



The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



September 5, 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

“The dead cannot cry out for justice.
It is a duty of the living to do so for them.”

~ Lois McMaster Bujold

PRELUDE “It’s the Right Place”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE DAY

INTROIT “Open Our Eyes Lord”

CALL TO WORSHIP

The universe is magnificent! Every star and sun, every planet and galaxy is a marvel of the Divine Life's creative process.

We are in awe of the beauty and complexity of it all!

Our planet is marvelous! Every creature and person, every plant and stone is a wonder that is connected with every other wondrous part of the earth.

We are in awe of the beauty and complexity of it all!

We celebrate and thank you, Divine Life, for the beauty and vibrancy of the whole cosmos and for your presence in every corner of it.

We are in awe of the beauty and complexity of it all!

Yet we have taken this sacred creation for granted, we have extracted its resources and polluted its air and waters, and we have left it wounded and sick. Please forgive us.

Cosmic Consciousness, show us the awareness and personhood of every human and non-human being in our earth and help us to connect more deeply with the natural world. Amen.

HYMN "Morning Has Broken"

***1. Morning has broken, like the first morning
Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing fresh from the word!***

***2. Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven
like the first dewfall, on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.***

***3. Mine is the sunlight! <Mine is the morning
born of the one light, Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning
God's recreation of the new day***

THE RESPONSIVE READING

Divine Life,
Our planet is wounded and suffering, and we are the disease that is making it sick. We need a new way of being in which we recognize that we are not separate from the earth or lords over it, but part of it, inseparably connected with it and its life. And so we pray for you to teach us how to live in harmony with the earth and in sacred respect of all its creatures.

We pray for the rivers and oceans!
We pray for the air and atmosphere!
We pray for the frozen poles, ice caps and glaciers!
We pray for the rainforests and plains!
We pray for the mountains and deserts!
And we pray for all the human and non-human beings that find their home in the embrace of Mother Earth!

Divine Giver of Life, may your healing and life-giving Spirit fill our world and our hearts that we may remember our sacred connection and live in ways that support and nourish life for us all.

Amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Lord, Be Glorified” (3 times)

In our lives, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In our lives, Lord, be glorified today.

In our homes, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In our homes, Lord, be glorified today.

In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In your church, Lord, be glorified today.

In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In your world, Lord, be glorified today.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

When we have turned our backs on
God’s life-giving ways, and
have acted unjustly toward one
another,
God’s Spirit has shown us a better way
and has offered us forgiveness and restoration.

Thanks be to God!

Though we live in a world of inequality and discrimination,
God has given us a vision
of a world of love
and justice.

Thanks be to God!

And in the life of Christ and the power of the Spirit
God has given us all we need
to bring this new world into being.

Thanks be to God!

***Great Spirit,
Give us a vision for what our world could be
and give us the courage to add our small contribution to
move the cosmos a little closer to that vision.***

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE ~ Sarah Huiest

DEACON’S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD ~ Tina Bottini

CALL TO OFFERING

Graceful God, through Christ you have granted your people the hope for
new life.

The old has passed away, behold the new has come.

In response, we praise your name and give you thanks.

Let us offer our gifts to God

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Website:

www.communityreformedchurch.com

PayPal:

https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=N67JS9D5MLMGS

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

Gracious and loving God, we offer these gifts and our lives as signs that our faith is expressed not in words alone, but in deeds - deeds performed in the name and for the sake of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen

ELDER'S PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE ~ Ana Crosbourne

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.

THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Romans 8:19-22

For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now;

Revelation 21:1-4

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

THE MORNING MESSAGE "Just Living: Practicing Small Acts of Justice"

HYMN "Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

*1 Jesus, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high;
hide me, O my Savior, hide
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide;
O receive my soul at last.*

*2 Other refuge have I none,
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, O leave me not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenseless head
with the shadow of thy wing.*

*3 Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
more than all in thee I find;
raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
false and full of sin I am,
thou art full of truth and grace.*

*4 Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound;
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art,
freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart,
rise to all eternity.*

BENEDICTION

THE FOURFOLD AMEN

STAINER

Minister of Word and Sacrament
Rev. Bruce K. Cornwell

Director of Music Ministries
Benjamin April

Soloist
Ron Smith

Elder of the Day
Ana Crosbourne

Deacon of the Day
Tina Bottini

Children's Message
Sarah Huiest

Sound Technician
Mike York

Video Technician
John Lombardo

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

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Open Our Eyes Lord

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Morning Has Broken

Hymn 362
Words: Eleanor Farjeon
Music: David Evans (1927)
The Worshipping Church Hymnal

Lord, Be Glorified

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Shepherd Me, O God

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Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Hymn 461
Words: Charles Wesley
Music: Joseph Parry (1879)
The Worshipping Church Hymnal

“The Fourfold Amen”

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