

## Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



***Sunday,  
July 16, 2023***

**Outdoor Worship  
Order of Service –  
9:00 am**

**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**

**Life is not measured by the number of breaths you take,  
but by the moments that take your breath away.**

**— Unknown**

**PRELUDE “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”**

**THE COMMUNITY GATHERS**

**THE ELDER’S PRAYER – Karl Coté**

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**INTROIT “Make Me a Servant”**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Though our worship may bring us scorn,  
***you deserve it.***

Though our songs of praise may stir a jeering response  
***you deserve it.***

Though our love for you may take us to those who hate you, and us,  
***you deserve it.***

Though our attempts to follow you,  
to reflect your grace and compassion,  
may leave us rejected or misunderstood,  
resisted or denied, wounded or crucified...  
***You deserve our faith, our devotion, our love  
and our commitment to walk always  
in your cross-carrying, peace-loving ways.***

***God of Peace, you are worthy and we praise you.***

***Amen.***



**\*HYMN "Spirit of God" (Verses 1-3)**



Spir - it of God, bright Wind, breath that bids life be - gin,\_\_\_\_  
 Spir - it of God, bright Dove, grant us your peace and love,\_\_\_\_  
 Spir - it of God, bright Hands, e - ven in far - off lands you



blow as you al - ways do; cre - ate us a - new.\_\_\_\_\_  
 heal - ing up - on your wings for all liv - ing things.\_\_\_\_\_  
 hold all the hu - man race in one warm em - brace.\_\_\_\_\_



Give us the breath to sing,\_\_\_\_ lift - ed on soar - ing wing,  
 For when we live your peace,\_\_\_\_ cap - tives will find re - lease,  
 No mat - ter where we go, you hold us to - geth - er so,



held in your hands,\_\_\_\_ borne on your wings.\_\_\_\_\_



Al - le - lu - ia! Come, Spir - it, come!\_\_\_\_ come!\_\_\_\_\_

## ✱RESPONSIVE READING

We like our agendas, Jesus,  
*we like to set priorities and plan outcomes;  
and we want the world to follow.*

But, too often our agendas are not yours;  
*and that can't be good for us  
or for our world.*

So, we pray, that your agenda would prevail  
*in our hearts,  
in our words,  
in our priorities,  
in our relationships,  
in our actions.*

May our world be captured by the beauty and  
Grace that flow from your Kingdom purposes;  
*wherever there is violence,  
wherever there is division,  
wherever there is disease,  
wherever there is need,  
wherever there is grief,  
wherever there is despair,*  
may human experience be shaped by your awesome,  
creative reign.  
*Amen.*

## ✱MEDITATION "Bless the Lord" (3 times)

*Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.  
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

It's a world of fists, Jesus.  
We have no shortage of excuses to fight;  
*the smallest difference,  
the most insignificant slight  
the least justifiable defense of our rights or privilege*

and our fists are raised and thrown,  
and we feel no shame.  
***Forgive us the violence of our hearts.***

Teach us to open our hands, Jesus, like you did,  
***to repair the places that war has destroyed,  
to heal the people that hatred has wounded,  
to rebuild the communities that violence has fractured,  
to reconcile the factions that fear has divided,  
to forgive the wrongs that have dehumanized us all.  
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 - Isaiah 54:8, 43-45; 44:22

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.***

SOLO “Come Christians, Join to Sing”

## SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!" "Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

## MORNING MESSAGE "Grab Your Spade!"



## \*HYMN "Light of the World"



You are the Light of the World, O Lord, and you make your ser - vant shine.  
 You are the Bread of Life, O Lord, bro - ken to set us free.  
 You've o-ver-come the world, O Lord, and giv - en us vic - to - ry.



— So how could there be an - y dark-ness in me if  
 — So how could there be an - y hun - ger in me if  
 — So why could I fear when trou - ble is near if



you are the Light of the World? You are the Light of the World.  
 you are the Bread of life? You are the Bread of Life.  
 you've o-ver-come the world? You've o-ver-come the world.

## \*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  
**Karl Côté**

Deacon  
**Marv Helf**

Liturgist  
**Karl Côté**

Soloist  
**Ben April**

Sound Technician  
**Jerry Kallner**

Video Technician  
**Alex Huiest**

Welcome Host  
**Maggie George**

Coffee Hour Host  
**Kyrra Howard**

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### **Make Me a Channel of Your Peace**

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### **Bless the Lord**

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### **Jesus Remember Me**

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### **Make Me a Servant**

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### **Come Christians, Join to Sing**

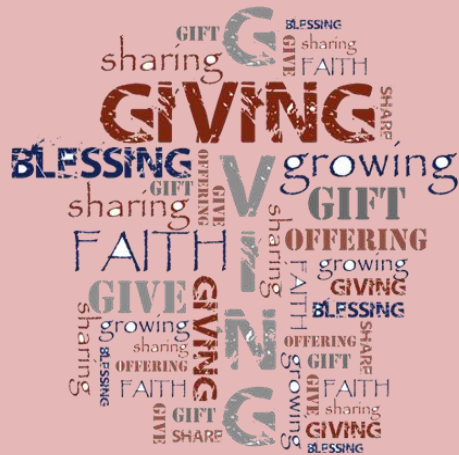
Traditional Spanish melody, arr. Becki Slagle Mayo  
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### **Light of the World**

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[www.communityreformedchurch.com](http://www.communityreformedchurch.com)

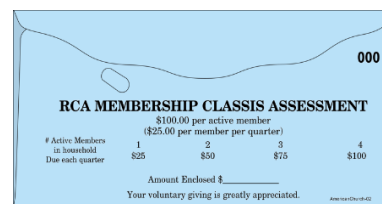
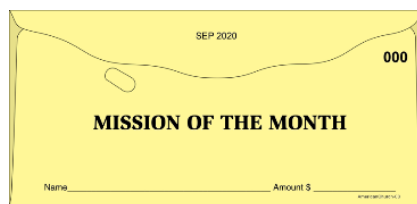
**Mailing Address:**

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](mailto:crcclori@gmail.com).



## **Online Church Bulletin Board**

**[padlet.com/crccsarah.ChurchBulletinBoard](https://padlet.com/crccsarah.ChurchBulletinBoard)**

## **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 in Devotions, The Wired Word and 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



## **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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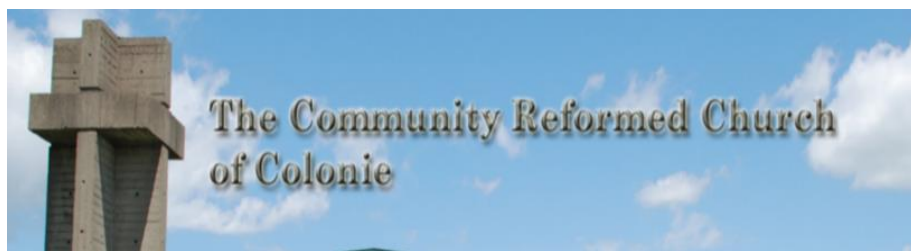
**CONSISTORY**

**Elders**

Karl Coté  
Ana Crosbourn  
Marissa Lombardo  
Linda Murphy

**Deacons**

Kevin Bottini  
Marvin Helf  
Kevin Ingalls  
Jessica Kaercher



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