



The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



July 4, 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

May we think of freedom, not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right.

~ Peter Marshall

PRELUDE "Faith of our Fathers"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE DAY

INTROIT "Soften my Heart"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Though you are God,
with all the influence and status that the name implies,
*you refused to pull rank,
and parade your power among us.*

Instead, you chose to step down into our experience,
living among us, as one of us,
*with all the struggle and suffering
that goes with being human.*

More than that, you adopted the role of a servant,
*washing feet, serving people of no reputation or social
standing,
and giving of yourself completely.*

As incredible as it sounds,
you are the God who serves,
*and we can respond in no other way
than to give ourselves to you in praise.*

Amen.

HYMN 758 "Baptized in Water"

BUNESSAN

*1 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;
heirs of salvation,
trusting his promise,
faithfully now God's praise we sing.*

*2 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ, our King;
one with his rising,
freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God's praise we sing.*

***3 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
born of one Father,
we are his children,
joyfully now God's praise we sing.***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We take so much on to our shoulders God;
Sometimes it's arrogance,
but sometimes it's because we just don't know what else to do.

***There is so much need, so many wounded people,
There are so many challenges, and so many decisions.***

We don't want to fall into a magical, "Harry Potter" faith,
in which we use prayers like wands,
and avoid our responsibilities through childish dependence on you.

***But, we also don't want to live
as if what we believe is just an idea
with no real impact on our lives.***

And so we pray for the strength and courage
to work for justice and healing
for those who are forgotten and hurting in our world,
and to strive to be fully engaged in our own lives;

***But we also pray for the humility and wonder
to seek your Spirit's strength and wisdom,
and to invite others into vibrant relationship with you;***

because the faith we need is not just a 'religious' veneer,
but a real confidence in a reality that is bigger than us.
Amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION "Come O Lord and Set Us Free" (3 times)

***Come, O Lord, and set us free;
Give your people peace.
Come, O Lord, and set us free;
Come, Lord Jesus, come.***

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE ~ Sarah Huiest

DEACON'S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD ~ Linda Murphy

CALL TO OFFERING

Heavenly God, as we give this morning,
help us to be ready to let go and be sent by you into the world, whether near or far.

Let us offer our gifts to God.

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Website:

www.communityreformedchurch.com

PayPal:

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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

As the disciples went out and proclaimed the gospel in word and deed, so may we do likewise. Bless and use all our endeavors, O God, visible through these gifts and our lives, as we seek to be

***strong, yet humble followers of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen***

ELDER'S PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE ~ Marissa Lombardo

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Galatians 5:1-15

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. Listen! I, Paul, am telling you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no benefit to you. Once again I testify to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obliged to obey the entire law. You who want to be justified by the law have cut yourselves off from Christ; you have fallen away from grace. For through the Spirit, by faith, we eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything; the only thing that counts is faith working through love. You were running well; who prevented you from obeying the truth? Such persuasion does not come from the one who calls you. A little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough. I am confident about you in the Lord that you will not think otherwise. But whoever it is that is confusing you will pay the penalty. But my friends, why am I still being persecuted if I am still preaching circumcision? In that case the offense of the cross has been removed. I wish those who unsettle you would castrate themselves!

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

THE MORNING MESSAGE "Then I Shall Be Free"

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.⁴

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.

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" (3 times)

Dona Nobis Pacem

***Holy, holy, Lord God almighty,
your glory fills the earth, Lord God of hosts.***

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

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:

***Christ has died!
Christ is risen!
Christ will come again.***

"GLORIFY YOUR NAME"

Glorify Your Name

***Father, we love you, we worship and adore you,
Glorify your name in all the earth;
Glorify your name, glorify your name,
Glorify your name in all the earth.***

***Jesus, we love you, we worship and adore you,
Glorify your name in all the earth;
Glorify your name, glorify your name,
Glorify your name in all the earth.***

***Spirit, we love you, we worship and adore you,
Glorify your name in all the earth;
Glorify your name, glorify your name,
Glorify your name in all the earth.***

COMMUNION

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 632 "The Lord's Prayer"

MALOTTE

*Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy 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 the evil:
for thine is the kingdom, and the power
and the glory, forever,
Amen. Amen.*

BENEDICTION

THE FOURFOLD AMEN

STAINER

Minister of Word and Sacrament
Rev. Bruce K. Cornwell

Director of Music Ministries
Benjamin April

Elder of the Day
Marissa Lombardo

Deacon of the Day
Linda Murphy

Soloist
Ron Smith

Children's Message
Sarah Huiest

Sound Technician
Jerry Kallner

Video Technician
Lori Coté