



First Sunday in Lent

Order of Service –

March 9, 2025

10:00 am

Please join in the worship liturgy by reading the sections in ***bold italics***.

\* - Please rise in body or in spirit

## *Words of Welcome*

***“It is the mission of the Community Reformed Church of Colonie to love the Lord our God with all our hearts, with all our souls and with all of our minds; and to love our neighbors as ourselves.” (Matthew 22:37-40)***

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.

The Community Reformed Church of Colonie welcomes you  
and thanks you for worshipping with us.

## FOR CONTEMPLATION

### Never Met a Stranger

When we talk about God, we say  
she's never met a stranger.  
She makes friends at the airport.  
She waves to babies in the check-out line.  
When we talk about God, we say  
she'll leave the porch light on.  
She'll have warm bread in the oven.  
She'll have all the time in the world.  
When we talk about God, we say  
she'll look you in the eye.  
She'll love you as you are.  
She'll call you by your name.  
When we talk about God,  
we never have to talk about  
which side of the road she might walk down.  
Wherever you are,  
that's where she'll be.

PRELUDE "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER'S PRAYER – Ana Crosbourn

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE LENTEN CANDLES

INTROIT "Breath of God, Breath of Peace"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

***Who is my neighbor?***

***How can I help?***

***What do I have to learn?***

***Where is God in it all?***

Here in this place, we can ask big questions.

***So may we listen. May we learn.***

***May we stay curious, and may we look for God.***

This is our invitation to lean in. Let us worship our holy God.

\* HYMN 435 "They Asked, 'Who's My Neighbor?'"

# They Asked, "Who's My Neighbor?" 435

He asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Lk. 10:29

Unison

1. They asked, "Who's my neigh - bor and whom should I love; for  
 2. There once was a trav - el - er set on by thieves who  
 3. A cer - tain Sa - mar - i - tan then came a - long to  
 4. I know who's my neigh - bor and whom I should love, for

whom should I do a good deed?" The Mas - ter re - lat - ed a  
 beat him and left him to die; a priest and a Le - vite each  
 bind up his wounds and give aid; he took him to stay at an  
 whom I should do a good deed; for Christ made it clear in the

sto - ry and said, "It's an - y - one who has a  
 saw him in pain; but they turned a - way and walked  
 inn un - til well, and for all the ser - vice he  
 sto - ry he told— it's an - y - one who has a

need, yes, an - y - one who has a need!"  
 by, yes, they turned a - way and walked by!  
 paid, yes, for all the ser - vice he paid!  
 need, yes, an - y - one who has a need!

WORDS and MUSIC: Jan Wesson, 1981  
 © 1982 The Hymn Society

WHO'S MY NEIGHBOR  
 11.8.11.8.8.

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Church, if God asked you, "Who is your neighbor?"  
what would you say?

*We would say,  
every child, every person,  
every weeping willow,  
and every morning lark.  
Every freckled face,  
every wrinkled pair of hands,  
every tail-wagging dog,  
and every crisp ripe apple.  
We would say,  
we are connected—  
to one another, to all of God's creation.  
There are no strangers in God's house.  
We are all family here.*

I think God would delight in that answer. For it is said,  
"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
*with all your soul,*  
with all your strength,  
*with all your mind,*  
and you shall love your neighbor as yourself."  
*We believe. Help our unbelief. Amen.*

## TAIZÉ MEDITATION "With You, O Lord" (3 times)

*With you, O Lord, is life in all its fullness,  
And in your light we shall see true light.  
With you, O Lord, is life in all its fullness,  
And in your light we shall see true light.*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Holy God, you have told us to love our neighbors as ourselves,  
but we get tripped up on logistics. We want to know: who is our  
neighbor? Do we have to love the stranger? Must we have  
compassion for our enemy?*

***Forgive our human tendency to  
create exceptions in the face of love. Rewire our hearts so that  
we might see the face of a neighbor in every stranger we pass.  
With hope we pray, amen.***

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

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

**WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

Family of faith,  
When we set limits on love,  
***God loves extravagantly.***

When we forget that we are neighbors,  
***God claims us as God’s own.***

When we judge, hold back, or harm,  
***God surrounds us with grace.***

There is nothing we can do or leave undone  
that could separate us from the love of God.  
***This is the good news of the gospel. Thanks be to God! Amen.***

**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.***

## ANTHEM "In Christ Alone"

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

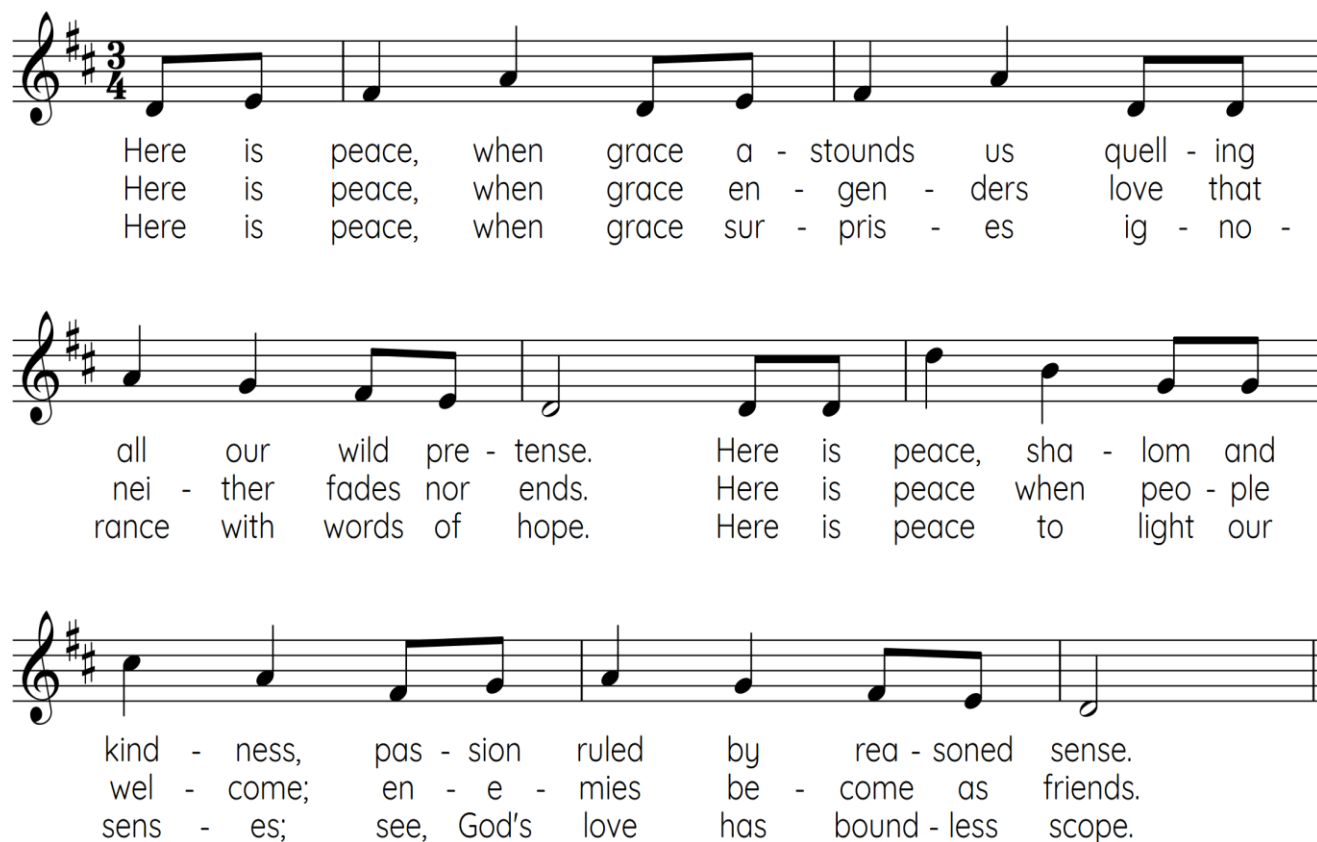
## SCRIPTURE LESSONS Luke 10:25-37

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

This is the Word of The Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

## THE MORNING MESSAGE "Everything (In) Between – Neighbor and Stranger"

## \*HYMN “Here is Peace”



Here is peace, when grace a - stounds us quell - ing  
Here is peace, when grace en - gen - ders love that  
Here is peace, when grace sur - pris - es ig - no -

all our wild pre - tense. Here is peace, sha - lom and  
nei - ther fades nor ends. Here is peace when peo - ple  
rance with words of hope. Here is peace to light our

kind - ness, pas - sion ruled by rea - soned sense.  
wel - come; en - e - mies be - come as friends.  
sens - es; see, God's love has bound - less scope.

## 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.*

## POSTLUDE “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

Liturgical resources and prayers for the worship service have been adapted from those created by Rev. Sarah A. Speed, A Sanctified Art LLC and are used with permission.

## WORSHIP TEAM

Worship Leader  
**Tina Bottini**

Music Director  
**Ben April**

Elder of the Day  
**Ana Crosbourn**

Sound Technician  
**Mike York**

Deacon of the Day  
**Kevin Ingalls**

Video Technician  
**Addison York**

Liturgist  
**Melody York**

Welcome Host  
**Maggie George**

Children's Message  
**Sarah Huie**

Coffee Hour Host  
**Kyrra Howard**

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### **My Faith Looks Up to Thee**

Music: Lowell Mason, arr. John Carter © 2003 Hope  
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### **Breath of God, Breath of Peace**

Words & Music: Adam M.L. Tice & Sally Ann Morris,  
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### **They Asked, "Who's My Neighbor?"**

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### **In Christ Alone**

Music: Stuart Townend & Keith Getty, arr. Lloyd  
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### **With You, O Lord**

Words & Music: Jacques Berthier  
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### **Shepherd Me, O God**

Contributors: Marty Haugen  
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### **The Irish Blessing**

Words: Traditional  
Music: Benjamin April © 2021 Benjamin April

### **Here Is Peace (3123)**

Words: Andrew Pratt © 2010 Stainer & Bell Ltd.  
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### **Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love**

Music: Ghana Folk Song, adapted by Tom Colvin,  
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## ZOOM

To join 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

Offerings and gifts to the church may be submitted online via PayPal (link or QR code 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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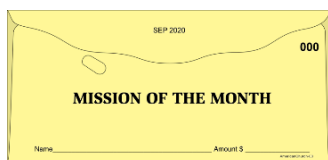
### Website:

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

### Mailing Address:

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

## March Special Offering Envelopes –





## Prayer Requests

### 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

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Ana Crosbourn  
Linda Murphy  
Melody York

#### Deacons

Kevin Bottini  
Marvin Helf  
Kevin Ingalls  
Jessica Kaercher



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