



The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 4, 2024

Order of Service – 10:00 am

Please join in the worship liturgy by reading the sections in ***bold italics***.

* - 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

“Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in his wonderful face.
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
in the light of his glory and grace.”

Helen H. Lennel

This is Communion Sunday. If you wish to receive gluten free bread, please inform the elder or the pastor before the Service begins)

PRELUDE “Let Us Break Bread Together”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER’S PRAYER – Ana Crosbroune

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT “Holy Ground”

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to worship God in our need,
Bringing with us the needs of the whole world.

We come to God, who comes to us in Jesus Christ,
And He knows by experience what our human life is like.

We come with our faith and with our questions and with our doubts,
And with our hopes and our fears.

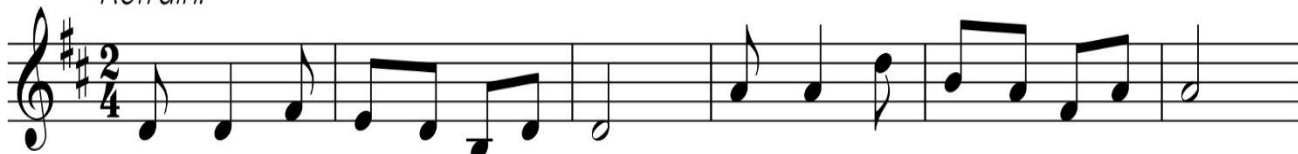
We come as we are because it is God who invites us to come,
***And God has promised never to turn us away,
but always to welcome us with open arms.***

And so, we come.
And so, we are welcomed and blessed.



* HYMN "Somebody's Knocking at Your Door" (verses 2-4)

Refrain:



Some-bod - y's knock-in' at your door; some-bod - y's knock-in' at your door;



O___ sin-ner, why don't you an- swer? Some bod-y's knock-in' at your door.____

Leader:

Congregation:



Knocks	like___	Je - sus	Some-bod - y's knock-in' at your door;
Can't	you___	hear him?	
Je - sus___	calls	you.	



Knocks	like___	Je - sus	some-bod - y's knock-in' at your door;
Can't	you___	hear him?	
Je - sus___	calls	you.	



O___ sin-ner, why don't you an- swer? Some-bod-y's knock-in' at your door.____

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, O Lord, for everything that spoils our home life with others:

For the moodiness and irritability that makes us difficult to live with, for the insensitivity that makes us careless to the feelings of others, for the selfishness that makes life harder for others, forgive us, Lord.

Forgive us, O Lord, for everything that spoils our witness for you:

When we deny with our lives what we profess with our lips, when what we see around us is met with apathy by us, when we walk away in frustration or anger, forgive us, Lord.

Grant that at the foot of the cross we may discover how to let go what we often want to keep and experience the freedom from the bondage that wants to keep hold on us.

Strengthen us by your Spirit that in the days to come we may live more boldly and confidently with Jesus Christ who walks with us. Amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Wait for the Lord” (3 times)

***Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.***

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear this good news from God: “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” When we were weak and unable to change ourselves because of sin, God’s power saved us.

When we were separated from God and unable to find our way back, God searched for us and found us, bringing us home in peace and love. Believe this for it is good news.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – Sarah Huiest

DEACON’S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Kevin Ingalls

ANTHEM “Freedom is Coming”

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is God who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when God blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? God who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because God is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God”? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. God does not faint or grow weary; God’s understanding is unsearchable. God gives power to the faint and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And

Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

This is the Word of The Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

THE MORNING MESSAGE "Don't Get Distracted"

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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".*

*APOSTLE'S CREED

*I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and
earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was
conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the
Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day
He rose again. He ascended into Heaven, and is seated on the
right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the
living and the dead.*

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

***PEACE**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts since as members of one body you were called to peace (Colossians 3:15). The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Lift up your hearts.

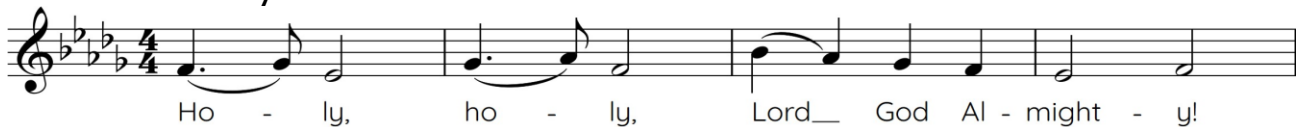
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

***THE PREFACE**

***HYMN "Holy Lord"**



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 you created all things and made us in your own image.

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

Yet we rebelled against your will.

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

In the fullness of time, you sent your only Son to save us.

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

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

He healed the sick and fed the hungry, manifesting the power of your compassion.

He sought out the lost and broke bread with sinners, witnessing the fullness of your 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 you bestow the gift of your Spirit, uniting your church, empowering its mission and leading us into the new creation you have 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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE



Come to the feast of the reign of God; we are in-vit - ed to share!__



Make no ex-cus-es, that you can't at-tend, sim-ply come, for your fam-ily is here!__

For around this table, you will find your family.



Come not be-cause you have to,____ come not to prove you are saved,



come not to speak, or to hear what's ex - pect - ed, have



cour - age to fol - low wher - ev - er Christ leads!

And be open to the ways the Spirit moves among you.



Come to the feast__ of the reign__ of God;__



we are in - vit - ed to share!__ Bring all your sor - rows and



all of your_ joy; the bro - ken are all__ wel-come here!__

*For this is the feast of the reign of God, where the
broken are molded into a Beloved Community.*

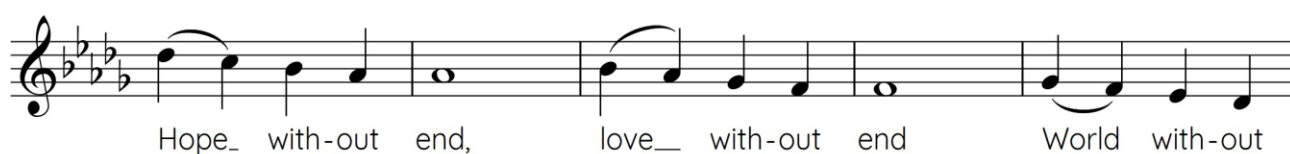


COMMUNION PRAYER

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:



"GLORY TO BE ALMIGHTY GOD"

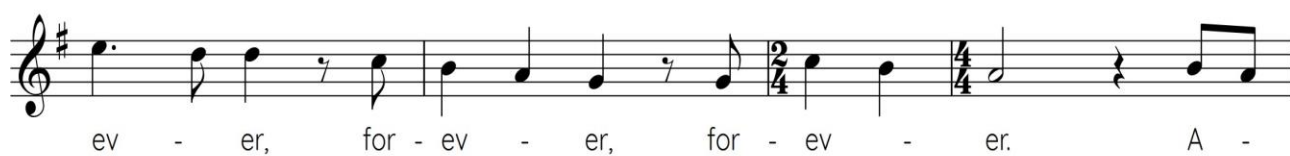
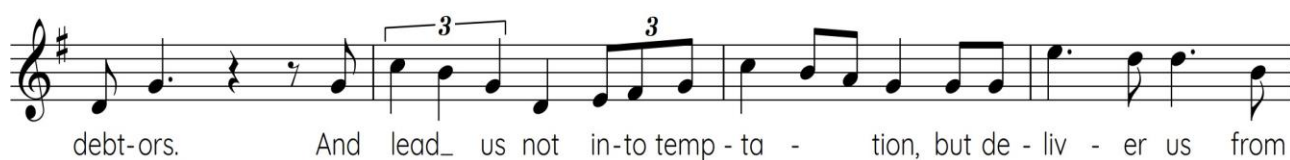
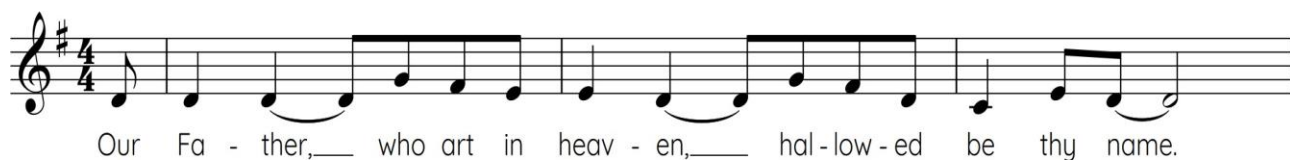


COMMUNION

THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

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.

*HYMN "The Lord's Prayer"



*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.
Amen.*

WORSHIP TEAM

Worship Leader
Rev. Robert Hoffman

Children's Message
Sarah Huiest

Elder of the Day
Ana Crosbourne

Sound Technician
Mike York

Deacon of the Day
Kevin Ingalls

Video Technician
Cameron Kaercher

Liturgist
Vicki Lane

Welcome Host
Karen Ingalls

Soloist
Ben April

Coffee Hour Host
Linda Murphy

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Holy Ground

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Somebody's Knocking at Your Door
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by Richard Proulx, harmonization
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Wait for the Lord

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Freedom is Coming

Traditional South African
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Holy Lord

Words: Reginald Heber,
adapted by Benjamin April & Bruce Cornwell
Music: Benjamin April

Mystery of Faith

Words: Traditional
Music: Benjamin April

Glory Be to Almighty God

Words & Music: Benjamin April & Bruce Cornwell

The Lord's Prayer

Words: Traditional
Music: Benjamin April

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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 Sunday Worship via Zoom, use the link below:

<https://tinyurl.com/CRCCZoom>

Meeting ID: 688 088 7155

By Phone: 1-646-558-8656

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.

PayPal:

https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=N67JS9D5MLMGS

Website:

www.communityreformedchurch.com

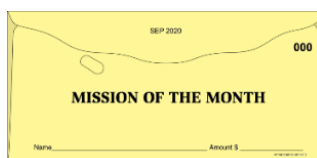
Mailing Address:

Community Reformed Church of Colonie
701 Sand Creek Road
Colonie, NY 12205

Special Offering Envelopes –

The special offering envelopes for February

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.



Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

Sandy Cornwell

crccsandy@gmail.com

and

Karen Latta

kmlatta@nycap.rr.com

**COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH OF COLONIE
STAFF AND CONSISTORY**

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Kevin Bottini
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls
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