



The Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021
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*

"I could say it's the only record that I hope is broken."

~ James Harrison

PRELUDE "Everything I Need"

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

**Welcome
Announcements**

THE ELDER'S PRAYER ~ Ana Crosbourn

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Members of the Sew and Reap Group

You have shown us how much you love us, God,
you have given us a deep sense of value.
You have given us gifts and abilities
and the capacity to make a positive contribution to the lives of those
around us.

We thank you for the richness we experience in our lives.

Spirit, you empower and spark our creativity
and courage us to share the peace of Christ with others.

***We thank you for giving us the ability to share Christ in
creative ways.***

There are so many people who feel worthless,
unloved, and without meaning.

We remember them, God, and hold them in our hearts.

There are places in the world where people are needed
to bring healing, justice, compassion, and connection.

May we step out and offer your love and light in these places.

There are moments when we need to see our ability to make a
contribution and know that our contribution is valuable and needed.

***Spirit, fill us with your presence and power to help us do what
we can, when we can, for as long as we can. Amen.***

(The Second Advent Candle is lighted)

As we light this candle, we express our longing to matter and make a
difference

And we cling to the peace we find and share in Christ.

INTROIT "How Shall I Come Before the Lord?"

CALL TO WORSHIP

There is so much that needs to be healed, so much that needs to be repaired and rebuilt in our world.

The needs are overwhelming, and we fear that there is nothing we can do.

We long to know that our contribution makes a positive difference.

And that we matter in some small way to those around us.

Christ has come into our world and called ordinary people like us to share in God's Reign of Love.

Christ is with us now working through us to bring peace and life into our little patch of Earth.

Christ will continue to enter every person, home, and community through those who hear God's call.

We cling to the meaning we find in Christ and we open ourselves to the Spirit of Peace again. Amen.

HYMN "A Place At The Table"

***For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!***

***For woman and man, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for woman and man, a system that's fair,
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!***

*For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong,
and God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice and joy!*

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

God, you have included us in your dream for this world;
your hope of a world drenched in Love.
We long to see that dream become a reality.

You have shown us that we matter to you,
that we are valuable and beloved,
that our contributions are unique and important.
*We long to share our gifts and abilities freely and
wholeheartedly.*

It's so easy to believe the lie that we aren't enough
—important, beautiful, rich, famous, connected, or talented
enough.
*We're sorry for letting the noise of the world drown out
your voice.*

When we hold back and fail to make whatever small contribution we
can to those around us we rob the world of our unique gift.
*Help us to believe, no matter what, that what we bring
to the world matters,
And may we teach others to share their gifts
fearlessly. Amen.*

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Come and Fill Our Hearts”

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

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS ~ based on Luke 1:68-72

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE ~ Jerry Kallner

DEACON'S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD ~ Kevin Bottini

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 "God of Wonders"

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

THE MORNING MESSAGE "John the Obscure"



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

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
Brian Rhode
Kevin Ingalls

Choir
Tina-Marie Bottini
Michelle Braunguard
Maggie George
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls
Pam Izzo

Marissa Lombardo
Lisa McGee

Elder of the Day
Ana Crosbourne

Deacon of the Day
Kevin Ingalls

Children's Message
Jerry Kallner

Sound Technician
Mike York

Video Technician
Lori Coté

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Everything I Need

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How Shall I Come Before The Lord

Words & Music: Dean McIntyre
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A Place At The Table

Words: Shirley Erena Murray
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Lyrics: Lori True
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Come and Fill Our Hearts

Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taizé
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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
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This is the Threefold Truth

Words: Fed Pratt Green, 1980
Music: Jack Schrader, 1980
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The Worshipping Church Hymn
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
Public Domain

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

Words: Phillips Brooks, 1868
Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1868
The Worshipping Church Hymn
Hymn 155
Public Domain

God of Wonders

Words & Music: Marc Byrd & Steve Hindalong
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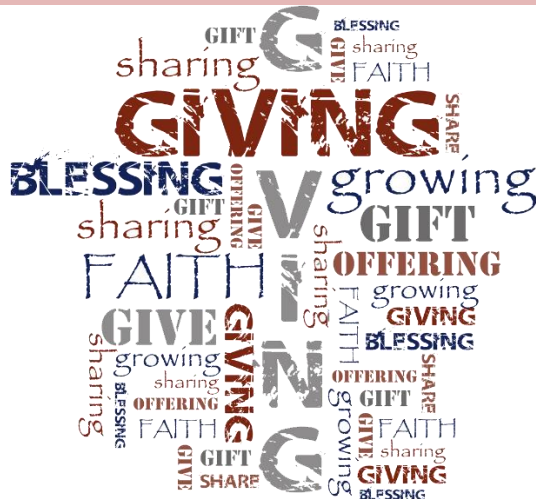
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

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

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

Today, Sunday School for children in grades 3-6 meets in the Gathering Room from 9:00 to 9:45 am.

Monday, December 6

The Sew and Reap Quilt Group will meet at Shaker Place at 1:00pm to deliver the more than 70 Walker Bags we have constructed as gifts for the residents there. Please gather near the front door before entering. Masks are required. Thank you to all who gave so freely of their time, funds, and hard work to bring cheer and love to so many. For more information, contact Lou Ann, louannconne@nycap.rr.com.

Tuesday, December 7

The Gathering Zoom Devotions - 4 to 4:30 pm

Thursday, December 9

The Gathering Zoom Devotions – 6:30 to 7 pm

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).

The Youth Group is collecting some items for Ronald McDonald House to be donated during Morning of Kindness on December 24th. Donations of cereal/granola bars, individual snack/chip bags, and individual boxes of cereal/oatmeal can be left in designated box at the back of the sanctuary. If you need your items picked up, please email Sarah Huiest (crccsarah@gmail.com).--



The Chrismon Tree: Chrismons are a type of Christmas tree decoration used in many churches and often in the homes of Christians. Chrismons (CHRIST MONogram) are tree ornaments that proclaim our Lord Jesus Christ through the use of symbols. The symbols used represent a variety of biblical and theological concepts that are well known among most believers. Most Chrismons are white with gold decorations of wire, beads, ribbon, and glitter. The white color is symbolic of the purity of Jesus and the gold represents the majesty of the newborn king. The paper chain that encircles our tree is a Thank You chain.

Written on each little slip of paper are our personal words of thanks to our Lord.



Our annual Angel Tree collection has begun!
This year we will be collecting gifts for **Things of My Very Own** in two ways
– even our Angel Tree is now hybrid!!

There are angel tags on the tree in the back of the sanctuary for your choosing or you can go to: <https://www.target.com/gift-registry/gift/crcc-angel-tree>

When a child is removed from an abusive or dangerous situation, they may only possess the clothing they are wearing at that moment. This agency, which serves the Capital District, provides them with clothes, bedding, supplies – and even toys. This caring agency gives them “things of my very own” and helps them transition through those initial difficult days.

Please return **unwrapped** gifts and items by **December 12**.
Questions? Contact Sandy Cornwell, Sarah Huie, or Tina Bottini

Thank you for your support.



“For unto us a child is born and his name shall be called Wonderful.”

**Welcome the Christ Child
in the soft glow of candlelight
7:00 PM**

**Pre-registration is requested for in-person attendance.
For the safety of all, masks will be required. This service
will also be available on Zoom.**



Christmas Poinsettias

It's time to order your poinsettias!

Given by:_____

In memory of:_____

In honor of:_____

Total Plants ordered:_____

Cost: \$10 per plant

- ☐ **Cash**
- ☐ **Check** (Made payable to Community Reformed Church)
- ☐ **PayPal** https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=2EA93DM627X2A

**Please return this order including payment
to the church office
by December 12**

Plants will be supplied by Valoze's Nursery

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

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

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**Church Office &
Video Technician**
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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 - Zephaniah 3:14-16

Tuesday - Zephaniah 3:17-20

Wednesday - Isaiah 12:2-6

Thursday - Philippians 4:4-7

Friday - Luke 3:7-14

Saturday - Luke 3:15-18

Sunday - Third Sunday of Advent

Household Prayer: Morning

Blessed are you, Lord God
by your tender mercy
the dawn breaks upon us.
Guide our feet this day
in paths of peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Blessed are you, Lord God:
for you have smiled on us this day
and redeemed us from our sin.
Give light to all who wait in darkness
until we rest with you in perfect peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



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