

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



***Sunday,
July 30, 2023
9:00 AM***

Outdoor Worship
Order of Service

Please tune your radio to station 88.9 FM

*** - 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

You say grace before meals.

All right.

But I say grace before the play and the opera,
And grace before the concert and the pantomime,

And grace before I open a book,
And grace before sketching, painting, swimming, fencing,
boxing, walking, playing, dancing,
And grace before I dip the pen in the ink.

~ G. K. Chesterton

PRELUDE “10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE PRAYER QUILT this morning is for Matt Cornwell and Lori Blosser, in honor of their upcoming wedding.

THE ELDER’S PRAYER – Linda Murphy

INTROIT “Change My Heart, O God”

CALL TO WORSHIP

There are many doorways to cynicism, Jesus,
many reasons for despair,
many causes for fear;
but there is no excuse for giving them ultimate power;
not if we really believe what we claim to believe.

Resurrection is real, Jesus;
we have touched it, and seen it;
***our own lives bear witness to it, and it constantly
reveals itself in our world.***

And so, in spite of the fear that nags at us,
in the face of the despair and cynicism that taunts us,
in denial of all that would seek to steal life away,
we offer you our love,
***our devotion,
our lives,***
as an offering of resurrection faith
and defiant praise. Amen.



*HYMN 447 "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God"

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God 447

Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness . . . Mt. 6:33

Descant

Al - le - lu - ia, al -

1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God and its
2. Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you, seek and

le - lu - ia, al - le -

right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be
ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

add - ed un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
o - pened un - to you; Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Matthew 6:33, 7:7; adapt. Karen Lafferty, 1972

MUSIC: Karen Lafferty, 1972

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LAFFERTY
Irregular

✱RESPONSIVE READING

We may not be able to confront authorities,
or challenge presidents;
We may not have the capacity to divert resources,
or uplift communities;
We may not have the voice to silence the noise of war,
or the words to negotiate peace between armies;
But, as we follow you, O Christ,
we are able to do something.

And so, we pray that you would inspire us
to commit to and act on
the small difference we can make:
May we bring peace
through small acts of gentleness
and reconciliation;

May we bring wealth
through small contributions
and collaborations;
May we bring safety
through small acts of consideration
and acceptance;
May we bring wholeness
through small acts of care
and service.

And in the small ways, O God,
may our small difference make a big contribution
to your saving work in our world.
Amen.

✱MEDITATION “In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful” (3 times)

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful
In the Lord I will rejoice.
Look to God, do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices the Lord is near,
Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We have grown familiar with chains.
Stumbled into by accident,
or carefully crafted by our own vice,
we have become used to their cold weight.
At times we even draw comfort from them,
finding a broken sense of identity in our victimhood,
or a platform for our self-righteous anger and violence.

And so our world remains imprisoned...
by the way we choose control and aggression
over peace and mutual understanding;
by the way we idolize quick answers and quick wealth
over preservation and careful management of natural resources;
by the way we allow our self-interest and greed
to overshadow the lives of the poor and hungry who die each day;
by the way we prefer hiding in a fortress of pride
over making things right and letting others into our hearts.

But, if we will listen, we can hear a voice
making a new way through this desert,
offering a new hope,
and gently seeking to loosen the chains.

Help us, Jesus, to follow this voice;
lead us like a Shepherd,
save us, and free us;
so that, as our chains fall away,
we may loosen the chains of others. Amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Shepherd Me, O God

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

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS - Ephesians 3:20

DEACON'S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Kevin Ingalls

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.*

SOLO "We Gather Together"

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 10: 25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He 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 he 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."

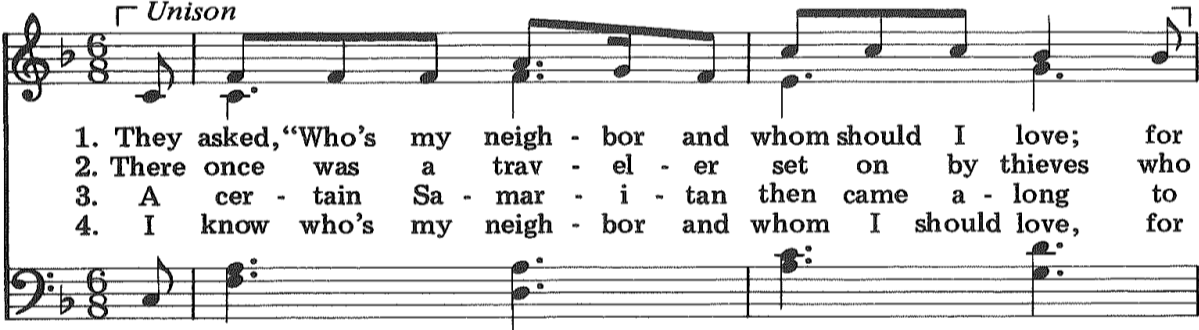
MORNING MESSAGE "He could have simply walked away."

*HYMN 435 "They Asked, 'Who's My Neighbor?'"

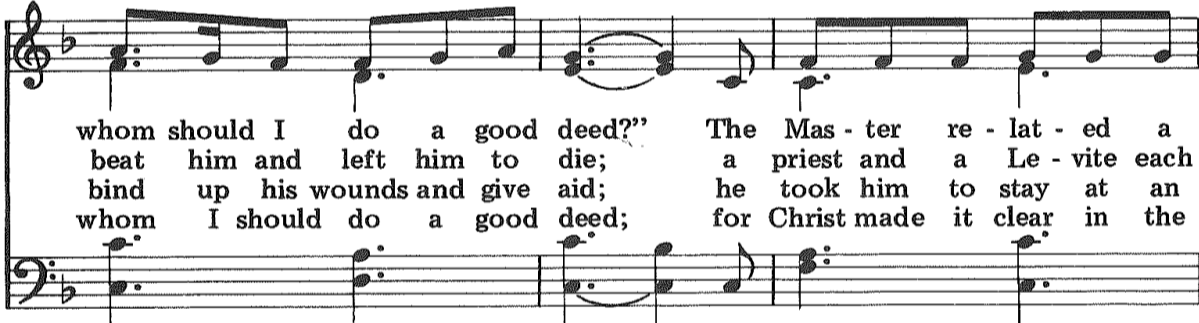
They Asked, "Who's My Neighbor?" 435

He asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Lk. 10:29

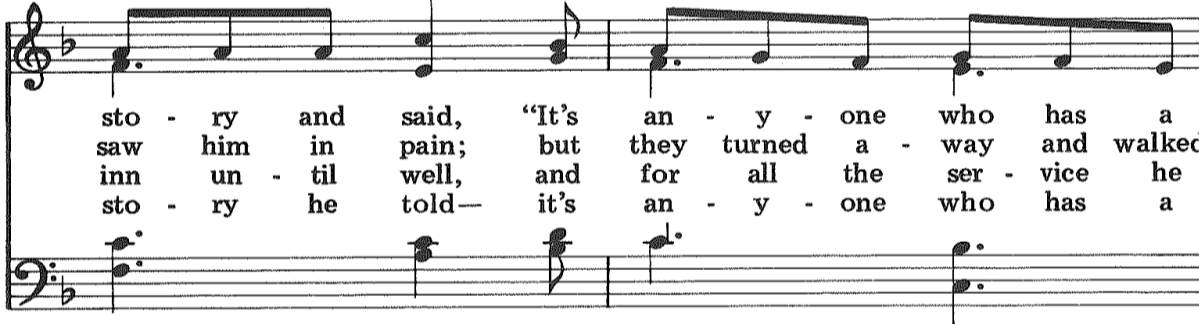
Unison



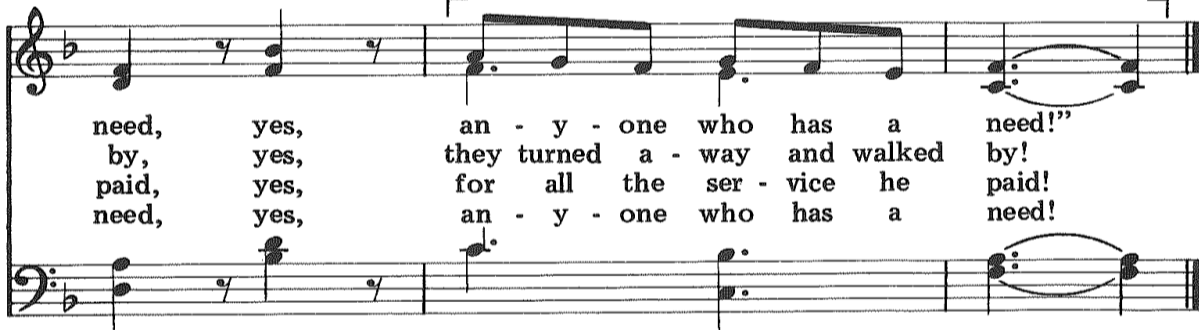
1. They asked, "Who's my neigh - bor and whom should I love; for
 2. There once was a trav - el - er set on by thieves who
 3. A cer - tain Sa - mar - i - tan then came a - long to
 4. I know who's my neigh - bor and whom I should love, for



whom should I do a good deed?" The Mas - ter re - lat - ed a
 beat him and left him to die; a priest and a Le - vite each
 bind up his wounds and give aid; he took him to stay at an
 whom I should do a good deed; for Christ made it clear in the



sto - ry and said, "It's an - y - one who has a
 saw him in pain; but they turned a - way and walked
 inn un - til well, and for all the ser - vice he
 sto - ry he told— it's an - y - one who has a



need, yes, an - y - one who has a need!"
 by, yes, they turned a - way and walked by!
 paid, yes, for all the ser - vice he paid!
 need, yes, an - y - one who has a need!

WORDS and MUSIC: Jan Wesson, 1981
 © 1982 The Hymn Society

WHO'S MY NEIGHBOR
 11.8.11.8.8.

*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.*

WORSHIP TEAM

Worship Leader
Donna Davidson

Elder
Linda Murphy

Deacon
Kevin Ingalls

Liturgist
Sarah Huiest

Soloist
Ben April

Sound Technician
Mike York

Video Technician
Alex Huiest

Welcome Host
Lou Ann Connelly

Coffee Hour Host
Linda Murphy

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10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Music: Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman
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Songs/worshiptogether.com
Songs/sixsteps music
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Change My Heart, O God

Music & Words: Eddie Espinosa
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Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

Music & Words: Karen Lafferty, 1972
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In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful

Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taizé
Community
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Shepherd Me O God

Contributors: Marty Haugen
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They Asked, "Who's My Neighbor"

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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

Sunday Worship via Zoom, use the link below:

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

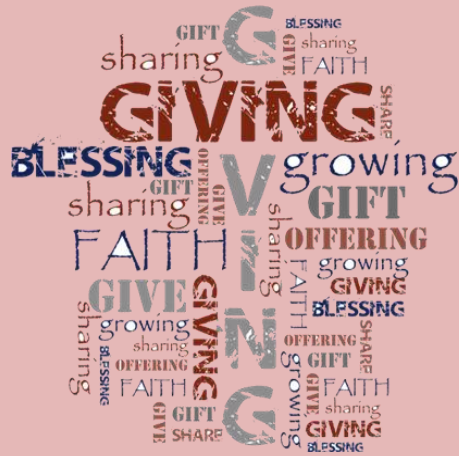
Meeting ID: 688 088 7155

By Phone: 1-646-558-8656

Online Church Bulletin Board

padlet.com/crccsarah.ChurchBulletinBoard

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 located near the exit.



PayPal:

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

Website:

www.communityreformedchurch.com

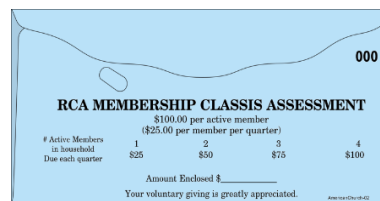
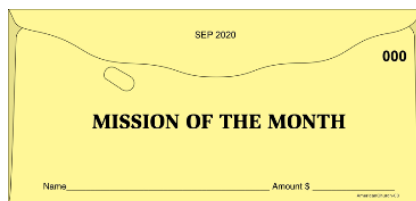
Mailing Address:

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

Special Offering Envelopes –

The special offering envelopes for July.

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.



Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

Sandy Cornwell

crcsandy@gmail.com

Karen Latta

kmlatta@nycap.rr.com

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

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Ana Crosbourn
Marissa Lombardo
Linda Murphy

Deacons

Kevin Bottini
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls
Jessica Kaercher



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