



# *The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost*



July 11, 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**

Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable... Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals.

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

**PRELUDE** "Storm"

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE DAY

INTROIT “Empty Me”

### CALL TO WORSHIP

How easily we forget, God, that you are love;  
within your Triune self, love is shared and celebrated,  
and all of creation is filled with your loving presence.

Yet we too easily believe that love is limited and weak,  
that hatred, violence, and injustice  
are the most powerful forces in our universe;  
and we too easily forget that we are beloved,  
worthy of love and capable of loving greatly.

***Forgive us when we allow love to be hidden in our society,  
and when we justify our lack of love  
for one another and for ourselves.***

Thank you that your Divine Love never ceases,  
never runs out and is never overcome  
by evil or lovelessness.

Thank you for filling us with love,  
for empowering us to share love,  
and for showing us how to live in love.

***We praise you, God of Love,  
and we open ourselves to receive and experience  
your infinite love once again.***

***Amen.***

HYMN 50 – “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above” MIT FREUDEN ZART

***1 Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,  
the God of power, the God of love, the God of our salvation.  
My soul with comfort rich he fills, and every grief he gently stills:  
to God all praise and glory!***

***2 What God’s almighty power has made, in mercy he is keeping;  
by morning glow or evening shade his eye is never sleeping.  
And where he rules in kingly might, there all is just and all is  
right: to God all praise and glory!***

**3 We sought the Lord in our distress; O God, in mercy hear us.  
Our Savior saw our helplessness and came with peace to cheer us.  
For this we thank and praise the Lord, who is by one and all  
adored: to God all praise and glory!**

**4 Let all who name Christ's holy name give God the praise and  
glory. Let all who know his power proclaim aloud the wondrous  
story. Cast every idol from its throne; the Lord is God, and he  
alone: to God all praise and glory!**

## THE RESPONSIVE READING

In defiance of corruption and falsehood,  
we commit to truth and integrity  
**and we pray for honesty and uprightness  
to increase in our world.**

In defiance of apathy and hatred,  
we choose to be proactive in love  
**and we pray for understanding and peace  
to increase in our world.**

In defiance of skepticism and cynicism,  
we embrace the mystery of faith  
**and we pray for humility and wonder  
to increase in our world.**

In defiance of self-interest and human arrogance  
we celebrate God's salvation  
**and we pray for compassion and faith  
to increase in our world.**

In defiance of all that would oppose God's purpose among us  
we choose again to follow Christ,  
**and we continue to pray,  
not just now, but at all times.**

**Amen.**

TAIZÉ 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**

We live in a universe that was brought into being by Love,  
that is sustained by Love,  
and in which Love connects all things.  
But in our forgetfulness we have allowed Love to be hidden,  
we have allowed injustice to fill our world,  
and we have allowed fear to divide us  
from ourselves and one another,  
from the earth,  
and from the Divine Spirit of Love.

And so we pray that we may remember Love again;  
***May we remember to love ourselves***  
as the beloved children of God that we are;  
***May we remember to love one another***  
and acknowledge the Divine image within each other;  
***May we remember to love across the boundaries***  
of race and ethnicity,  
gender and sexuality,  
education and economic level,  
religion and ideology,  
nationality and political affiliation;  
***May we remember to love our earth***  
and all the creatures and organisms that live here;  
***May we remember to love the Divine presence***  
and the Life that fills it all.  
***And may we love enough that our presence  
may help to bring justice and healing  
wherever we may go.***

***Amen.***

## **TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Holy Spirit, Come to Us” (3 times)**

***Holy Spirit, come to us,  
Kindle in us the fire of your love  
Holy Spirit, come to us,  
Holy Spirit, come to us***

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

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE ~ Sarah Huiest**

**DEACON'S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD ~ Marv Helf**

**CALL TO OFFERING**

As the Lord has truly blessed us, we are called to be a blessing for the Lord.

*Let us give our time, talents and treasure to those in need, proclaiming the love of God in Christ Jesus.*

Let us offer our gifts to God.

**THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

**Website:**

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

**PayPal:**

[https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted\\_button\\_id=N67JS9D5MLMGS](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**

*Forgiving God, we come having heard your word of assurance; you will minister to us during our sojourn of faith. We shall not want, since you continue to watch over us; you will sustain us daily in response to our needs. Accept now our gifts, for they acknowledge your abundance; whatever we offer is due to your*

*grace. Take them and use them to your glory and honor as in Christ's name we pray. Amen.*

ELDER'S PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE ~ Ellen Buono

## 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

### Psalm 139:1-16

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.  
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.  
You search out my path and my lying down,  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord,  
you know it completely.  
You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.  
Where can I go from your spirit?  
Or where can I flee from your presence?  
If I ascend to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.  
If I take the wings of the morning  
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,  
even there your hand shall lead me,  
and your right hand shall hold me fast.  
If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and the light around me become night,"  
even the darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.  
For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.  
My frame was not hidden from you,  
when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.  
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.  
In your book were written all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.

### **Micah 6:8**

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

### **THE MORNING MESSAGE “Just Living In A Butterfly World”**

**HYMN 353 “For the Beauty of the Earth”**

**DIX**

**Verses 1-4 and 6**

*1 For the beauty of the earth,  
for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies,*

*Refrain:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise  
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*2 For the beauty of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree, and flower,  
sun and moon and stars of light, [Refrain]*

*3 For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony  
linking sense to sound and sight, [Refrain]*

*4 For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild, [Refrain]*

*5 For the Church that evermore  
lifteth holy hands above,  
offering up on every shore  
her pure sacrifice of love, [Refrain]*

*6 For thyself, best gift divine,  
to the world so freely given;  
for that great, great love of thine,  
peace on earth and joy in heaven, [Refrain]*

**BLESSING—PRAYER FOR GODSPEED:**

**A SERVICE OF FAREWELL**

**Barbara Berberich**

**BENEDICTION**

**THE FOURFOLD AMEN**

**STAINER**

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

Director of Music Ministries  
**Benjamin April**

Children's Message  
**Sarah Huiest**

Soloist  
**Brian Rhode**

Deacon of the Day  
**Marv Helf**

Elder of the Day  
**Ellen Buono**

Sound Technician  
**Jerry Kallner**

Video Technician  
**Lori Coté**



