



Thanksgiving Worship

November 19, 2023

Order of Service – 10:00 am

* - 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

Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life.
It turns what we have into enough, and more.
It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order,
confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast,
a house into a home, a stranger into a friend.

~ Melody Beattie

PRELUDE “Better Than”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER'S PRAYER – Melody York

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT “Make Me a Servant”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our help is in the name of our God, who made heaven and earth.
Amen.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving. Make music upon the harp.
How good it is to celebrate God's presence and sing praise
Throughout each day!

***How good it is to gather together to sing praise
and give honor to our God!***

Our God rebuilds the people of earth. The wandering ones are
gathered together, the brokenhearted are healed, the hungry are fed,
the prisoners are freed, the blind are given sight,
the lonely are befriended.

***How good it is to gather together to sing praise
and give honor to our God!***

All nature sings aloud with the goodness of God – the clouds, rain,
grass, creatures great and small. Our God creates and sustains our
world with ever-growing and unending love.

***How good it is to gather together to sing praise
and give honor to our God!***

Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of
God and of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

INVOCATION

***Loving God, you take care of all our needs and love us more than
we can imagine. You have given us everything, especially those
you have placed in our lives as family and friends. We always
need you and rejoice that you are always with us. Thank you for
this opportunity to worship and offer our thanks and praise.
May you be glorified by us today. In Jesus Christ we pray.
Amen.***

* HYMN "Gather Us In"



Here in this place new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van-ished a - way, see in this space our fears and our dream-ings,
yearn for your face, we have been sung through-out all of his - t'ry,
light-years a - way, but here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
now is the King-dom and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the bling and the lame;
Gath-er us in, the right and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the proud and the strong;
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and make us your own;



call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
give us a heat so meek and so low - ly,
gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour-age to en - ter the song.
fire___ of love in our flesh and our bone.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF THE DAY

THANK YOU

(A prayer from the book,
“Lord, Could You Make It A Little Better” by Robert Raines)

Thank you for wet leaves which touch me with your constant care
as the seasons come and go and as time goes by.

***Thank you for wet cheeks which remind me that I must
depend on you for all that is precious to me.***

Thank you for death which sets a limit to pride of nation, religion,
position. That in the face of death I may see the fragile beauty of life.

***Thank you for life which offers me days never lived before,
That I may spend and not hoard my life and choose joy over
pleasure, peace before ease, truth instead of safety
and love above all.***

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Bless the Lord” (3 times)

***Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.***

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we gather today,
rich in blessing yet somehow believing that we merit the wealth and
comforts we enjoy.

***Forgive us, O God, for comfortably closing our eyes to the
faces of the poor that stare blankly in our direction.***

With bellies full of grain and meat,
we offer token gestures to the hungry in our world
and feel we have done enough.

***Forgive us, O God, for keeping a distance between “us” and
“them” and for closing our ears to the cries of the hungry.***

With hands tightly clasping our treasures on earth,
we cannot reach out to our oppressed brothers and sisters
around this world.

***Forgive us for clinging to our own possessions rather
than to you.***

Unite us with hearts of thanksgiving that we may work to ensure
freedom and justice for all.

***Help us to begin today, with those whom we love the most as
our companions on the way.***

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION "Shepherd Me, O God" (3 times)

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.***

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS ~ Psalm 145: 18-19

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in
steadfast love. God does not accuse nor hold anger forever. God does
not deal with us according to our sins nor repay us according to
our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is
God's steadfast love toward us. And as far as the east is from the west
so far does God remove our transgressions from us.

We hear these words from the Psalmist and find in them our comfort
and peace enabling us to go forth to live thankful and grateful lives.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Sarah Huie

DEACON'S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Kevin Ingalls

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 "Oceans"

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Deuteronomy 8:11-20

Take care that you do not forget the Lord your God, by failing to keep God's commandments, ordinances, and statutes, which I am commanding you today. When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. God made water flow for you from flint rock and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." But remember the Lord your God, for it is God who gives you power to get wealth, so that God may confirm the covenant made with your ancestors, as God is doing today. If you do forget the Lord your God and follow other gods to serve and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish. Like the nations that the Lord is destroying before you, so shall you perish, because you would not obey the voice of the Lord your God.

Philippians 4:4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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

THE MORNING MESSAGE "Give Thanks"

*HYMN 496 "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart" (2 times)

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart 496

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. Ps. 126:3

Unison

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One, give

thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ his Son. Give

Son. And now let the weak say "I am strong"; let the

poor say "I am rich" be-cause of what the Lord has done for

us. And us. Give us. Give thanks!

D.S. last time

WORDS and MUSIC: Henry Smith, 1978
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GIVE THANKS
Irregular

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

Elder of the Day
Melody York

Deacon of the Day
Kevin Ingalls

Liturgist
Jessica Kaercher

Soloist
Brian Rhodes

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

Sound Technician
Jerry Kallner

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Alex Huiest

Welcome Host
Karen Ingalls

Coffee Hour Host
Kyrra Howard

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Bless the Lord

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Shepherd Me O God

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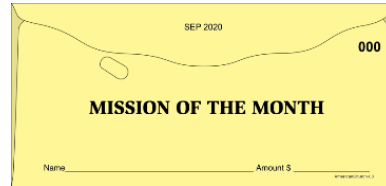
Mailing Address:

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701 Sand Creek Road
Colonie, NY 12205

Special Offering Envelopes –

There are Two special offering envelopes for November

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 crccclori@gmail.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 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

Online Church Bulletin Board

padlet.com/crccsarah/ChurchBulletinBoard



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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