



The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



August 29, 2021

Order of Worship
9:00 am

Please tune your radio to station 88.9 FM

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

“A bird does not sing because it has an answer.
It sings because it has a song.”

PRELUDE “Jesus Be the Centre”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE DAY

INTROIT “Oh Lord You're Beautiful”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Here in this sanctuary, we remember, O God, your gift of life to each of us; and we seek to carry it to the streets –
***wherever there is death and violence
wherever there is grief and loss.***

Here in this sanctuary, we remember, O God, your invitation to belong and find shelter; and we seek to carry it to the streets –
***wherever there is loneliness and rejection
wherever there is homelessness and people are displaced.***

Here in this sanctuary, we remember, O God, your reign of justice and righteousness; and we seek to carry it to the streets –
***wherever there is lawlessness or tyranny
wherever there is corruption and oppression.***

Here in this sanctuary, we remember, O God, your sacrifice of love and mercy; and we seek to carry it to the streets –
***wherever there is hatred and evil
wherever there is hopelessness, regret and guilt.***

Here in this sanctuary, where we remember all that you have done for us, O God, we remember also your call to live what we sing and pray.
***And so we commit ourselves again
to carry our worship from the sanctuary
to the streets.***

In Jesus' Name.
Amen.

HYMN “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

***O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace,
the triumphs of his grace!***

*My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name,
the honors of thy name.*

*Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace,
'tis life, and health, and peace.*

*He speaks, and, listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe,
the humble poor believe.*

*Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Saviour come,
and leap, ye lame, for joy,
and leap, ye lame, for joy.*

THE RESPONSIVE READING

We all like to be noticed, O God, from our earliest cries of “look at me!”

to the cautious search for acknowledgement from someone special;

from the longing for a witness to our life

to our weak grasp for a hand to hold as we die.

And perhaps the greatest miracle of all, is that you notice and you pay attention;

You really see us, take note of us, watch us and acknowledge us.

What are we really, that you should pay us any mind?

And yet, you bear witness to each simple life.

And so God, we praise you
*for the unfathomable, mysterious and infinitely gracious gift
of being noticed.*

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Blessing and Praise” (3 times)

*Blessing and praise be given,
Blessing and praise be given
To Christ who comes, who comes for us,
Comes in the name of the Lord.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The law is easy, Jesus,
*lists to be made,
items ticked as each is fulfilled;*
Love is messy,
*people to be heard and seen,
consequences and compassion to be considered;*

But we've lived too long by law -
the law of the sword
taking lives to achieve our goals;
the law of the market
seeking gain without thought of the impact
the law of religion
handing out judgment in your name;

But, the poor and the weak,
the diseased and the lonely,
the rejected and the sinful
find no healing in our laws;

So teach us to love, Jesus, as you do,
*enough to defend the helpless
and overturn the tables of the powerful;
enough to sacrifice ourselves
so others may live*

Teach us to love, Jesus, as you do.
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.*

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE ~ Sarah Huiest

DEACON’S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD ~ Marv Helf

CALL TO OFFERING

All generous acts have their beginning in God’s generosity towards us.

*A generosity revealed above all in Jesus –
the greatest gift of all.*

Such a gift invites us to generous giving also.

Let us offer our gifts to God

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Website:

www.communityreformedchurch.com

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Mailing Address:

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

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 DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*Receive these gifts, O God for we offer them and our lives to be blessed and used in the “doing of your word” - witnessing to Jesus’ love and serving others in his name. May what we give and what we do in Jesus’ name be true and worthy actions of our hearts.
Amen*

ELDER’S PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE ~ Marissa Lombardo

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.

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 1:40-45

A leper came to him begging him, and kneeling he said to him, “If you choose, you can make me clean.” Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, “I do choose. Be made clean!” Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. After sternly warning him he sent him away at once, saying to him, “See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest, and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, as a testimony to them.” But he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the word, so that Jesus could no longer go into a town openly, but stayed out in the country; and people came to him from every quarter.

THE MORNING MESSAGE “The Sick and Suspicious”

HYMN "The Gift of Love"

*1 Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain;
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.*

*2 Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.*

*3 Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.*

BENEDICTION

THE FOURFOLD AMEN

STAINER

Worship Leader and Liturgist
Lynne Gilgore

Director of Music Ministries
Benjamin April

Soloist
Brian Rhode

Elder of the Day
Marissa Lombardo

Deacon of the Day
Marv Helf

Children's Message
Sarah Huiest

Sound Technician
Jerry Kallner

Video Technician
Lori Coté

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Jesus Be the Centre” by Michael Frye

Music: Michael Frye

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Oh Lord You're Beautiful”

Music: Keith Green

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O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Words: Charles Wesley

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Blessing And Praise

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Lord Jesus Christ

Text: Psalm 139; Taizé Community

Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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The Gift of Love”

Hymn 593

Words Hal Hopson

Music: Hal Hopson

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The Worshipping Church Hymnal

“The Fourfold Amen”

Words and Music: Hugh S. Livingston Jr., Sir John Stainer

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