



Second Sunday in Lent

Order of Service –
March 16, 2025
10:00 am

A Service of Healing and Restoration

Please join in the worship liturgy by reading the sections in ***bold italics***.
* - Please rise in body or in spirit

Words of Welcome

“It is the mission of the Community Reformed Church of Colonie to love the Lord our God with all our hearts, with all our souls and with all of our minds; and to love our neighbors as ourselves.” (Matthew 22:37-40)

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.

The Community Reformed Church of Colonie welcomes you
and thanks you for worshipping with us.

FOR CONTEMPLATION

“A spiritual life is simply a life in which all that we do comes from the center, where we are all anchored in God; a life soaked through and through by a sense of God’s reality and claim, and self-given to the great movement of God’s will.”

Evelyn Underhill

PRELUDE “Arms of Love”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE LENTEN CANDLES

INTROIT “Sanctuary”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come as you are.

If you have deep faith, or if your faith has run dry.

If you know every scripture, or none at all.

If you have calloused hands and live your faith through good works,

Or if you only kneel at God’s feet with a million hungry questions on your mind.

Come as you are.

This is God’s house.

None will be turned away.

All are welcome here.



* HYMN "Blest Are They"

Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; theirs is the
 Blest are they, the low - ly ones;_ they shall in -
 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, all be -

king - dom of God. Blest are they,
 her - it the earth. Blest are they, who
 cause_ of me. Re - joice and be glad,

full_ of sor - row; they shall be con - soled.
 hun - ger and thirst;_ they shall have their fill.
 yours is the king-dom. Shine for all to see.

Refrain:

Re - joice_ and be glad!_ Bless-ed are you, ho-ly are you. Re - joice_

_ and be glad!_ Yours is the king-dom of God!_

INTRODUCTION TO THE SERVICE OF HEALING AND RESTORATION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in a Christ who teaches, sees, affirms, and celebrates all of who we are.

We believe in a Christ who invites us to use our gifts for good and celebrate every step we take in that direction.

We believe in a Christ who understands our anxieties and is gentle with our concerns.

We believe in a Christ who looks at us with undiluted love.

The world will try to rank, rate, and declare winners, but we know love has no limit. So, with God's help, may we nurture our faith and do good work for God's honor and glory.

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace,

We long to do the 'right' thing. We long to make the 'right' choice.

We long to stand on the 'right' side of the dividing line.

In our earnestness, we sometimes miss the sacred right in front of us.

In our earnestness, we sometimes miss opportunities to show love.

Show us how to hold our heart's desire for perfection loosely.

Show us how to lead with grace and love, over anything else.

For even more than our desire to be right, we desire to be close to you.

Show us the way.

Amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION "The Kingdom of God" (3 times)

The Kingdom of God is justice and peace

And joy in the Holy Spirit.

*Come, Lord, and open in us
the gates of your kingdom.*

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Sarah Huiest

ANTHEM “I Could Sing of Your Love Forever”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Luke 10:38-42

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.” But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the good portion which will not be taken away from her.”

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

THE MORNING MESSAGE “Everything (In) Between – Faith and Works”

THE ELDER'S AND DEACON'S PRAYER

O God, hear us; hear our prayer.

Elder: O Great Physician, there is pain in us, Lord, and sickness. It comes in many forms...but the anguish is the same. Some of us are battling disease and injury. Perhaps not even our closest friends know how really serious it is, but you know. Some of us live with pain as an ever-present companion. We want you to take the hurt away; but if it must be, give us the stamina and grace to bear it with patience and the power to keep from taking it out on those around us.

O God, hear us; hear our prayer.

Deacon: Some of us outwardly are a picture of health, but inside our heart of hearts, where you alone walk freely, something is wrong, something that hinders joy and love. Perhaps it stems from a very old tragedy, perhaps it is a recent heartbreak, perhaps it is conflict in our family, perhaps it is loneliness, perhaps it is doubt. Touch us, Lord. Heal our memories; free us from what is past.

O God, hear us; hear our prayer.

Elder: Others of us are doing our best with the pain of a loved one as an illness or heartbreak ravages one we hold dear. Often there is very little we can do directly, even though we might gladly change places with that person if we could. Be near to those we name before you in our hearts, relieve the loneliness of their struggle, battle their pain, lift their spirits, restore their joy.

O God, hear us; hear our prayer.

Deacon: We pray for the sickness that infects our world and allows countries to go to war... allows neighbors to fight neighbors... and allows civilians to be tortured and maimed in war's hatred. We pray for this world where poverty dulls the eyes and cripples the mind, where hope and safety are luxuries only the rich can sample. Use us as instruments of your healing in the world around us. Motivate us to become alert and informed. Do not let us hide our hearts and minds from that which is too terrible for us to bear. Free us to do our part, knowing that you can and do bear the burden of our world.

O God, hear us; hear our prayer.

O God, hear us; hear our prayer.

O God, hear us; hear our prayer.

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 LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ANOINTING WITH OIL

*HYMN 519 "It is Well With My Soul"

It Is Well with My Soul 519

"The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised." Job 1:21

1. When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when sor - rows like
2. Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let this blest as -
3. My sin— O, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought, my sin—not in
4. And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled

sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to
sur - ance con - trol: that Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es -
part but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no
back as a scroll, the trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de -

Refrain
say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."
tate, and has shed his own blood for my soul. It is well It is
more: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
scend: "E - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

well with my soul, with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

WORDS: Horatio G. Spafford, 1873
MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss, 1876

VILLE DU HAVRE
11.8.11.9.Ref.

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.*

POSTLUDE “Be the Center”

Liturgical resources and prayers for the worship service have been adapted from those created by Rev. Sarah A. Speed, A Sanctified Art LLC and are used with permission.

WORSHIP TEAM

Worship Leader
Rev. Robert Hoffman

Elder of the Day
Karl Coté

Deacon of the Day
Marv Helf

Liturgist
Vicki Lane

Children’s Message
Sarah Huiest

Music
Brian Rhode and Kevin Ingalls

Sound Technician
Jerry Kallner

Video Technician
Cameron Kaercher

Welcome Host
Lori Coté

Coffee Hour Host
Deb Helf

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Arms of Love

Craig Musseau

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Sanctuary

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Bless The Lord

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The Kingdom of God

Contributors: Taizé

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I Could Sing of Your Love Forever

Martin Smith

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The Irish Blessing

Words: Traditional

Music: Benjamin April © 2021 Benjamin April

Here Is Peace (3123)

Words: Andrew Pratt © 2010 Stainer & Bell Ltd.
Music: Traditional Latvian (PD)
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Be the Center

Michael Frye

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ZOOM

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

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Meeting ID: 688 088 7155

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

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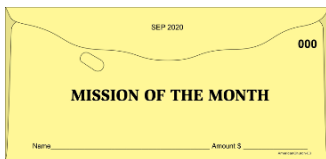
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March Special Offering Envelopes –



Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

Sandy Cornwell
crccsandy@gmail.com

Karen Latta
kmlatta@nycap.rr.com

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