to the grave,

from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in a God of second chances,
*a God who sees through my stubbornness
 and holds my fear with tenderness.*

I believe that this God of second chances
 uses ordinary people like Peter to do good in the world.
Therefore, I believe and hope that God can use me too.

I believe that from time to time God invites us to imagine the impossible.

I believe that from time to time, God invites us to change our minds.

This change is holy and important work, although challenging.

***When fear and scarcity plague me,
or when the impossible feels out of reach,
I believe that God meets me with grace and invites me to follow.***

Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God,

We often find ourselves moving through a world that does not make sense.

Like Peter, we want to yell out, "This should not happen!"

We want to control scenarios beyond our reach.

We want to hold your world in our hands.

Forgive us for the moments when we lead with declarations instead of curiosity.

Forgive us for arguing when we could listen.

Forgive us for fixating on one truth, when we could open ourselves up to many.

Soften our hard edges and teach us how to listen.

With hope in our hearts we pray, amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION "Lord Jesus Christ" (3 times)

Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.

Let not my doubts and my darkness speak to me.

Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.

Let my heart always welcome your love.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Sarah Huiest

DEACON'S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Jessica Kaercher

ANTHEM “Shout to the North”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 16:21-23

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

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

THE MORNING MESSAGE Wandering Heart: Figuring Out Faith with Peter
“I’m Fixed Upon It”

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

THE CALL TO COMMUNION

We have one Lord, one God, one Savior.
*The Holy Spirit makes Christ real to us,
binding us in one, as we share him together.*

This is something we do eagerly.
Christ welcomes us here.

This is something we do seriously.
*For this is the moment of greatest intimacy when we take the
symbols of the body and blood of the risen Lord.*

*I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go into the presence
of the Lord”.*

***APOSTLE'S CREED**

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into Heaven, and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

***PEACE**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts since as members of one body you were called to peace (Colossians 3:15). The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***OUR PRAISE TO GOD (THE DOXOLOGY)**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Lift up your hearts.

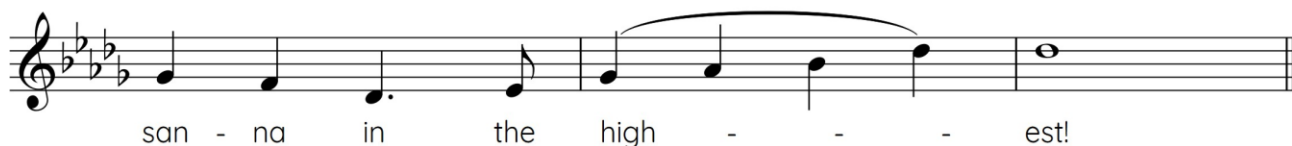
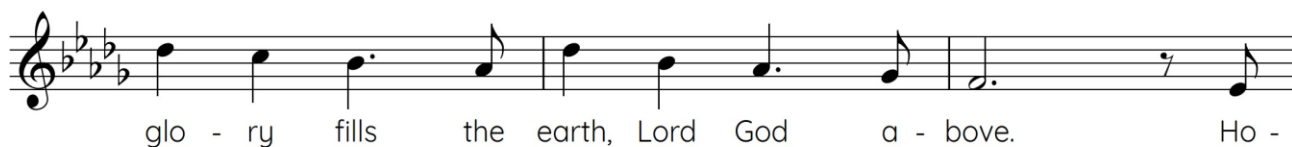
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

***THE PREFACE**

*HYMN "Holy Lord"



THE MEANING OF THE SACRAMENT

“The Holy Supper which we are about to celebrate is a feast of remembrance, of communion, and of hope: We remember with joy the grace by which you created all things and made us in your own image.

We rejoice that you called a people in covenant to be a light to the nations.

Yet we rebelled against your will.

In spite of the prophets and pastors sent forth to us, we continued to break your covenant.

In the fullness of time, you sent your only Son to save us.

Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of your favored one, Mary, sharing our life, Christ reconciled us to your love.

At the Jordan your Spirit descended upon Him, anointing Him to preach the good news of your reign.

***He healed the sick and fed the hungry,
manifesting the power of your compassion.***

He sought out the lost and broke bread with sinners, witnessing the fullness of your grace.

We beheld His glory.

On the night before He died for us, Jesus broke bread and shared the cup with His disciples.

***After the meal our Lord was arrested,
abandoned by His followers and beaten.***

He stood trial and was put to death on a cross.

***Having emptied himself in the form of a servant,
and being obedient even to death, He was raised from
the dead and exalted as Lord of heaven and earth.***

Through him you bestow the gift of your Spirit, uniting your church, empowering its mission and leading us into the new creation you have promised.

***By His death, resurrection and ascension, Jesus Christ
has obtained for us the life-giving Spirit who unites us
all in one body. We therefore receive this Supper
in true and unconditional love.***

INVITATION TO THE TABLE





For around this table, you will find your family.



And be open to the ways the Spirit moves among you.



*For this is the feast of the reign of God, where the
broken are molded into a Beloved Community.*



COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious God, we celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Grant that in praise and thanksgiving we may be a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable in your sight, that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:



"GLORY TO BE ALMIGHTY GOD"



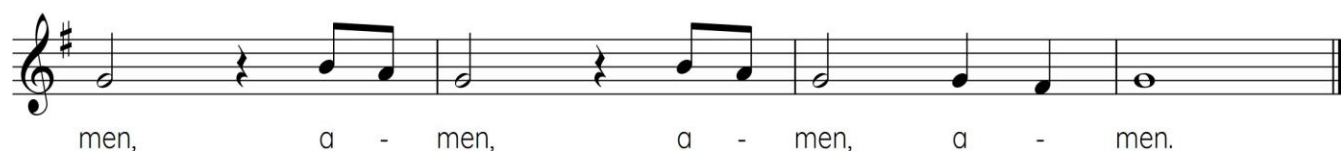
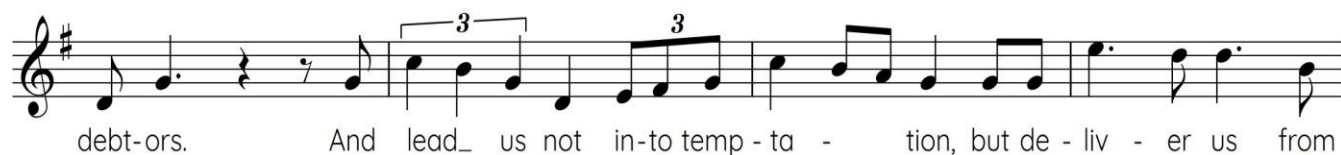
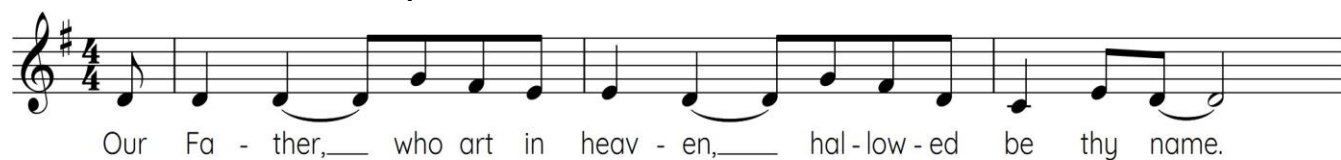
COMMUNION

AMEN

THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

Since, dear God, in this place at this table, we have touched, we have tasted, we have heard and we have seen the signs of your love for us, grant that we may go away from this house filled with our love for you and overflowing with your love for those who are around us and who share our lives. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*HYMN "The Lord's Prayer"



*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.*

We want to thank Lexi Kuentzel Brown for providing the monologue last Sunday and Sandy Cornwell, who wrote the monologue and provided the costume and props. Thank You!

All the Liturgical resources for our Lenten Worship Theme, “Figuring Out Faith with Peter” are used with permission from “A Sanctified Art LLC” and have been prepared by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed.

WORSHIP TEAM

Worship Leader
Tina Bottini

Elder of the Day
Melody York

Deacon of the Day
Jessica Kaercher

Liturgist
Ana Crosbourne

Children’s Message
Sarah Huiest

Soloist
Ben April

Choir
Tina-Marie Bottini
Michelle Braungard
Maggie George
Kaaren Haushalter
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls
Marissa Lombardo

Sound Technician
Mike York

Video Technician
Cameron Kaercher

Welcome Host
Lori Coté

Coffee Hour Host
Linda Murphy

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What Wondrous Love is This

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Lord, I Lift Your Name on High (2088)

Words & Music: Rick Founds
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Lord Jesus Christ

Text: Psalm 139; Taizé Community
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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Shout to the North (3042)

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Holy Lord

Words: Reginald Heber, adapted by
Benjamin April & Bruce Cornwell
Music: Benjamin April

Mystery of Faith

Words: Traditional
Music: Benjamin April

Glory Be to Almighty God

Words & Music: Benjamin April & Bruce Cornwell

The Lord's Prayer

Words: Traditional
Music: Benjamin April

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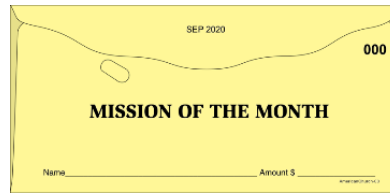
Mailing Address:

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

Special Offering Envelopes –

The special offering envelopes for March

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 crcclori@gmail.com.



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.

ZOOM

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

<https://tinyurl.com/CRCCZoom>

Meeting ID: 688 088 7155

By Phone: 1-646-558-8656



Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

Sandy Cornwell

crccsandy@gmail.com

and

Karen Latta

kmlatta@nycap.rr.com

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