

FIFTHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Sunday,
September 10, 2023

10:00 AM

Sanctuary Worship
Order of Service

* - 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

"The meaning of life. The wasted years of life.
The poor choices of life.
God answers the mess of life with one word:
'grace.'"

Max Lucado

PRELUDE "The Gift of Love"

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER'S PRAYER – Linda Murphy

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT “Change My Heart, O God”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Whether we embrace God's call in our lives or try to avoid it,
God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Whether we are long-timers or latecomers in the life of faith,
God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

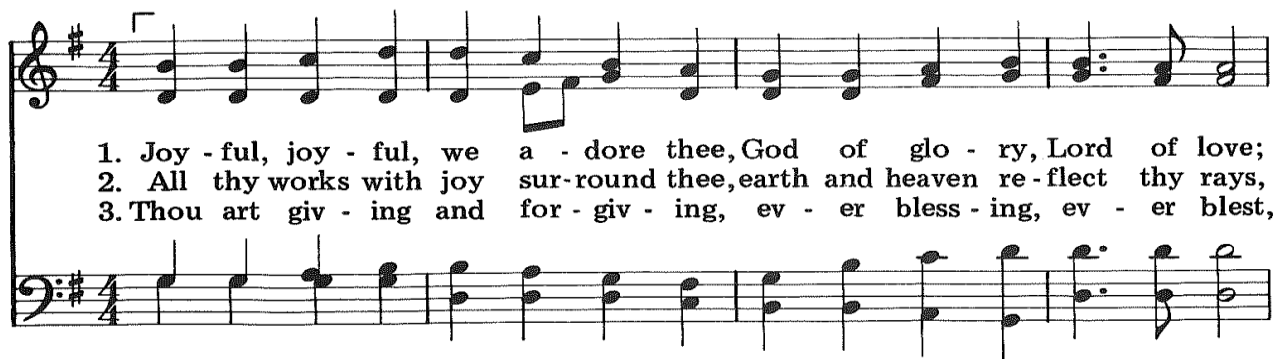
Whether our lives in Christ are comfortable or bring hardship,
God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. We praise God's name forever and ever!



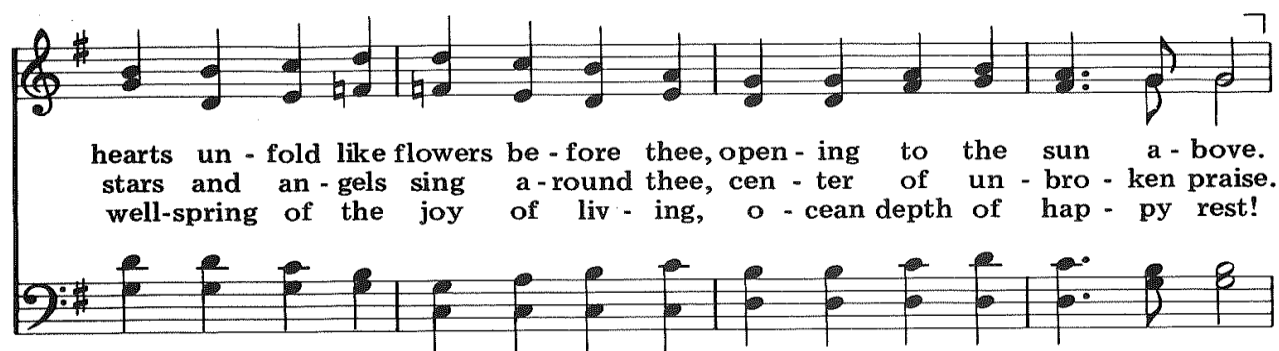
*HYMN 20 "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee 20

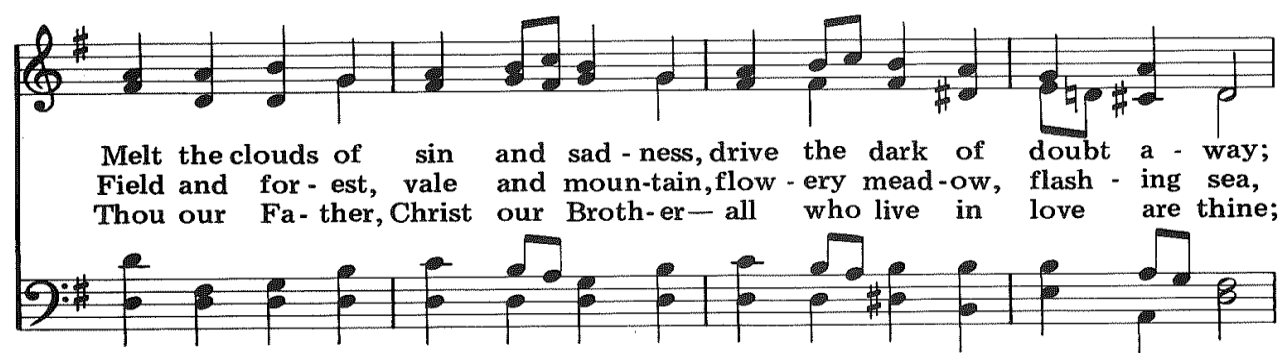
God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. 1 Jn. 4:16



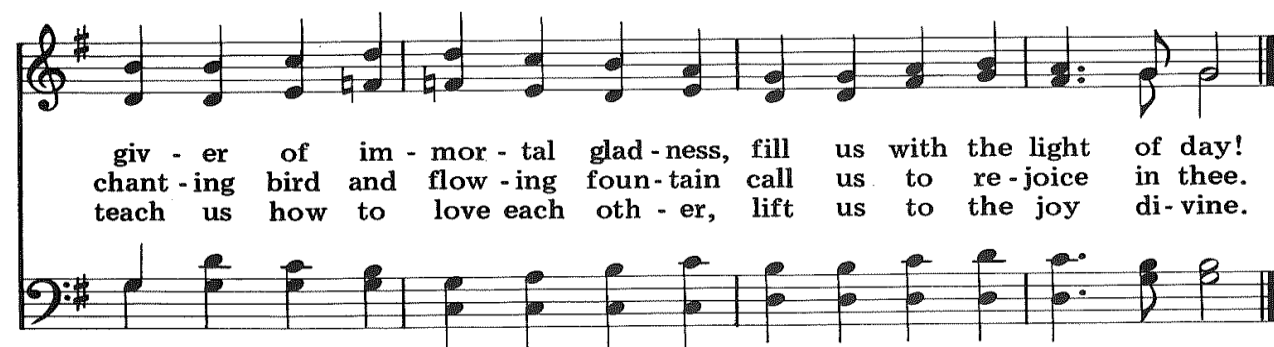
1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2. All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
 3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, open - ing to the sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Broth - er— all who live in love are thine;



giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day!
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine.

WORDS: Henry Van Dyke, 1907
 MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824

ODE TO JOY
 8.7.8.7.D.

*RESPONSIVE READING

It is mystery that is beyond us, Jesus, that our clumsy attempts at goodness... our frail and faltering labors... could make any contribution to our saving work in our world.

Yet, You dignify and bless us by inviting us into your service, and assuring us that what we do does matter.

And then, you add the gifts of joy, fulfilment, creativity and our own support and care.

What a gracious God you are and how grateful we are for your love.

But sometimes we forget this grace, and we begin to look around us.

We start to notice strange co-workers who are doing things differently:

Some seem less committed than we are,

and others have come into our service late, after years of caring only for themselves;

Some appear to make mistakes more than any valuable contribution they may offer;

and others seem to work against you by the way they live, or the wrong things they believe...

Forgive us when we judge and denigrate the service of others,

and when we expect you to value and reward our work more than anyone else.

Forgive us when we challenge your selection of laborers,

and when we question how you choose to distribute your grace.

Restore to us the joy of simple, faithful service,

and teach us to leave the recruitment, and the results, to you.

Amen.

*MEDITATION "The Lord is My Light"

***The Lord is my light, my light and salvation:
in God I trust, in God I trust.***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of abundant goodness, we confess that we want your grace for ourselves but often wish punishment or exclusion on others. We judge the efforts and motives of others while ignoring the faults of our own. Forgive us, we pray, when we let jealousy overtake us. Forgive us, we pray, when we are petty even in the presence of your generosity. Forgive us, we pray, when we feel slighted by you. May we ask once again for your mercy? Will you help us to be more merciful toward one another? We pray in the name of Christ Jesus, by whose grace we are saved. Amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Jesus Remember Me”

*Jesus, remember me
when you come into your Kingdom.
Jesus, remember me
when you come into your Kingdom.*

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

God extends to us mercy beyond our deserving, grace beyond our ability to earn it.

*God has granted us the privilege of believing in Christ;
therefore, we will live as grateful and forgiven people!*

In Christ Jesus our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – Sarah Huiest

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.*

SOLOIST "In Christ Alone"

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 18:15-20

"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

MORNING MESSAGE "How to Confront Evil"



*HYMN 558 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

558 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

... God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son. 1 Jn. 4:9

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven to earth come down,
 2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;
 3. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;
 4. Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less let us be;

fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
 let us all in thee in - her - it, let us find the prom - ised rest.
 sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
 let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee:

Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
 Take a - way the love of sin - ning, Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
 changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,

vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 pray and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1747
 MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870

BEECHER
 8.7.8.7.D.

*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
Sarah Huiest

Elder
Linda Murphy

Deacon
Kevin Ingalls

Liturgist
Linda Murphy

Soloist
Ben April

Sound Technician
Jerry Kallner

Video Technician
John Lombardo

Welcome Host
Pam Fitzpatrick

Coffee Hour Host
Linda Murphy

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The Gift of Love

Traditional English Melody, adapted by Hal
Hopson, arranged by Lloyd Larson
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Change My Heart, O God

Words & Music: Eddie Espinosa
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The Lord is My Light

Text: Psalm 139; Taizé Community
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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Jesus Remember Me

Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taizé
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In Christ Alone

Words & Music: Keith Getty & Stuart Townend,
arr. Lloyd Larson
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In Person Worship Guidelines

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>

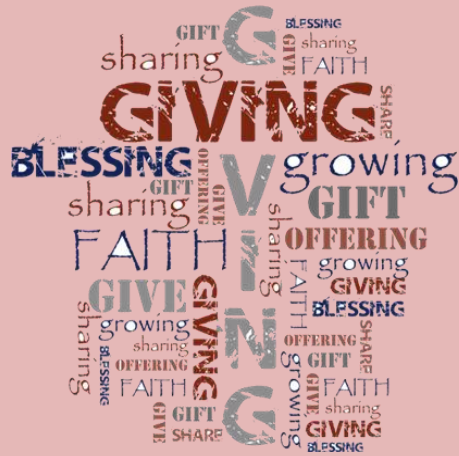
Meeting ID: 688 088 7155

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

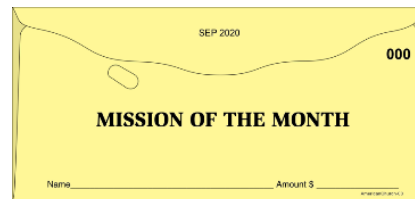
Mailing Address:

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

Special Offering Envelopes –

The special offering envelopes for September.

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

crccsandy@gmail.com

Karen Latta

kmlatta@nycap.rr.com

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

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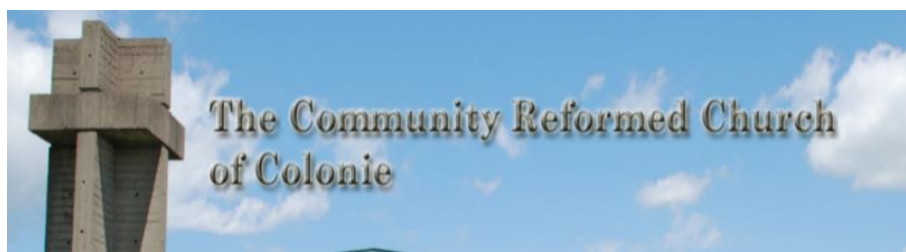
CONSISTORY

Elders

Karl Côté
Ana Crosbourne
Marissa Lombardo
Linda Murphy

Deacons

Kevin Bottini
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls
Jessica Kaercher



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