

The Lord is My Shepherd

I shall not be in want

He makes me lie down
in green pastures

He leads me beside quiet waters
He restores my soul

He guides me in paths
of righteousness for his
name's sake

Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death
I will fear no evil for you are with me
your rod and your staff
they comfort me

You prepare
a table
before me

In the presence
of my enemies
you anoint my head with
oil, my cup
overflows

Surely your
goodness
and love will
follow me
all the days of my life

and I will
dwell in the
house of the Lord
forever

Psalm 23

hannah dunnett

The Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 15, 2026 | 10:00 AM

Words of Welcome

“It is the mission of the Community Reformed Church of Colonie to love the Lord our God with all our hearts, with all our souls and with all of our minds; and to love our neighbors as ourselves.” (Matthew 22:37-40)

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.

The Community Reformed Church of Colonie welcomes you and thanks you for worshiping with us.

Please join in the worship liturgy by reading aloud what is in ***bold italics***.

* - Please rise in body or in spirit

For Contemplation

"Close your eyes and visualize yourself in a green meadow with a babbling stream, breath slow and relax knowing the Good Shepherd is caring for you."

PRELUDE “Be the Center”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

PRAYER SHAWL: The prayer shawl out this morning is for Julie, Chris Bottini's fiancé, who is experiencing health challenges. After worship, please come forward to lay hands on the shawl and say a prayer for Julie.

PRAYER QUILT: The prayer quilt out this morning is for Cap Capella, friend of Kevin and Tina Bottini, who is also dealing with health concerns. After worship, please come forward, tie a knot on the quilt and say a prayer for Cap.

THE ELDER’S PRAYER - Linda Murphy

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES OF LENT

LENTEN INTROIT “Take, O Take Me As I Am” (3 times)

This Lent, four symbols will be brought forward during the Lenten Introit. They symbolize the primary ways the living Word of God meets us:

1. **The Bible**, symbolizing the Word of God who still speaks to us today.
2. **A Drape** for the Cross, symbolizing the Word of God who became flesh and gave himself in love, showing us “The Way” to live.
3. **A Pitcher**, symbolizing the Word of God who washes, claims, and gives us a vocation in the waters of baptism.
4. **A Plate & Cup**, symbolizing the Word of God who feeds and sustains us at his table of reconciliation and fellowship.

May the words of this introit be our honest prayer this Lent.

Take, O take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall

The first system of the musical score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The vocal line (treble clef) begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B-flat4, and C5. The piano accompaniment (bass clef) consists of a steady eighth-note pattern: G3, A3, B-flat3, C4, D4, E-flat4, F4, G4.

be; set your seal up-on my heart and live in me.

The second system continues the musical score. The vocal line (treble clef) has a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B-flat4, and C5. The piano accompaniment (bass clef) continues with the eighth-note pattern: G3, A3, B-flat3, C4, D4, E-flat4, F4, G4.

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 100 NIV

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

***Worship the Lord with gladness;
Come before him with joyful songs.***

Know that the Lord is God.

It is he who made us and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;
Give thanks to him and praise his name.

***For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.***

* OPENING HYMN "I Have a Hope"

Verse 1:



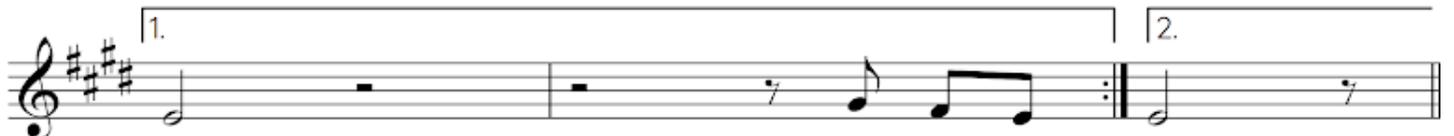
I have a hope. I have a fu - ture. I have a de - stin - y that is
plan. It's not to harm me but it's to pro - sper me and to



yet a - wait - ing me. My life's not ov - er. A new be -
hear me when I call. He in - ter - cedes for me, work - ing



gin - ning's just be - gun. I have a hope. I have this
all things for my good. Though trials may come, I have this



hope. God has a hope.

Refrain:



I will yet praise Him, my great Re deem - er. I will yet stand up and give Him



glo - ry with my life. He takes my dark - ness and He

2nd time to bridge



turns it in - to light, I will yet praise Him, my Lord, my God.

2

Verse 2:



My God is for me. He's not a gainst me so tell me whom then, tell me
Good-ness and mer-cy they're gon-na fol - low me and I'll for-ev - er dwell in the



whom then shall I fear? He has pre - pared for me great works He'll
house of my great King. No eye has ev - er seen all He's pre -

to refrain



help me to com-plete I have a hope. I have this hope.
par - ing there for me. Though trials may come, I have this hope.

Bridge:

Sing 4x, then to refrain



There's still hope for me to-day 'cause the God of Hea-ven loves me.

PROFESSION OF FAITH Belgic Confession article 1

What do you believe about God?

We all believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths that there is a single and simple spiritual being, whom we call God- eternal, incomprehensible, invisible, unchangeable, infinite, almighty, completely wise, just and good, and the overflowing source of all good.

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 Based on 1 Peter 2:4-7 NSRV

The very stone that the builders rejected became the chief cornerstone.
Come now to Christ, that living stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious.

Whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.
Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***O God, our great shepherd,
you tenderly gather us as lambs,
carrying us with your all-embracing love.***

***Yet, like sheep, we wander from you:
following our own ways, ignoring your voice,
distrusting your provisions.***

Forgive our stubborn rebellion, our hardened hearts, our lack of trust.

Refresh us once again by your quiet waters of mercy and restore our souls by your redeeming love.

Guide our paths, that we might follow you more closely....

(silent confession)

Through Jesus Chrst, our good shepherd, we pray. Amen

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “In God Alone” (3 times)

***In God alone my soul can find rest and peace,
In God my peace and joy.
Only in God my soul can find its rest,
Find its rest and peace.***

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Based on Matthew 11: 28-30

SUMMARY OF GOD’S LAW Heidelberg Catechism

Q #2 What does God’s law require of us?

A. Christ teaches us this in summary in Matthew 22:37-40

***“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
And with all your soul, and with all your mind.’***

This is the greatest and first commandment.

“And the second is like it:

“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’

“On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets”

PASSING CHRIST’S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Please rise and greet one another with Christ’s peace.

You’re encouraged to embrace, shake hands, or give the Orthodox sign of Christ’s peace, greeting both those in-person and online. To make the sign, touch your thumb to the tip of your ring finger.

When the music starts to play, the children are invited to come forward for the children’s message.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE - Sarah

DEACON'S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD - Kevin

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.

OFFERING & OFFERTORY "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me"

You're invited to participate in the mission of The Community Reformed Church of Colonie by giving through the offering plates as they come by, placing your gift in the box at the back, or using Zeffy on our website.

* DOXOLOGY OLD HUNDREDTH

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

ANTHEM "10000 Reasons Bless The Lord"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God, on earth's first day you caused light to shine out of darkness.
Now flood our hearts with the light from your Word.
O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, you are the light of the world.
***As we read and speak and listen, shine in and through us, Jesus.
Amen***

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are
with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint
my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I
shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

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

SERMON “Living the 23rd Psalm”



*

SONG OF RESPONSE "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

D A G A D

I want to walk as a child of the light; I want to fol - low
 I want to see__ the bright-ness of God; I want to look at
 I'm look-ing for__ the com - ing of Christ; I want to be with

A Bm D F#m G A D

Je - sus. God set the stars to give light to the world; the star of my
 Je - sus. Clear Sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and show me the
 Je - sus. When we have run__ with pa-tience the race, we shall know the

A E7 A D G D A Bm

life__ is Je - sus. In Him there is no dark-ness at all; the night and the
 way to the Fa - ther.
 joy__ of Je - sus.

D F#m A Em F#m

day__ are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the

G A D A G A D

cit - y of God: Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

*** CHARGE & 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
Tina Bottini

Music Director
Ben April

Elder of the Day
Linda Murphy

Soloist
Brian Rhode

Deacon of the Day
Kevin Ingalls

Sound Technician
John Lombardo

Liturgist
Kyrra April

Video Technician
Cameron Kaercher

Children's Message
Sarah Huiest

Welcome Host
Beth Colbert

Coffee Hour Host
Beth Colbert

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

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Michael Frye

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Bless the Lord

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Kathleen Thomerson
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The Irish Blessing
Words: Traditional
Music: Benjamin April © 2021 Benjamin April

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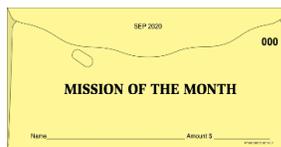
Website:

www.communityreformedchurch.com

Mailing Address:

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

March Special Offering Envelopes –





Offerings/Pledges

<https://tinyurl.com/CRCC-Offerings>



Mission of the Month

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/mission-of-the-month-2>



General Giving

(church building and grounds, flowers for Easter and Christmas, donations in honor of family and friends and special requests)

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/general-fund-94>



CRCC

Puzzle Capital Campaign



Each puzzle piece is a \$50 donation

This gift will be above and beyond my/our annual pledged offering.

Purchase thru Zeffy link or QR code: [Puzzle Capital Campaign](#)





Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

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

COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH OF COLONIE STAFF AND CONSISTORY

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Elders of Consistory

Karl Coté, VP
Vicki Lane
Linda Murphy
Melody York

Deacons of Consistory

Kevin Bottini
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls
Jessica Kaercher

The Community Reformed Church of Colonie is a **Room for All (RfA)** congregation. Room for All congregations affirm and welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning individuals, and their families into our lives and the full life of the church. As an RfA congregation, we are committed to working with Reformed Church in America churches nationwide to reform denominational policies to allow full inclusion and to celebrate the diversity of all who worship our Lord. Christ's door remains open here and there is "room for all."



A wheelchair is located in the entranceway of the church.



A sign-up sheet for CD copies of this morning's service is located on the back table.



Large print bulletins are available on request.



Our sanctuary is now equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask the elder or deacon for a receiver.



**701 Sand Creek Road, Colonie, NY 12205
Telephone: 518-869-5589**

**Website - www.communityreformedchurch
Facebook - facebook.com/coloniereformed
Twitter - [@ColonieReformed](https://twitter.com/ColonieReformed)**

Prayer of St Patrick

**CHRIST BE WITH ME, CHRIST WITHIN ME,
CHRIST BEHIND ME, CHRIST BEFORE ME,
CHRIST BESIDE ME, CHRIST TO WIN ME,
CHRIST TO COMFORT ME AND RESTORE ME.
CHRIST BENEATH ME, CHRIST ABOVE ME,
CHRIST IN QUIET, CHRIST IN DANGER,
CHRIST IN HEARTS OF ALL THAT LOVE ME,
CHRIST IN MOUTH OF FRIEND
OR STRANGER**

The Southern Cross