



The Second Sunday After Christmas



January 2, 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

"All you need is love
All you need is love
All you need is love, love
Love is all you need"

~ John Lennon

PRELUDE "Come as You Are"

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

Welcome
Announcements

THE ELDER'S PRAYER – Marissa Lombardo

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT “Change My Heart, O God”

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

It The old song said it, Jesus:
What the world needs is love.
But, when we speak of love,
do we mean the same thing that you do?

***the infinitely generous,
self-sacrificial,
water-into-wine,***

do-whatever-it-takes-to-bring-life-to-others kind of love?

because this is the love we need,

the love the world is dying for.

Teach us this love, Jesus, please;

***As those who follow you,
show us how to follow your extravagance in love.***

Teach us, when what others need for joy and life has run out,

to use our plenty to sustain them;

Teach us, when others face ridicule or injustice,

to use our influence to protect them;

Teach us, when others despair or die because of cruelty or conflict,

to use our presence to bring them hope and healing;

Teach us to recognize what you, in your extravagant love
have given us,

and to use these gifts

to love those around us extravagantly. Amen.

HYMN "On This Day of Celebration"

*On this day of celebration, at this time when hopes are new,
God, we gather as your people, called to put our trust in you.
You have made the world we live in; you have worked through
history.*

In your plan we find our purpose, in your love, our unity.

*Long ago, you sent our Savior to this world in deep despair.
In your Word made flesh you came, our life to know, our sins to
bear.*

*Christ has died and Christ is risen! At this new year we proclaim:
Yesterday, today, forever-- Jesus Christ is still the same!*

*Through two thousand years of changes, through these passing
centuries,
You have called your church to witness to Christ's love that claims
and frees.*

*Each new generation hears you, each must find a fresh new way
To make known the life you offer, to the people in their day.*

*On this day, we pause and wonder what the future years will
bring,
Yet we know you clothe each flower and you make each sparrow
sing.*

*How much more will you protect us with your guiding, caring
hand!*

By your Spirit, lead us boldly in the future you have planned.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

There is so much we miss
as we look through our eyes
*trained to see only the familiar
the expected
the safe.*

Thank you, God, that you don't see this way
you look at each of us
*woman and man
old and young*

*rich and poor
gay and straight
and you love what you see.*

Even in the shadows of our shame and sin,
even in the cold valleys of our grief and regret
*You see us – not just as we are
but as we can be – as you made us to be.*

You see the glory and the giftedness and the possibility
the nobility and the divine likeness
which you placed there.

*Thank you for how you see us, God.
Please give us new eyes
to see ourselves and others
the way you do. Amen.*

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Jesus, Remember Me” (3 times)

*Jesus, remember me
when you come into your Kingdom.
Jesus, remember me
when you come into your Kingdom.*

THE ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS ~ based on Psalm 91:14-15

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – Mark Kaercher

DEACON’S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Marv Helf

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 “Deep River”

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 12:28-34

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,' —this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God."

THE MORNING MESSAGE "The Two Lists"

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Christmas Communion

THE CALL TO COMMUNION

We have one Lord, one God, one Savior.

The Holy Spirit makes Christ real to us, binding us in one, as we share him together.

This is something we do eagerly.

Christ welcomes us here.

This is something we do seriously.

For this is the moment of greatest intimacy when we take the symbols of the body and blood of the risen Lord.

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the presence of the Lord."

A CHRISTMAS CONFESSION OF FAITH "What Child is This?" GREENSLEEVES

*What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?*

*I believe that Jesus Christ - true God, son of the Father from
eternity, and true man, born of the Virgin Mary - is my Lord.*

*This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.*

*At great cost He has saved and redeemed me, a lost and
condemned person. He has freed me from sin, death, and the
power of the devil.*

*Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
the silent word is pleading.*

*Not with silver or gold, but with His holy and precious blood and
His innocent suffering and death.*

*Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the word made flesh,
the babe, the son of Mary.*

*All this He has done that I might be His own, live under Him in His
kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence,
and blessedness,*

*So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come, peasant, king, to own Him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone Him.*

Just as He is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.

*Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary.*

This is most certainly true.

PEACE

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts since as members of one body you were called to peace. The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE

It is right and good to give you thanks, Almighty God. You have given us the Word made flesh, and through our baptism we are blessed to share in the healing and reconciling love of Christ. Therefore, in all times and places your people proclaim your glory in unending praise:

A HYMN OF PRAISE “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

*Hark! The Herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th’ angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem.”
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.”*

THE MEANING OF THE SACRAMENT

The Holy Supper which we are about to celebrate is a feast of remembrance, of communion, and of hope: we remember with joy the grace by which God created all things and made us in God's own image.

We rejoice that God called a people in covenant to be a light to the nations.

Yet we rebelled against God's will.

In spite of the prophets and pastors sent forth to us, we continued to break the covenant.

In the fullness of time, God sent God's only Son to save us.

Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the favored one, Mary, sharing our life, Christ reconciled us to God's love.

At the Jordan, God's Spirit descended upon Him, anointing Him to preach the good news of God's reign.

He healed the sick and fed the hungry, manifesting the power of God's compassion.

He sought out the lost and broke bread with sinners, witnessing the fullness of God's grace.

We beheld His glory.

On the night before He died for us, Jesus broke bread and shared the cup with His disciples.

After the meal our Lord was arrested, abandoned by His followers and beaten.

He stood trial and was put to death on a cross.

Having emptied himself in the form of a servant, and being obedient even to death, He was raised from the dead and exalted as Lord of heaven and earth.

Through him God bestows the gift of the Spirit, uniting the church, empowering its mission and leading us into the new creation God has promised.

By His death, resurrection and ascension, Jesus Christ has obtained for us the life-giving Spirit who unites us all in one

body. We therefore receive this Supper in true and unconditional love.

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Grant that in praise and thanksgiving we may be a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable in your sight, that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Christ has died!
Christ is Risen!
Christ will come again!*

PREPARING OUR HEARTS “Angels We Have Heard On High”

GLORIA

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of hosts, all praise be given!
All your glory fills the earth,
all your power fills the heavens!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Blessed is the King who came,
bringing love and light divine!
Blessed is the King who comes
in the word, the bread, the wine!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

COMMUNION

THE PROMISE “Away in the Manger”

AWAY IN A MANGER

*Lord, now in your mercy your servants release
as your word as promised. Oh, grant us your peace.
Our eyes your salvation and mercy behold,
prepared for the nations, as prophets foretold.*

*A light to the gentiles, by whom they now see
the glory of Isr'el, the promised one He
who lives now and ever, the heaven's bright sun,
with Father and Spirit eternally one.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*Since, dear God in this place at this table, we have touched, we
have tasted, we have heard and we have seen the signs of your
love for us, grant that we may go away from this house filled with
our love for you and overflowing with your love for those who are
around us and who share our lives. We pray in the name of Jesus
Christ our Savior. Amen.*

THE PARTING BLESSING "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

ST. LOUIS

*The Lord now bless and keep you all
And make God's face to shine;
Lift up God's face with shining grace
And grant you peace divine.*

*To Father, Son and Spirit,
Eternal three in one,
All glory be eternally.
Amen! So be it done!*

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.*

Minister of Word and Sacrament
Rev. Bruce K. Cornwell

Director of Music Ministries
Benjamin April

Soloists
Benjamin April

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

Elder of the Day
Marissa Lombardo

Deacon of the Day
Marv Helf

Children's Message
Mark Kaercher

Sound Technician
John Lombardo

Video Technician
Alex Huiest

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Come As You Are

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Change My Heart, O God

Words & Music: Eddie Espinosa
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This is the Threefold Truth

Words: Fed Pratt Green, 1980
Music: Jack Schrader, 1980
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Hymn 781
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Angels We Have Heard on High

Words: Traditional French carol, 18th C.;
Tr. Crown of Jesus Music, 1862
Music: Traditional French melody 18th C;
Edward S Barnes 1937
© 1979, 1990 Hope Publishing Company
The Worshipping Church Hymn
Hymn 152

On This Day of Celebration

Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824 ("Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee")

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Jesus, Remember Me

Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taizé

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Deep River

Traditional Spiritual, arranged by Moses Hogan © 2000 Hal Leonard Corporation. Public Domain

What Child Is This?

Words: William C. Dix, c. 1865 Music: Traditional English melody, 16th C.; harm. John Strainer, 1871 The Worshipping Church Hymn Hymn 150 Used by Permission. CCLI License # 21149226

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt. Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; Adapt. William H. Cummings, 1856 The Worshipping Church Hymn Hymn 171 Public Domain

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Away In A Manger

Words; Anonymous, 1885, st. 3, 1892, alt Music: attr. James R. Murray, 1887 The Worshipping Church Hymn Hymn 147 Public Domain

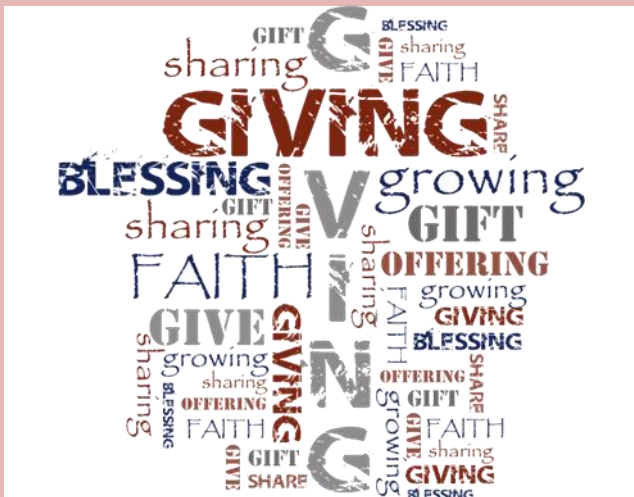
O Little Town of Bethlehem

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The Irish Blessing

Words: Traditional Music: Benjamin April @ 2021 Benjamin April Used by Permission. Benjamin April

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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.

Gathering Zoom

The Gathering Zoom devotions will not be taking place on December 23 – January 6th. They will be resume on January 11th.

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).

Aid for Tornado Relief – We will be collecting donations to send to Direct Relief. Direct Relief supports nonprofit health centers and charitable clinics in the affected area on an ongoing basis. They are mobilizing relief for tornado-damaged communities and are coordinating assistance for communities in multiple states affected by the deadly storms. You may donate with a check payable to CRCC with "Direct Relief" in the memo, envelope provided in your bulletin, or you may mail a check to the Church. To donate directly via this link: https://secure.directrelief.org/site/Donation2?df_id=2924&mfc_pref=T&2924.donation=form1

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

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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 - Psalm 72:1-7
Tuesday - Ecclesiastes 3:1-13
Wednesday - Psalm 72:10-14
Thursday - Ephesians 3:1-6
Friday - Ephesians 3:7-12
Saturday - Matthew 2:1-12
Sunday - Epiphany of the Lord

Household Prayer: Morning

Lord Jesus, as you listened to your teachers,
may I also, this day, listen to others with care and grace,
and receive whatever wisdom they may offer. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Loving God,
you know every struggle I have faced this day:
let me sleep in peace,
confident in your great love in Jesus Christ. Amen.



**701 Sand Creek Road, Colonie, NY 12205
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