

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



***Sunday,
July 23, 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

**“I will remove from your body the heart of stone
and give you a heart of flesh.”**

~ Ezekiel 36:26

PRELUDE “Blessed Assurance”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER’S PRAYER – Marissa Lombardo

INTROIT “Sanctuary”

CALL TO WORSHIP

In a world that too easily wounds and breaks,
we long for those who will heal and restore;
In a world that too easily divides and dissects,
we long for those who will unify and interweave;
In a world that too easily excludes and judges,
we long for those who will include and understand;
And in a world where your call, O God, can still be heard,
we long for the courage to answer,
and to be the ones we long for. Amen.



*HYMN 532 "Be Thou My Vision"

Be Thou My Vision 532

When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus. Mt. 17:8

Unison

1. Be thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all
 2. Be thou my Wis - dom, and thou my true Word, I ev - er
 3. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won, may I reach

else to me, save that thou art— thou my best thought, by
 with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou and thou on - ly,
 heav-en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what-

day or by night, wak-ing or sleep-ing, thy pres-ence my light.
 first in my heart, high King of heav - en, my Treas-ure thou art.
 ev - er be - fall, still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

WORDS: Traditional Irish hymn, c. 8th C.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1912

MUSIC: Traditional Irish melody; arr. Donald P. Hustad, 1973

Music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company

SLANE
10.10.10.10.

*RESPONSIVE READING

The image you have shaped within us,
mysteriously,
incredibly,
a reflection of your own Being.

Is best seen in the multiple refractions,
of our variegated humanity;
in the prismatic kaleidoscopes,
of our shared life,
our interconnectedness,
our being with each other.

We seek you, God, we long for you
and, thankfully, you are not far off
not hidden;

We need only remember
that you are most easily found
when we find you together,
and when we are humble enough to look
even in the faces we find most strange and unfamiliar.

*MEDITATION "Blessing and Praise" (3 times)

Blessing and praise be given,
Blessing and praise be given
To Christ who comes, who comes for us,
Comes in the name of the Lord.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

There are so many people of influence in our world, Jesus,
Those with loud voices and deep pockets,
those with large lives and wide networks.
But, where are the leaders?

As we struggle to keep our broken humanity
from splintering into countless irreparable fragments;

As we wrestle with our greed and arrogance,
our ignorance and short-sightedness,
our violence and coldness,
our carelessness and narcissism,
Where are the leaders?

Raise up for us, O God, leaders worthy of the name,
men and women who like Christ
are unafraid of challenge,
unashamed of serving,
and unattached to their own personal gain;
men and women who like Christ
call to the best within us,
and then lead the way.

And, in our own small spheres, God,
may we be the leaders we seek.
Amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Lord Jesus Christ” (3 times)

Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.
Let not my doubts and my darkness speak to me.
Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.
Let my heart always welcome your love.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS - Isaiah 54:8, 43-45; 44:22

DEACON’S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Jessica Kaercher

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 “I’ve Touched the Hem of His Garment”

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So, when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

MORNING MESSAGE “The Parable of the Weeds”



584 Have Thine Own Way, Lord

We are the clay, you are the potter . . . Is. 64:8

1. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Thou art the
 2. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Search me and
 3. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Wound-ed and
 4. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Hold o'er my

Pot - ter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me aft - er thy
 try me, Mas - ter, to - day! Whit - er than snow, Lord, wash me just
 wea - ry, help me, I pray! Pow - er— all pow - er— sure - ly is
 be - ing ab - so - lute sway! Fill with thy Spir - it till all shall

will, while I am wait - ing yield - ed and still.
 now, as in thy pres - ence hum - bly I bow.
 thine! Touch me and heal me, Sav - ior di - vine!
 see Christ on - ly, al - ways, liv - ing in me!

WORDS: Adelaide A. Pollard, 1902
 MUSIC: George C. Stebbins, 1907

ADELAIDE
 5.4.5.4.D.

*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
Mark Kaercher

Elder
Marissa Lombardo

Deacon
Jessica Kaercher

Liturgist
Tina Bottini

Soloist
Marv Helf

Sound Technician
Mike York

Video Technician
Cameron Kaercher

Welcome Host
Deborah Helf

Coffee Hour Host
Tina Bottini

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Sanctuary

Music & Words: John Thompson & Randy Scruggs
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Blessing and Praise

Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taizé
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Lord Jesus Christ

Text: Psalm 139; Taizé Community
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
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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

Sunday Worship via Zoom, use the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6880887155>

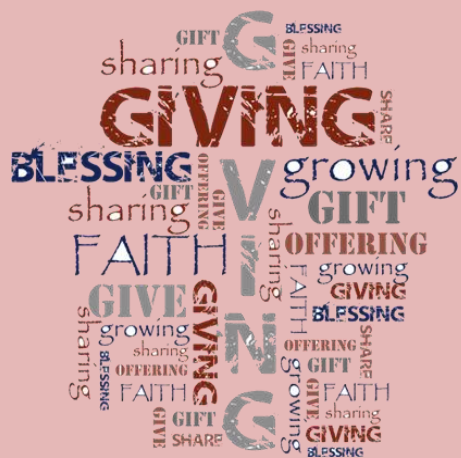
Meeting ID: 688 088 7155

By Phone: 1-646-558-8656

Online Church Bulletin Board

padlet.com/crccsarah.ChurchBulletinBoard

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 located near the exit.



PayPal:

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

Website:

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.

SEP 2020 000

MISSION OF THE MONTH

Name _____ Amount \$ _____

SEP 2020 000

RCA MEMBERSHIP CLASSIS ASSESSMENT

\$100.00 per active member
(\$25.00 per member per quarter)

# Active Members in household	1	2	3	4
Due each quarter	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Your voluntary giving is greatly appreciated.



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 Crosbourn
Marissa Lombardo
Linda Murphy

Deacons

Kevin Bottini
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls
Jessica Kaercher



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