

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 29, 2022
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

Lots of people are saying "pray for Uvalde" tonight. And I couldn't agree more, but let's pray the right way. CS Lewis shared a profound insight into prayer when he said

"I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God. It changes me."

In that vein, yes, pray tonight, and pray to be changed.

Pray that God changes us, so that we see clearly and have the courage and compassion to stop this from happening.

~ Jeb Barr
Pastor, First Baptist Church
Elm Mott, Texas

PRELUDE "Love the Lord"

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER'S PRAYER – Marissa Lombardo

INTROIT "Come and Find the Quiet Center"

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Once again we gather,
From different homes and circumstances,
With different dreams and ideas, different values and tastes,
Different in age and color, different in gender and language,
*Yet, we are one family – Children of God every one;
We join our hearts in worship,
We join our voices in praise
And we join our lives as the Body of Christ. Amen.*

*HYMN 532 "Be Thou My Vision"

*1 Be thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art--
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*2 Be thou my Wisdom, and thou my true Word,
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my Treasure thou art.*

*3 High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.*

LAMENT PSALM 25 by Ann Weems

In memory and honor of those killed and wounded

*In the Tops Supermarket Mass Shooting
In Buffalo, New York*

*In the Robb Elementary School Mass Shooting
In Uvalde, Texas
and in the other 211 Mass Shootings that have taken place since
January 1, 2022*

O God, what has happened to your creation?

What kind of world is this

that the innocent die?

Where is your hand

that it does not stop the killing?

How long will you watch

while the world calls you names?

How long will you wait

while the river of blood

floods your streets?

Will you let the innocent die

and the guilty go free

Will the guilty laugh cruelly

in the streets,

while the innocent lie cold

in their graves

O God, where is your holiness

in the face of this hell?

Bind the guilty, O God,

And free the innocent

to live in your presence.

Open their graves,

and take them to your heart.

Kiss their cold lips

and let them live forever

in your eternal shalom.

O Holy God, we are stunned

that you sit by

while the innocent cry to you.

Where is your righteous anger?

Where is your powerful hand?

Why are your enemies allowed

to desecrate your creation

and slaughter your children?

*O God of mercy, we are on our knees!
We beg you to bring peace
out of this chaos.
Divide the Red Sea once more
and save your people.
Come from your heaven
and scoop the little ones
into your arms
and hold them
against the terrors of this world.*

*O God of justice, stop these plagues,
and stoop to comfort your people,
for you, and you only, are our refuge. Amen.*

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.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Goodness, You know that the violence in our country and our world is out of control. It is taking our helpless and innocent ones, it is taking our children.

And, we confess that beyond the violence in our streets, is the violence in our own hearts. We contribute to a culture of violence whenever we give in to hatred, fear, indifference, and our own self-satisfaction.

It seems that we are growing numb to the suffering, the loss, the indignity done to our sisters and brothers and to our Earth. But in our hearts, and in the heart of the community, help us to value life and beauty over instant satisfaction, and to value sharing over greed.

Empower us to acknowledge and affirm our children, our spouses, our neighbors, and seek respectful solutions to our conflicts. Create through us a world where it will be easier to be good.

Your Spirit, given to us, is not timid. Therefore, each of us can do something, person by person, family by family, community by community, to realize that we are one—one body, one people, one earth.

By Your design, we thrive or we perish together.

Holy One, give us the grace of hope. Give us the dedication to goodness and truth as we seek to restore our community to wholeness and life.

Enable us in this way, to take back our communities from the violence and crippling fear we find in our midst.

Trusting that Your desire for us is peace, not disaster, we pray this in Your Name. Amen.

(from the Consecrated Hearts website)

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Come & Fill Our Hearts” (3 times)

***Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace,
Alleluia!***

THE WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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.

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

THE MORNING MESSAGE “A Companion in the Darkness”

*HYMN 568 “Take My Life and Let it Be”

*1 Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love,
at the impulse of thy love.*

*2 Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee;
take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King,
always, only, for my King.*

*3 Take my lips and let them be
filled with messages for thee;
take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold,
not a mite would I withhold.*

*4 Take my love, my God, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.*

***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.*

Minister of Word and Sacrament
Bruce Cornwell

Elder of the Day
Marissa Lombardo

Deacon of the Day
Marv Helf

Liturgist
Lexi Kuentzel -Brown

Director of Music
Ben April

Soloist
Kevin Ingalls

Technical Director
Lori Coté

Sound Technician
John Lombardo

Video Technician
Alex Huiest

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Love the Lord

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Be Thou My Vision

Words Traditional Irish Hymn
Music: Traditional Irish Melody
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Lord Jesus Christ

Text: Psalm 139; Taizé Community
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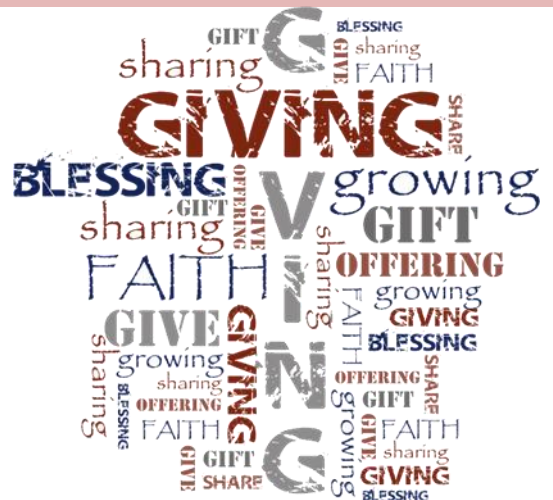
Come & Fill Our Hearts

Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taizé
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The Irish Blessing

Words: Traditional
Music: 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

Tuesday, May 31

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

Thursday, June 2

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

Friday, June 3

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

Saturday, June 4

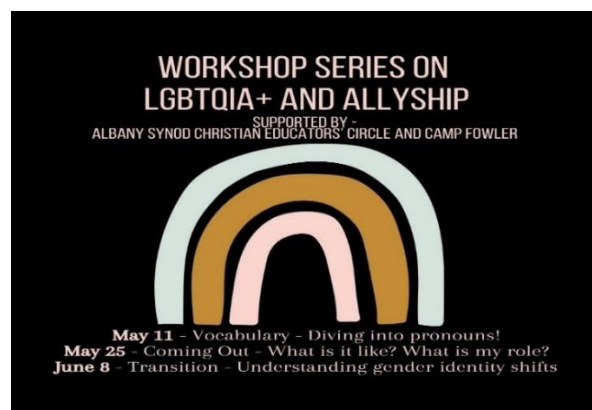
Women's Bible Study - All are welcome to attend at 9:30. The meeting will be both at the church and on zoom.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6880887155>

We will be resuming our study on Ruth.

Children's Worship and Sunday School - There is no children's worship during the summer.

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.



Throughout these workshops we will exercise Christ's call for hospitality, and welcoming all of God's people to the table. This goal aims to encourage understanding, empathy, and wondering between all our siblings in Christ - truly an embodiment of hospitality.

The workshops will be:

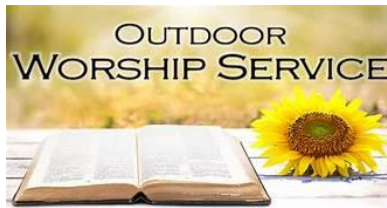
Every other Wednesday Night, at 7 pm over Zoom.
They will span 1.5 hours and will have a presenter
from Room for All leading, Mitchel Leet.

If you are interested in joining this workshop series, or simply
one or two of the workshops, please contact: Abby Norton-
Levering nortonlevering@gmail.com

The May Mission of the Month is The Samaritan Counseling Center. As their web site concisely states, “We aim to enhance the lives of our clients by focusing holistically on their mind, body and spirit, highlighting unique strengths, and supporting relationships.” Samaritan Counseling Center offers individual, couple, family, and pre-marital counseling. Since 1949, May has been Mental Health Awareness Month. Even though it is the 74th year, stigma, prejudice, and shame continue to abound in communities and families regarding issues of mental health. We need to do better. Emotional and behavioral issues can affect individuals of any age, race, religion, or socioeconomic status. Unfortunately, education, awareness, and resources are not equitably accessible. Peer or family pressure, finances, and availability of professionals are just a few issues that hinder care.

Supporting Samaritan Counseling Center is only one small way we can improve the lives of our family, friends, and community. Please consider donating via your yellow “**Mission of the Month**” offering envelope, by check payable to CRCC with “**Samaritan Counseling Center**” in the memo, or directly through the donate button on their website: samaritancounselingcenter.org.

To learn more about Mental Health Awareness Month, you can visit:
<https://www.mhanational.org/mental-health-month>



**May 22 thru September 4, 2022
9 AM**

This service will also be livestreamed on Zoom and posted later on YouTube.

During the summer, the outdoor service will be Zoom only:

- if the outdoor temperature is below 55 degrees
- if there is precipitation or the threat of precipitation
- if there is wind interference with the sound system
- or other weather-related conditions that would interfere with conducting a worshipful service.

The decision for worship location will be made by the participating worship leadership one hour prior to the service and the congregation will be notified by email.

Nursery Provider Needed! We have been blessed to have Emma York take care of our youngest parishioners this year. She has been a ray of sunshine during a challenging year. Next year will see exciting changes for Emma, as she heads off to college. We are, therefore, seeking a new individual to protect and care for children ages 3 and younger during worship services beginning in August. Applicants need to be caring, reliable, responsible, punctual, have prior childcare experience, and be at least 17 years of age. Interested individuals should contact Sarah Huiest, (crccsarah@gmail.com) for more information.

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 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 Côté

**Church Office &
Technical Director**

crccclori@gmail.com

CONSISTORY

Elders

Karl Côté

Ana Crosbourn

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 - Acts 2:1-13

Tuesday - Acts 2:14-21

Wednesday - Genesis 11:1-9

Thursday - Psalm 104:24-35

Friday - Romans 8:14-17

Saturday - John 14:8-17, 25-27

Sunday - Pentecost

Household Prayer: Morning

Good and gracious God,
we rise with the morning light
to give you thanks for rest and dreams,
for warmth and safety,
for the delight we have again today
in a life filled with your goodness.
Keep us in your care this day
that we may walk in your path,
glad for our friends,
praying for our enemies,
and eager to hear your Word;
In Jesus name we pray.

Household Prayer: Evening

Merciful God,
for all that we have done and failed to do this day
we turn to you for respite.

Forgive us for having shunned your desires;
rejoice with us over moments that have filled us with joy.

Bless your people in every land with peace.

Protect us now through the night
that we may wake again to praise your name.
Let the Holy Spirit abide in this house. Amen.



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