



## *The Third Sunday after the Epiphany*

January 22, 2023  
Order of Service – 10:00 am

\* - 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**

“God has always wanted the vulnerable in society to be cared for. He never intended for them to languish in poverty, abuse, slavery, homelessness, or other types of devastation. When we care for individuals who are trapped in these ways, when we show them love and help them move toward freedom and wholeness, we participate in bringing a little part of God's Kingdom back into alignment with His greater plan. We do justice and God smiles.”

— John M. Perkins, *Dream with Me: Race, Love, and the Struggle We Must Win*

PRELUDE "Great Are You Lord"

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER'S PRAYER – Karl Coté

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT "Sanctuary"

CALL TO WORSHIP

How we long to understand, O God, the simple logic of Light;  
*The power of a single glow to dispel darkness; the capacity of  
a single spark to create warmth; the immense energy in a  
single drop of sunlight.*

It's a simple logic, this message you speak: the light shines in the  
darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it;  
*We praise you for the light, and for its simple resistance to  
darkness; We praise you for the radiance that never ceases to  
stream into us and our world,*

And we praise you for the tinder that you have placed within us that  
waits patiently and quietly for us to allow a single ember into our  
hearts  
*so that we might be set ablaze with You. Amen.*



\* HYMN "The Summons"

Will you come and fol - low me if I but  
 Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but  
 Will you let the blind - ed see if I you but  
 Will you love the "you" you hide if I but

5  
 call your name? \_\_\_\_\_ Will you  
 call your name? \_\_\_\_\_ Will you  
 call your name? \_\_\_\_\_ Will you  
 call your name? \_\_\_\_\_ Will you

9  
 go where you don't know and nev - er  
 care for the cruel and kind and nev - er  
 set the pris - oners free and nev - er  
 quell the fear in - side and nev - er

13  
 be the same? \_\_\_\_\_ Will you  
 be the same? \_\_\_\_\_ Will you  
 be the same? \_\_\_\_\_ Will you  
 be the same? \_\_\_\_\_ Will you

17  
 let my love be shown, \_\_\_\_\_ will you  
 risk the hos - tile stare, \_\_\_\_\_ should your  
 kiss the lep - er clean, \_\_\_\_\_ and do  
 use the faith you've found \_\_\_\_\_ to re -

21  
 let my name be known, \_\_\_\_\_ will you  
 life at - tract or - scare? \_\_\_\_\_ Will you  
 such as this un - seen, \_\_\_\_\_ and ad -  
 shape the world a - round, \_\_\_\_\_ through my

25  
 let my life be grown in you and  
 let me an - swer prayer in you and  
 mit to what I mean in you and  
 sight and touch and sound in you and

29  
 you in me?  
 you in me?  
 you in me?  
 you in me?

## \*RESPONSIVE READING

The darkness loves to parade itself, God, to draw our attention and steal our energy, with fearful threats and dire prophecies of doom;  
***and we all too easily give it just what it seeks.***

But, if we can just drag our gaze away we discover that there is another reality;

***that your light shines undimmed, that your care is undiminished, that your strength and protection are unfailing.***

And so, even in the midst of pain, suffering, and evil... even when it seems your light is almost out, we choose to remain under the shadow of your wings;

***to trust in your salvation, to speak your words, and to dispel the darkness by lighting the flame of faith again in our hearts. Amen.***

## \*TAIZÉ 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

God of Presence and Light, we like to imagine that we are bold and strong, that there is nothing that can frighten us

***But we are not strangers to trembling,***

Our doubt leaves us feeling alone and afraid, and our hiding brings much rejection to You and to others.

***Forgive us, Lord, and help us.***

Our self-centeredness leaves us feeling deprived and poor, and our grabbing results in great need.

***Forgive us, Lord, and help us.***

Our short-sightedness leaves us uncertain and insecure and our lack of listening divides and separates.

***Forgive us, Lord, and help us.***

Somewhere inside of us

*we do believe,  
we do trust  
and we do love;*

The simple gifts of worship and love that we offer now

*are tokens of this faith;  
signs of our thanksgiving  
and of our longing to be bolder in following You.*

May our gifts and our lives be Your instruments  
of healing and comfort;

*For the sake of all in our world who grieve, all who despair,  
and all who live in want and hatred. In Jesus' Name. Amen.*

TAIZÉ MEDITATION "Jesus Remember Me" (3 times)

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

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS - based on 2 Corinthians 4:6

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Mark Kaercher

DEACON'S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD - Marv Helf

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.*

ANTHEM "What a Beautiful Name"

## SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 4:12-23

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

## THE MORNING MESSAGE “Life in the ~~Time~~ Light”



## \*HYMN "As a Fire is Meant for Burning"



As a fire is meant for burn - ing with a bright and warm-ing flame,  
We are learn - ers; we are teach - ers; we are pil - grims on the way.  
As a green bud in the spring-time is a sign of life re-newed,



so the church is meant for mis - sion, giv - ing glo - ry to God's name.  
We are seek - ers; we are giv - ers; we are ves - sels made of clay.  
so may we be signs of one - ness 'mid earth's peo - ples, man - y hued.



Not to preach our creeds or cus - toms, but to build a bridge of care,  
By our gen - tle, lov - ing ac - tions we would show that Christ is light.  
As a rain - bow lights the heav - ens when a storm is past, and gone,



we join hands a - cross the na - tions, find - ing neigh - bors ev - ery - where.  
In a hum - ble, lis - tening Spir - it we would live to God's de - light.  
may our lives re - flect the ra - diance of God's new and glo - rious dawn.

## \*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.*

## Worship Leaders

Minister of Word and  
Sacrament

**Rev. Bruce K.  
Cornwell**

Elder of the Day  
**Karl Coté**

Deacon of the Day  
**Marv Helf**

Liturgist  
**Melody York**

Children's Message  
**Mark Kaercher**

Director of Music  
Ministries  
**Ben April**

Soloist  
**Brian Rhode**

## Choir

**Tina-Marie Bottini  
Michelle Braungard  
Maggie George  
Kaaren Haushalter  
Marvin Helf  
Kevin Ingalls  
Pam Izzo  
Marissa Lombardo  
Lisa McGee**

Technical Director  
**Cameron Kaercher**

Sound Technician  
**John Lombardo**

Video Technician  
**Addison York**

Welcome Host  
**Jessica Kaercher**

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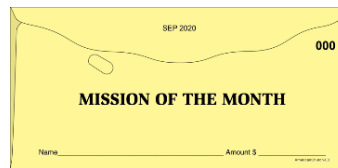
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Colonie, NY 12205

**Special Offering Envelopes –**

**There are three special offering envelopes for January**

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](mailto:crcclori@gmail.com).



**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**

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

<https://tinyurl.com/CRCCZoom>

Meeting ID: 688 088 7155

By Phone: 1-646-558-8656



## Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

Sandy Cornwell  
[crccsandy@gmail.com](mailto:crccsandy@gmail.com)  
Karen Latta  
[kmlatta@nycap.rr.com](mailto:kmlatta@nycap.rr.com)

## COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH OF COLONIE STAFF AND CONSISTORY

### STAFF E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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### CONSISTORY

#### Elders

Karl Coté  
Ana Crosbourne  
Marissa Lombardo  
Linda Murphy

#### Deacons

Kevin Bottini  
Marvin Helf  
Kevin Ingalls  
Jessica Kaercher



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