

***Sunday,
July 9, 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

Rest is not idleness,
and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day,
listening to the murmur of the water,
or watching the clouds float across the sky,
is by no means a waste of time.
— John Lubbock

PRELUDE “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER'S PRAYER – Ana Crosbourn

INTROIT “How Shall I Come Before the Lord”

CALL TO WORSHIP

We celebrate the goodness of grace
that liberates us from oppression when dark forces work to bind us.

We celebrate the goodness of grace
that provides for us a refuge when destructive people persecute us.

We celebrate the goodness of grace
that proclaims our belonging in God's family when rigid legalists would exclude us.

We celebrate the goodness of grace
which keeps us from temptation, delivers us from evil, and leads us into God's vibrant, abundant life.

Let us worship God.



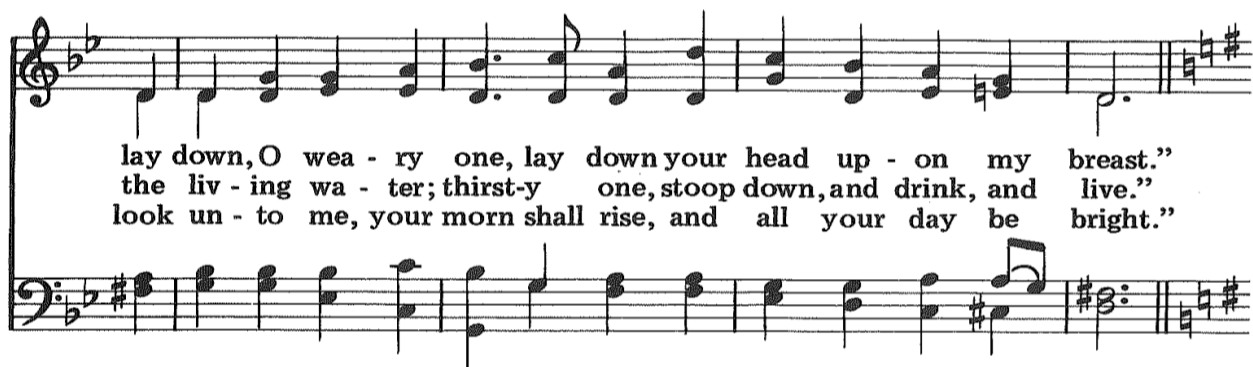
*HYMN 506 "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say 506

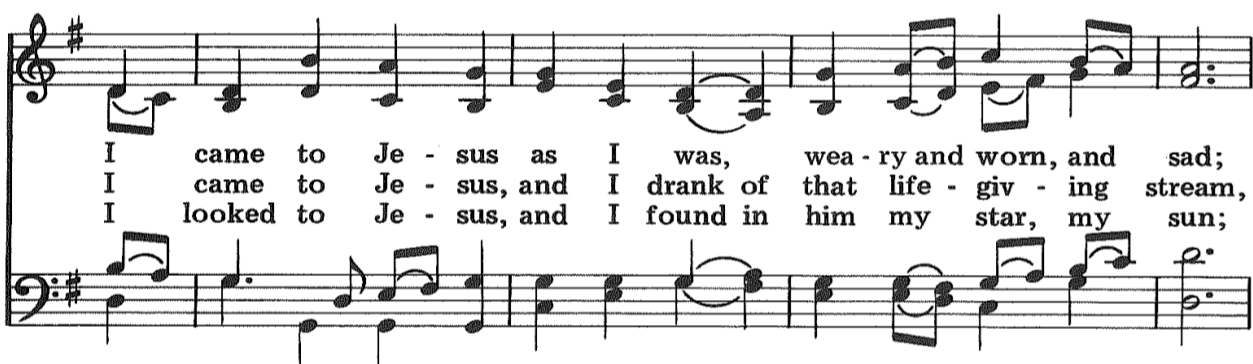
"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Mt. 11:28



1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;
2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give
3. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light;



lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down your head up - on my breast."
the liv - ing wa - ter; thirst-y one, stoop down, and drink, and live."
look un - to me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, wea - ry and worn, and sad;
I came to Je - sus, and I drank of that life - giv - ing stream,
I looked to Je - sus, and I found in him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing place, and he has made me glad.
my thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, and now I live in him.
and in that Light of life I'll walk, till trav - eling days are done.

WORDS: Horatius Bonar, 1846
MUSIC: John B. Dykes, 1868

VOX DILECTI
C.M.D.

*RESPONSIVE READING

Glorious the grace that refuses to wait until we deserve or earn it;

***Glorious the grace that refuses to be rejected and
that remains always available, always inviting;***

Glorious the grace that refuses to be confined to places of privilege or
dignity, civility, or decency.

Glorious the grace that reaches where law cannot go,

Glorious the grace that embraces the comfortable and the
untouchable,

***Glorious the grace that is equally at home in palaces and
shacks,***

Glorious the grace that is undiminished and undeterred

***by the variety of need, the diversity of the needy, or the
myriad languages in which its message must be spoken.***

Jesus, Grace-Giver, we are in awe of you

***and the grace which you offer to all whoever we may be.
Amen.***

*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

As, in prayer, we share our longings for our world.

We seek your grace, O God;

When we define the good by law and ignore mercy and justice

Give us your grace.

When we turn a blind eye to those oppressed by evil and fail to loosen
their chains

Give us your grace.

When we allow powerful and wealthy people to persecute, abuse or
ignore the weak and poor

Give us your grace.

Teach us, O God, to see good and evil through your gracious, liberating eyes;

And give us the grace to follow you in paths of peace-making, freedom-bringing, and evil-overcoming. In Christ's name. 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

With everlasting love I will have compassion on you, says the Lord your Redeemer. I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins. Return to me, for I have redeemed you.

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.***

SOLO “Like a River Glorious”

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

“But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

MORNING MESSAGE “Loosen Your Bow”



*HYMN 543 "Christ Beside Me"

Christ Beside Me 543

Unison *Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us . . . ? Lk. 24:32*

1. Christ be - side me, Christ be - fore me, Christ be -
 2. Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a -
 3. Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me, Christ be on
 4. Christ be - side me, Christ be - fore me, Christ be -

hind me— king of my heart; Christ with - in me,
 round me— shield in the strife; Christ in my sleep - ing,
 all tongues tell - ing of me; Christ be the vi - sion
 hind me— king of my heart; Christ with - in me,

Christ be - low me, Christ a - bove me— nev - er to part.
 Christ in my sit - ting, Christ in my ris - ing— light of my life.
 in eyes that see me, in ears that hear me Christ ev - er be.
 Christ be - low me, Christ a - bove me— nev - er to part.

WORDS: Adapt. James Quinn, 1969, alt.; from *St. Patrick's Breastplate*

MUSIC: Traditional Gaelic melody; arr. David Evans, 1927

BUNESSAN
5.5.5.4.D.

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***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 Leader
Sarah Huiest

Elder
Ana Crosbourne

Deacon
Marv Helf

Liturgist
Tina Bottini

Soloist
Ben April

Sound Technician
Jerry Kallner

Video Technician
Cameron Kaercher

Welcome Host
Lou Ann Connelly

Coffee Hour Host
Pam Izzo

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Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Music: William B. Bradbury, arr. John Carter

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The Lord is My Light

Text: Psalm 139; Taizé Community

Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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Holy Spirit Come to Us

Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taizé

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Like a River Glorious

Music: James Mountain, arr. Bob Walters

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Christ Beside Me

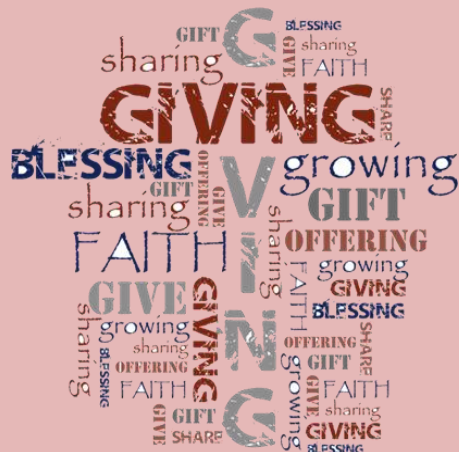
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Traditional Scots Gaelic melody

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www.communityreformedchurch.com

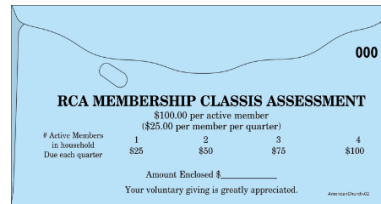
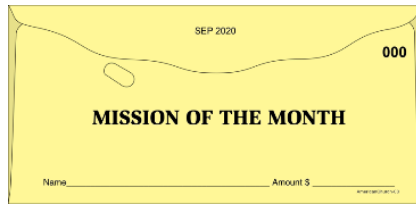
Mailing Address:

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.



Online Church Bulletin Board

padlet.com/crccsarah.ChurchBulletinBoard

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



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

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CONSISTORY

Elders

Karl Coté
Ana Crosbourne
Marissa Lombardo
Linda Murphy

Deacons

Kevin Bottini
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls
Jessica Kaercher



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