



The Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 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

"People who pray for miracles usually don't get miracles. But people who pray for courage, for strength to bear the unbearable, for the grace to remember what they have left instead of what they have lost, very often find their prayers answered. Their prayers help them tap hidden reserves of faith and courage that were not available to them before."

~ Rabbi Harold S. Kushner

PRELUDE "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER'S PRAYER - Karl Coté

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE LENTEN CANDLES

INTROIT “Come and Find the Quiet Center”

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Keep us from our self-imposed blindness, Jesus;
*hold our heads firmly in your grasp so we cannot look away
from those who are broken;*
pull us forward so that we cannot avoid
encountering those who are suffering;
break our hearts, so that we cannot resist
the tears of those who grieve;

Help us, Jesus, to be always seeing;
and seeing, help us to find a way
*to act in mercy toward the hurting,
to act in defiance of the corrupt,
and to act in hope for the healing of our world. Amen.*

*HYMN 60 “Great is Thy Faithfulness”

*1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.*

Refrain:

*Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided--
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

*2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. [Refrain]*

***3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]***

***THE RESPONSIVE READING**

There is no shortage of ways that we can help to heal our world, Lord;
***we just need the willingness to see them
and the courage to act.***

So, we pray for Your inspiration and strength,
***to use the abilities and resources we have
for the sake of those who need them.***

We pray for those of us who have plenty –
Plenty of wealth that can lift some out of poverty,
Plenty of power that can influence the world toward justice and equity,
***Plenty of relationships that can connect those who can help
each other,***
Plenty of creativity that can inspire and challenge through new ideas
and new visions,
***Plenty of time that can be used to feed the hungry,
transport the weary,
or befriend the lonely.***

And we pray for all who need ordinary, gifted people
***to ease their grief, their pain, their trauma, their need and
their fear.***

Do not let us rest, Lord, until we have found a way
***to help as we may,
for the cause of Christ. Amen.***

***TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Blessing & 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

It's not wrong to ask where you are, God,
when innocent children go hungry,
or are abducted
or die of curable diseases,
or are forced to fight in adult wars;

It's not wrong to question and doubt,
to shake our fists and cry in grief and anger;

No, what would be wrong would be to just accept this
as somehow "your will",
it would be wrong to justify it
to explain it,
to be unmoved by it,
to deny it;

But it would be equally wrong to use this as evidence
that you don't exist or don't care,
to leave ourselves and our vulnerable ones
at the mercy of our cynicism,
our unbelief,
our apathy;

And so we come, and we offer our worship,
through our tears;
We choose to praise you as a gracious and merciful God
through our tears;
We choose to proclaim your justice and salvation
through our tears;
And as we do, we choose to believe that
wherever there is suffering and injustice,
your tears flow and your heart is broken,
you cry in grief and shake in anger;
And it is your mercy and compassion that drives us,
and others like us
to work for healing and justice
through the pain and burden of our tears. Amen

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “The Kingdom of God” (3 times)

*The Kingdom of God is justice and peace
And joy in the Holy Spirit.
Come, Lord, and open in us
the gates of your kingdom.*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE ~ 1 Peter 2:9-10

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – Sarah Huiest

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 “Mighty to Save”

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way, they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still, I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year,

until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.”

THE MORNING MESSAGE “Life Happens”

*HYMN “All Who Hunger”

*All who hunger, gather gladly;
Holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wand’ring.
Here in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness,
All around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal,
taste and see that God is good.*

*All who hunger, never strangers,
Seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming.
Here in joy we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered,
In communion’s love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.*

*All who hunger, sing together;
Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing.
Here in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table
Live their lives in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.*

*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

Soloist
Brian Rhode

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

Elder of the Day/Liturgist of the Day
Karl Coté

Deacon of the Day
Ellen Buono

Children's Message
Sarah Huiest

Sound Technician
John Lombardo

Video Technician
Lori Coté

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

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Great is Their Faithfulness

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Blessing & Praise

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The Kingdom of God

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Mighty to Save

Words & Music: Ben Fielding & Reuben Morgan

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All Who Hunger

Words: Sylvia G Dunstan

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The Irish Blessing

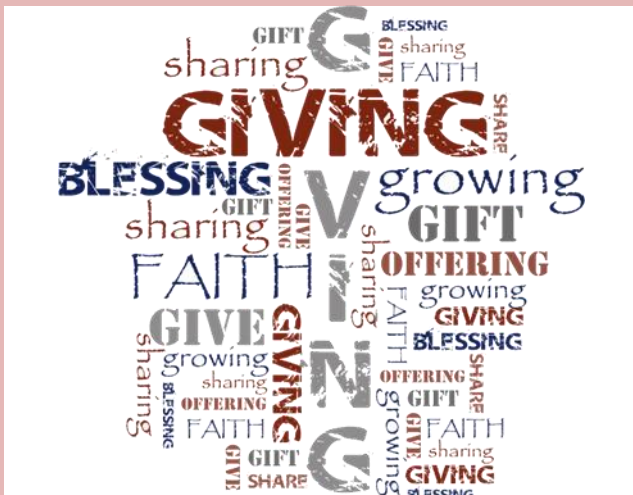
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Offerings and gifts to the church may be submitted online via PayPal (link found below or on our website), by mailed check, by direct bank payment or by placing them in the offering box located near the exit.



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, March 22

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

Tuesday, March 22

Book Group Meeting, 6-8PM, at the church. The book we will be discussing is "The Lincoln Highway" written by Amor Towles. The book we will be reading for the month of April is "The Four Winds" by Kristen Hannah. Weather permitting we will be meeting at the church and also on Zoom. In the case of bad weather, we will be fully on Zoom. All are welcome.

Contact Karen Reynolds. kreynolds150@gmail.com

Thursday, March 24

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

Friday, March 25

Al-Anon - 7:30-8:30 pm meets in the Gathering Room.

The March Mission of the Month is the City Mission of Schenectady. "City Mission of Schenectady, founded in 1906, is dedicated to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed.

Our ministries are seeking to comprehensively meet the needs of the poor in a manner that dignifies and strengthens the individual, the family, and the community." They provide food, shelter, clothing, employment assistance, and emotional/behavioral support.

You can support the City Mission by utilizing your yellow "Mission of the Month" offering envelope for March, through written check made out to CRCC with "March Mission of the Month" written in the memo, or by direct donation on their web site:

<https://www.citymission.org/donate/> .

Camp Fowler - It's not too early to plan for summer 2022. If any children are interested in attending Camp Fowler this summer, there are scholarships available. Contact Doris Neese at 518-456-6239 for further information.



The Lenten Cross which hangs behind the pulpit
was created by our worshippers
who participated in the Ash Wednesday service.
On each slip of folded paper nailed to this cross
we have privately acknowledged our separation from God.
This cross is fashioned from a Christmas tree trunk symbolizing
both the birth and death of our Lord.



Service of Healing

Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man.

Mark 1:41
Sunday, March 27
10 AM

This special Lenten worship service calls upon
Our Lord who is the Great Physician
to touch us with his healing hand and anoint us with his soothing oil.

For those worshipping in person, there will be anointing with oil in the
midst of our ordained elders and pastor.

For those worshipping at home,
if you would like to be prayed for during this service,
please send your name to

Bruce at brucekcornwell@gmail.com or **Sandy** at crccsandy@gmail.com .
Only your name, no personal details, will be shared with the worshippers.



Easter Flowers

All plants are \$10 each.

Because of supply limitations, orders must be submitted by
MARCH 30

- _____ Lily
- _____ Gerbera Daisy
- _____ Mum
- _____ Tulip
- _____ Hyacinth
- _____ Daffodils
- _____ Kalanchoe

Given By: _____

In Honor Of: _____

In Memory Of: _____

Total number of plants: _____

Total amount enclosed: _____

**Flowers supplied by George's Market and Nursery.
Checks should be made payable to CRCC.**



Community Reformed Church
701 Sand Creek Road, Colonie NY 12205
crcclori@gmail.com
518-869-5589 www.communityreformedchurch.com

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

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 - Joshua 5:9-12
Tuesday - Psalm 32:1-5
Wednesday - Psalm 32:6-11
Thursday - 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Friday - Luke 15:1-3, 11-24
Saturday - Luke 15:25-32
Sunday Fourth Sunday in Lent

Household Prayer: Morning

Gracious God,
this new day carries the potential for growth and new life.
Help me to attend to those things in me
that need care and attention.
Sow your word in me
that I may grow in faithfulness and understanding.
Shake me out of dull routines,
so that I may take part in the good news
you continue to tell urgently and passionately.
In Christ's name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

As I lie down this night in the shadow of your wings,
God of my life,
I know that you will be with me
even as you have helped me through this day.
Whether I am weary from the day,
or whether the day has been a rich feast of blessings,
I give thanks for your power and glory,
which are present in every circumstance.
As I give myself over to rest and sleep,
I remember that your steadfast love is better than life.
So, I pray, surround me with your love tonight and always.
In the peace of Christ I pray. Amen.



**701 Sand Creek Road, Colonie, NY 12205
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