



The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 5, 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

"Access to communication in the widest sense is access to knowledge, and that is vitally important for us if we are not to go on being despised or patronized by condescending sighted people. We do not need pity, nor do we need to be reminded that we are vulnerable. We must be treated as equals — and communication is the way we can bring this about."

~ Louis Braille

PRELUDE “Let Us Break Bread Together”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER’S PRAYER – Linda Murphy

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT “Come and Find the Quiet Center”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Why do we settle, O God, for only being born once,
as if the world never changes,
as if everything is just fine the way it is
***and we have no need for new life,
new encounters with you,
new promptings of your Spirit,
and new awakenings in our souls?***

Why do we turn your invitation into a mark of our own achievement,
as if your life is anything other than an extravagant gift,
as if the glimpses of your reign that we receive
***are earned,
or deserved,
or make us somehow ‘better’ than others?***

We praise you for the shocking miraculous truth, God,
that we can always be—
that we need to always be born again;
that daily you welcome us into a surprising new life,
the wonderful, creative, unpredictable world of your Spirit;
and that all we can do is allow ourselves to be pushed—
***birthed, by your grace,
into new experiences of your reign.***

Here we are, O God;
***Let us be, once more,
in this moment, in this place,
Born yet again.
Amen.***

* HYMN “I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me”

I'm so glad,
Sa-tan had me bound,
When I was in trou-ble,

Je-sus lift-ed me,

I'm so glad,
Sa-tan had me bound,
when I was in trou-ble,

Je - sus lift - ed me,

I'm so glad,
Sa - tan had me bound,
when I was in trou - ble,

Je-sus lift-ed me, sing-ing glo-ry, hal-le - lu - jah, Je-sus lift-ed me!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Goodness isn't always popular, Jesus...

There are those who doubt that it has value, that fear that goodness only leaves us vulnerable and unable to navigate the complexities of the real world.

But, we believe that the opposite is true...

that it is goodness that must ultimately prevail, and that holds the key to the wholeness and happiness we seek.

And so we pray for goodness to infiltrate every un-good place, *where callous self-interest humiliates and impoverishes others, where casual disregard for the common good undermines security and neighborliness, where unexamined or overstated fear addicts us to control, where our obsession with the immediate blinds us to the consequences of our actions.*

Teach us the power of the good, the healing of the noble, the life of the praiseworthy,
and capture our hearts that we may give ourselves to know your goodness -the only goodness that is truly worth pursuing. Amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Shepherd Me, O God” (3 times)

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

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS - 2 Corinthians 3:18 and 5:17

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – Lisa McGee

DEACON’S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Jessica Kaercher

ANTHEM “Keep Your Lamps”

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 5:13-20

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

THE MORNING MESSAGE “Salt and Light People”

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.

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 OFFERING

*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 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

Anyone wishing to receive gluten free bread,
please inform the elder or signal the pastor.

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 "The Lord's Prayer"

*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 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.*

The Call to Worship and the Prayer of Confession
were written by **John van de Laar**

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

Worship Leaders

Minister of Word and
Sacrament
**Rev. Bruce K.
Cornwell**

Elder of the Day
Linda Murphy

Deacon of the Day
Jessica Kaercher

Liturgist
Linda Murphy

Children's Message
Lisa McGee

Director of Music
Ministries
Ben April

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
Mike York

Video Technician
John Lombardo

Welcome Host
Mark Kaercher

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Let Us Break Bread Together

Traditional Spiritual,
arr. Moses Hogan
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Keep Your Lamps

African-American
Spiritual, arr. By Andre
J. Thomas

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Shepherd Me, O God

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Holy Lord

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This Is the Threefold Truth

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Glorify Your Name

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The Lord's Prayer

Music: Benjamin April
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The Irish Blessing

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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.

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www.communityreformedchurch.com

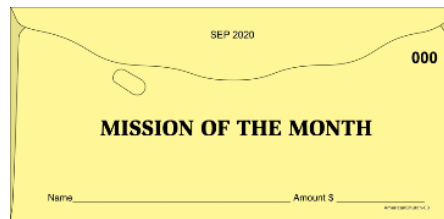
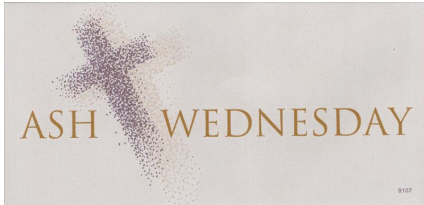
Mailing Address:

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

Special Offering Envelopes –

There are three special offering envelopes for February.

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 crccclori@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**

STAFF E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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CONSISTORY

Elders

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Ana Crosbourne
Marissa Lombardo
Linda Murphy

Deacons

Kevin Bottini
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls
Jessica Kaercher



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