

The First Sunday after the Epiphany



January 09, 2022

Order of Service
10:00 am

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

“A sense of humor... is needed armor.
Joy in one's heart and some laughter on one's lips
Is a sign that the person down deep has a pretty good grasp of life.”

– Hugh Sidney

PRELUDE “Prelude in C Major”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

Welcome
Announcements

THE ELDER'S PRAYER – Ana Crosbourne

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT “Come and Find the Quiet Center”

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

It's always been about the light with you, hasn't it, Jesus?

Magi, braving distance and desert to find you, and bewildered shepherds, compelled by an angel's invitation, allowed light to be their guide,

And it is still the light that calls us to you; the light of beauty that whispers its truth in surprising ways and places;

the light of compassion that kneels, and washes road-soiled, life-battered feet;

the light of joy that glows even in the darkness of grief and suffering;

the light that seeks to shine within us, and through us into the dark corners of our world.

It's always been about the light with you, Jesus;

and it's always about the light for us. Please lead us, now and always, out of darkness and into your marvelous light. Amen.

HYMN 612 “How Firm a Foundation”

*1 How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

*2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.*

**3 "When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.**

**4 "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee, I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.**

**5 "The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake!"**

THE RESPONSIVE READING - Annabel Macomber

Great God, Consciousness of the Universe
We ask you to show us where we fit
into this vast cosmos;
***show us what our lives mean,
and show us that we matter.***

Cosmic Consciousness,
We ask you to make us aware of
your Divine Intelligence,
in ourselves and in all things,
***so that we may honor our universe
and protect the earth which is our home.***

Great God, Consciousness of the Universe
Help us to see you in the
people around us,
even when we disagree
***so that we may find peace,
connection, and compassion
for all who share this planet
and this time in history.***

Cosmic Consciousness
Help us to prefer complex truths over simple lies,
to welcome the wonder of gazing at the stars,

to find joy in seeing what a small part of the cosmic whole we are,

and to learn to dive, regularly and deeply, into the Unknown. Amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “The Lord Is My Light” (3 times)

***The Lord is my light, my light and salvation:
in God I trust, in God I trust.***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God we long to know who we are
and where we fit into this vast and magnificent universe;

We long to know that our lives matter and have meaning.

But we have not taken the time to look to the stars;

We have not recognized the Cosmic Consciousness that fills our universe and flows through all things;

And we have not realized that our own

thinking, feeling, seeing, and questioning mind

is just one manifestation of the Divine Consciousness.

Forgive us our blindness and for making you so small;

We praise and celebrate you, Divine Consciousness.

***for your infinite complexity,
your vast intelligence, and your presence
in every spark of consciousness in our cosmos.***

May we always remember to look to the stars,

and to be overwhelmed by their witness to your greatness,

even as we are pointed back to our earth, to see you revealed in the ordinary world around us.

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.***

THE ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

DEACON’S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – 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.

ANTHEM "We Three Kings of Orient Are"

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

THE MORNING MESSAGE "The Three Wise Ones"

Narrator - Sarah Huiest
Melchior - Luke Pickett
Gaspar - Corinna Reynolds
Balthazar - Stella Reynolds

HYMN 758 "Baptized in Water"

*1 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;
heirs of salvation,
trusting his promise,
faithfully now God's praise we sing.*

*2 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ, our King;
one with his rising,
freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God's praise we sing.*

*3 Baptized in water,
sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
born of one Father,
we are his children,
joyfully now God's praise we sing.*

BENEDICTION

THE IRISH BLESSING

*May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be ever at your back,
May the sunshine 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 Leader
Sarah Huiest

Director of Music Ministries
Benjamin April

Soloists
Lisa McGee

Choir
Tina-Marie Bottini
Michelle Braungard
Maggie George
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls
Pam Izzo
Marissa Lombardo
Lisa McGee

Elder of the Day
Ana Crosbourne

Deacon of the Day
Ellen Buono

Sound Technician
John Lombardo

Video Technician
Lori Coté

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“Prelude in C Major”
by Johann Sebastian Bach
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Come and Find the Quiet Center
Words: Shirley Erena Murray
Music: B.F. White
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How Firm a Foundation
Words: Rippon’s Selection of Hymns ,1787
Music: Traditional American melody.
Funk’s Genuine Church Music, 1832
The Worshipping Church Hymn
Hymn 612
Public Domain

The Lord Is My Light
Text: Psalm 139; Taizé Community
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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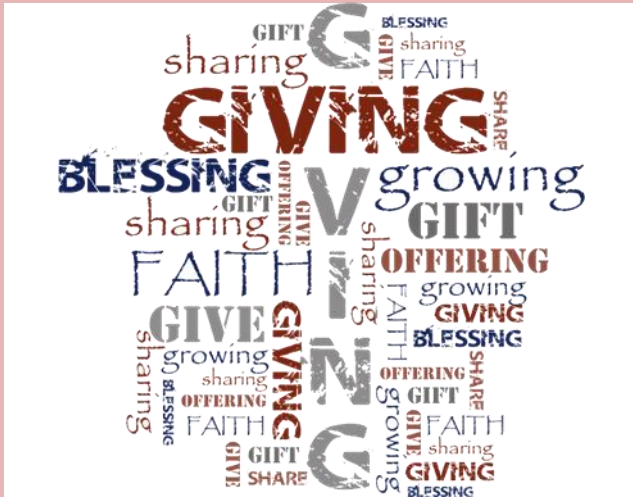
Lord Jesus Christ
Text: Psalm 139; Taizé Community
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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We Three Kings of Orient Are
by John H Hopkins, Jr.
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Baptized in Water
Words: Michael Saward, 1981
Music: Traditional Gaelic melody; harm. David
Evans, 1927
The Worshipping Church Hymn
Hymn 758
Used by Permission. CCLI License # 21149226

The Irish Blessing
Words: Traditional
Music: Benjamin April
@ 2021 Benjamin April
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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

GENERAL NOTICES

Today, Sunday School for children in grades 3-6 meets in the Gathering Room from 9:00 to 9:45 am.

Tuesday, January 11

The Gathering Zoom Devotions - 4:00 to 4:30 pm

Thursday, January 13

The Gathering Zoom Devotions - 6:30 to 7:00 pm

The Wired Word Bible Study - 7:00-8:00pm

Colorado Fire Relief Mission

The most destructive fires in Colorado's history have burned hundreds of homes to the ground. Families have lost everything. Tens of thousands of people were forced to evacuate within minutes as 110 MPH winds and extremely dry conditions fueled the fires' spread across thousands of acres, completely destroying families' homes, including an entire 350-home subdivision.

Together Rising is standing with the families devastated by this horrific tragedy.

You can donate by sending a check to the church, made out to Community Reformed Church of Colonie or by using this link, <https://togetherrising.org/colorado-fires/>

Men's Group - Due to the rise in local Covid cases, the Men's Group dinner scheduled for January 26th will be postponed until a later date.

Sunday School Teacher - We are in need of a Sunday school teacher for children in grades 3-6. There is a curriculum for you to follow. If interested, please speak to Sarah Huiest (crccsarah@gmail.com).

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

COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH OF COLONIE STAFF AND CONSISTORY

STAFF E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Rev. Bruce K. Cornwell, Pastor
BruceKCornwell@gmail.com

Ben April, Director of Music
benapril27@gmail.com

**Sarah Huiest, Youth
Coordinator &
Communication/Media Coordinator**
crccsarah@gmail.com

**Lori Coté
Church Office &
Video Technician**
crclori@gmail.com

CONSISTORY

Elders

Karl Coté
Ana Crosbourne
Marissa Lombardo
Linda Murphy

Deacons

Kevin Bottini
Ellen Buono
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls



Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

Sandy Cornwell
crccsandy@gmail.com
Karen Latta
kmlatta@nycap.rr.com

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday - Isaiah 62:1-5
Tuesday - Psalm 36:5-10
Wednesday - 1 Corinthians 12:1-3
Thursday - 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
Friday - John 2:1-5
Saturday - John 2:6-11
Sunday - Second Sunday after Epiphany

Household Prayer: Morning

Glorious God,
each day provides opportunity
to awaken to the radiance of your presence,
and to welcome your blessing into my life.
How often I forget that I am your home!
Help me to draw more closely to you,
that I may manifest your love more deeply in the world.
May every bright place and darkened corner
grow ever more luminous as I bear your light this day. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Holy Jesus,
I thank you for sharing your life with me today.
As darkness comes and blankets the earth,
be with all who suffer from sickness,
hunger, or lack of shelter.
Kindle in them the warmth of your presence,
and surround them with your steadfast care.
I am grateful for the blessings of this day.
And in the light of your love I rest this night. Amen.



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Website - www.communityreformedchurch
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