

"Rescue me from danger"



Lift Off by

Rev. Nicolette Peñaranda

I titled this piece Lift Off as a nod to the 2011 Jay Z and Kanye West (ft. Beyonce) song by the same title.

There is something about the opening lines, "We gon' take it to the moon, take it to the stars, how many people you know can take it this far?" that lingers in my head.

The emphasis on the night sky and the deep wonder of the stars definitely influences the correlation.

However, I think it also pertains to how Peter must have felt walking on water toward Jesus. No one had ever done that before.

Not only was he the first, but he must have felt like he was having a deeper experience with Jesus.

Who else was flying this high right then?

Who else had dropped everything to live vagrantly with Christ? Before stumbling in his ways, there was something otherworldly happening, which brings me back to the stars.

The Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 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

*"I believe in a God who moves toward me when storms rage.
I believe in a God who invites me to be brave.
I believe in a God whom the wind and waves obey.
I believe in a God who knows my name.
I believe in a God of love. I am not afraid.
Amen."*

PRELUDE "We Shall Overcome"

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER'S PRAYER – Ana Crosbourne

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE LENTEN CANDLES

INTROIT "Sanctuary"

CALL TO WORSHIP

God welcomes the dreamers and the doubters,
the courageous and the fearful,
the hungry and the hopeful,
the impatient and the reserved.
God welcomes the young and the old,
the poets and the prophets,
the faithful and the tired,
the curious and the convicted.

Wherever you are on your journey,
 wherever your boat is at sea,
there is room for all to gather here.

This is God's house.

Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.

* HYMN "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"



| | | | | | | |
|------------|------|---------|---|-------------|---------|---------------------|
| I'm gon-na | live | so_____ | } | God can use | me_____ | an-y - where, Lord, |
| I'm gon-na | work | so_____ | | | | |
| I'm gon-na | pray | so_____ | | | | |
| I'm gon-na | sing | so_____ | | | | |



| | | | | |
|------------|--------------|---------|---------|---------|
| _____ | an-y - time! | } | God can | |
| I'm gon-na | live | | | so_____ |
| I'm gon-na | work | | | so_____ |
| I'm gon-na | pray | | | so_____ |
| I'm gon-na | sing | so_____ | | |



use me_____ an-y - where, Lord,_____ an-y - time!

RESPONSIVE READING "Rescue Me"

I'd rather not need rescue.

*I'd prefer a five-step plan
 and a quick-fix solution.*

I'd prefer stubborn insistence
 over honest vulnerability,
*because rescue requires
 asking for help.*

Rescue names
 the rising water.

*Rescue sees
the tired, treading feet.
Rescue feels
the swell of the wind
and the rain at a slant.
But when the floor falls out
and the world is on fire
and my small hands
cannot fix the hurt welling in me,
the prayer that slips out
is rescue
rescue
rescue me.*

***TAIZÉ MEDITATION** “Sing Praises” (3 times)

*Sing praises, all you peoples,
sing praises to the Lord.
Sing praises, all you peoples,
sing praises to the Lord!*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Gracious God,
There are days that threaten to swallow us,
days when the storms of life feel too big.
In those moments, we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear,
spending more energy hiding from storms than looking for you.
Forgive us for doubting ourselves.
Forgive us for doubting you.
Rescue us from the storms of today and from the fears that
trap us.
With hope in our hearts we pray,
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.*

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – Sarah Huiest

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 “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 14:22-33

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.” Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So, Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to

sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

THE MORNING MESSAGE Wandering Heart: Figuring Out Faith with Peter
"Rescue Me"

***HYMN "We Are Marching"**



We are **march - ing** in the light of God, we are **march - ing** in the light of God.____
 We are **pray - ing** in the light of God, we are **pray - ing** in the light of God.____
 We are **sing - ing** in the light of God, we are **sing - ing** in the light of God.____



We are **march - ing** in the light of God, we are **march - ing** in the light of God.____
 We are **pray - ing** in the light of God, we are **pray - ing** in the light of God.____
 We are **sing - ing** in the light of God, we are **sing - ing** in the light of God.____



We are **march - ing,** oo____ we are **march - ing** in the light of God.____
 We are **pray - ing,** oo____ we are **pray - ing** in the light of God.____
 We are **sing - ing** oo____ we are **sing - ing** in the light of God.____



We are **march - ing,** oo____ we are **march - ing** in the light of God.____
 We are **pray - ing,** oo____ we are **pray - ing** in the light of God.____
 We are **sing - ing** oo____ we are **sing - ing** in the light of God.____

***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.*

All the Liturgical resources for our Lenten Worship Theme, “Figuring Out Faith with Peter” are used with permission from “A Sanctified Art LLC” and have been prepared by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed.

Worship Leaders

Minister of Word and Sacrament

Tina Bottini

Elder of the Day
Ana Crosbourne

Deacon of the Day
Kevin Ingalls

Liturgist
Ana Crosbourne

Children's Message
Sarah Huiest

Director of Music Ministries
Ben April

Soloist
Marv Helf

Choir

Tina-Marie Bottini
Michelle Braungard
Maggie George
Kaaren Haushalter
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls
Marissa Lombardo
Lisa McGee

Sound Technician
Gerry Kallner

Video Technician
Cameron Kaercher

Welcome Host
Pam Fitzpatrick

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We Shall Overcome

Traditional Spiritual, arr. Lloyd Larson
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Sanctuary

Words & Music: John Thompson & Randy Scruggs
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I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me (2153)

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Sing Praises

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Holy Spirit, Come to Us

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Lift Every Voice & Sing

Words & Music: J. Rosamond Johnson,
arr. Rollo Dillworth
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We are Marching (2235b)

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The Irish Blessing

Words: Traditional
Music: Benjamin April
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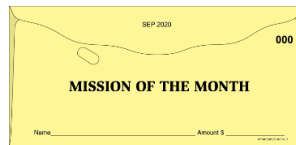
Mailing Address:

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

Special Offering Envelopes –

There are three 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.



In-Person Worship Guidelines - If you are feeling a bit “under the weather”, please remain at home. You will be missed at worship. We will be happy to have you join us when you are feeling well again. Many of the congregation are compromised due to ongoing illnesses or recent surgeries and sharing your illness could be a serious risk.

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



Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

Sandy Cornwell
crccsandy@gmail.com
Karen Latta
kmlatta@nycap.rr.com

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