

Image of the vaulted ceiling of Hallgrímskirkja in Reykjavík, Iceland (2019) by Hari Nandakumar

Reformation Sunday

October 25, 2026 | 10:00 AM

I

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 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

About Reformation Sunday

Reformation Sunday commemorates the day in 1517 when Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses, an event that helped launch the Protestant Reformation. Today, through the World Communion of Reformed Churches, we join millions of Reformed Christians around the world in renewing our commitment to the transformative work of the Holy Spirit, who is always reforming the Church: "reformed and always reforming according to the Word of God."

The Community Reformed Church of Colonie belongs to the Reformed tradition, shaped by Reformer John Calvin, who ministered in Geneva, Switzerland. In the early 1600s, Dutch colonizers who followed Calvin's teachings colonized this region. Today, we commemorate, rather than celebrate, the Reformation as its legacy includes both renewal and harm; Reformed churches advanced colonialism and upheld systems of oppression. In this age, the Reformed tradition humbly seeks in hope to reconcile with all those it has harmed, and renewed fellowship and unity with all Christians.

"Tradition is the living faith of the dead; traditionalism is the dead faith of the living. Tradition lives in conversation with the past while remembering where we are and when we are and that it is we who have to decide. Traditionalism supposes that nothing should ever be done for the first time, so all that is needed to solve any problem is to arrive at the supposedly unanimous testimony of this homogenized tradition." – Rev. Jaroslav Pelikan, Titus Street Professor of Ecclesiastical History at Yale University.

PRELUDE "In Christ There is No East or West"

VOTUM, WELCOME, OPENING SENTENCES

THE ELDER'S PRAYER - Vicki Lane

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP
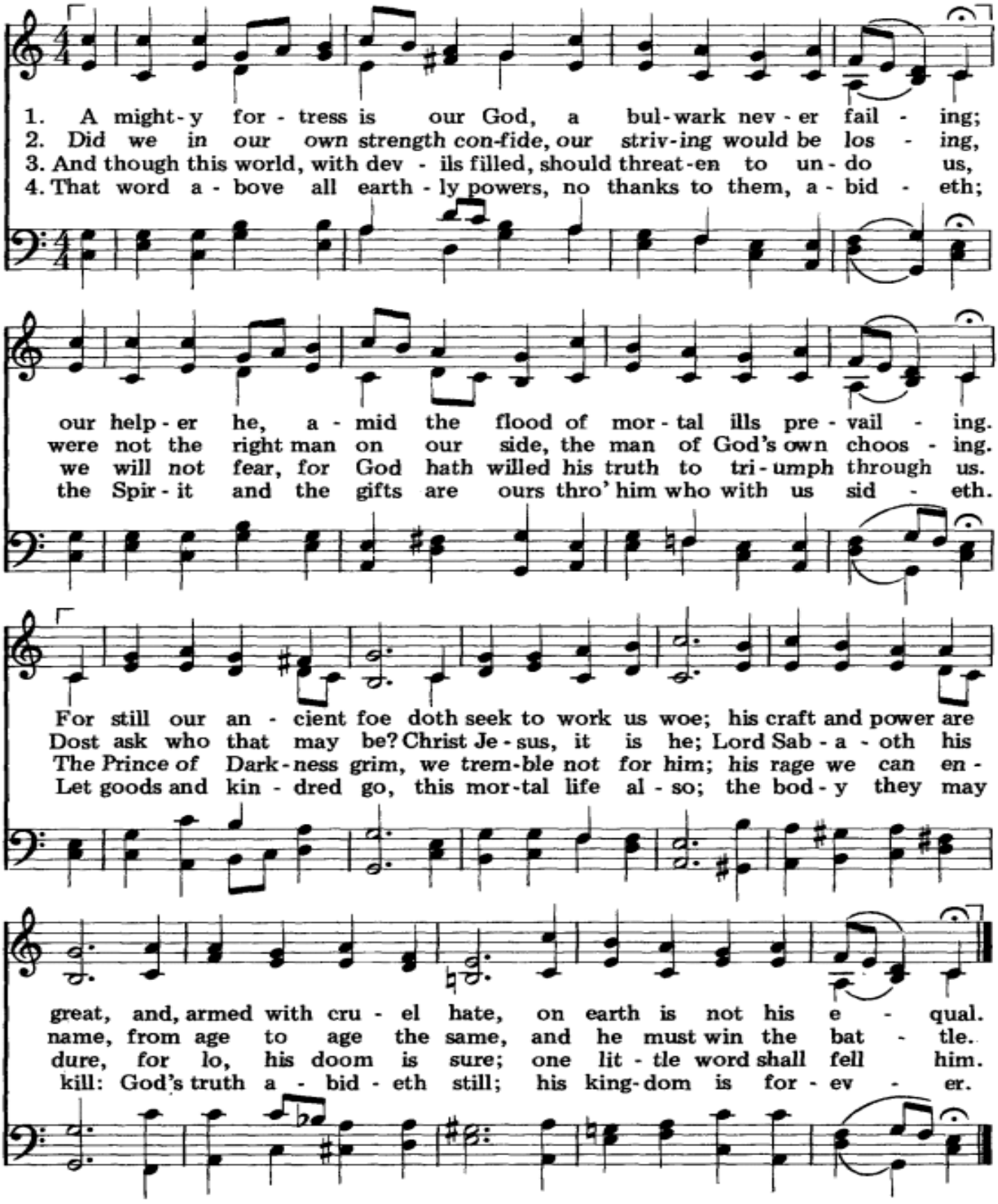
When the world shakes, God is our fortress.
When the church wanders, God calls us to renewal.

Christ's grace is our sure foundation.
Love of God and neighbor is our way.

Let our faith be reformed by grace and our lives renewed in love.
Let us worship the God who is our mighty fortress!



*** OPENING SONG** "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"



CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God whose glory is revealed in love, we confess that we have loved you with our lips but not always with our lives. We so often give our devotion to fleeting things, and we have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us. Teach us to love you alone, and make your glorious love visible through mercy, justice, and care for others. Amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION "Lord, Be Glorified" *[lives, homes, church, world]*

In our [lives], Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In our [lives], Lord, be glorified today.

GOD'S RESPONSE

CALL TO NEW LIVING *Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 4*

Q. 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 being, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment.

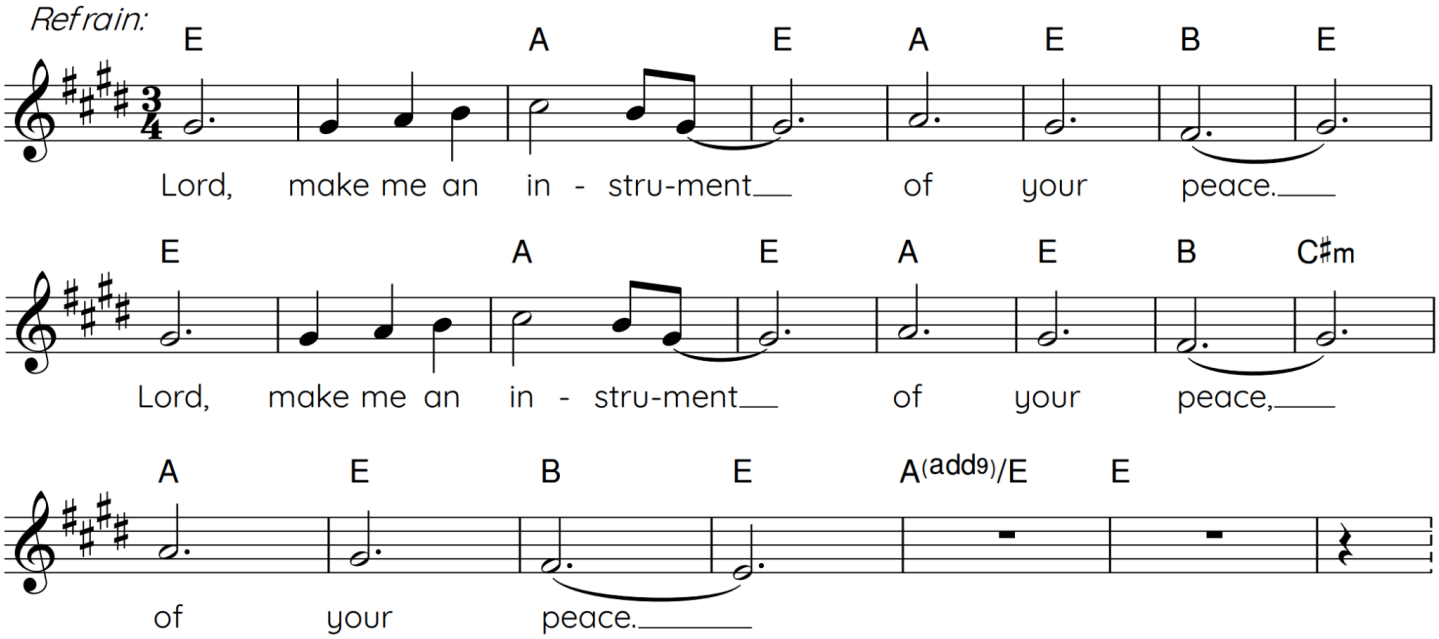
"And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Sarah Huiest

PASSING CHRIST'S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!
Please greet one another with Christ's peace.

REGATHERING SONG "Make Me an Instrument"



ANNOUNCEMENTS - Vicki Lane

DEACON'S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Kevin Ingalls
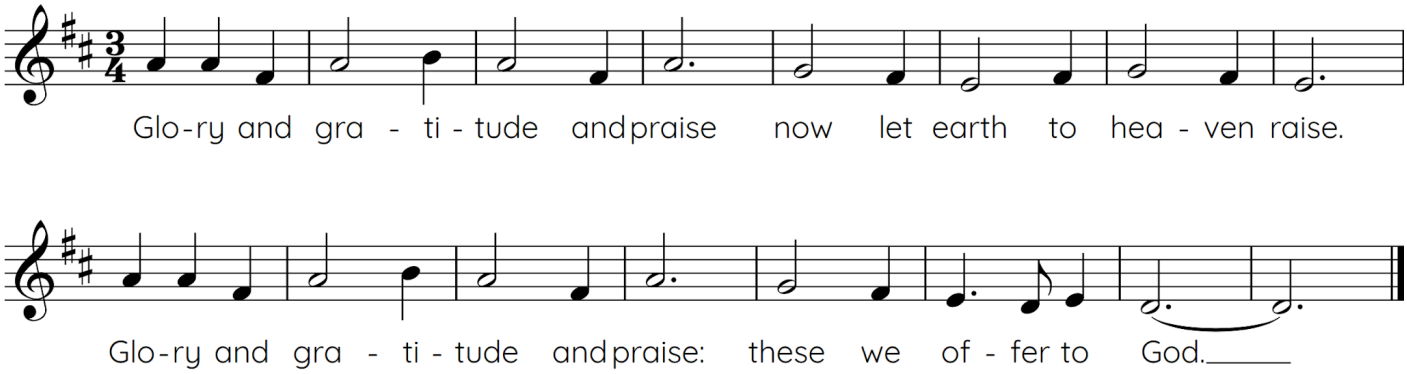
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

OFFERING

You're encouraged to give to the mission of The Community Reformed Church of Colonie via the offering plates or electronically through Zeffy.

*** HARVEST DOXOLOGY** "Glory and Gratitude and Praise" (2 times)



ANTHEM

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Invisible Word of God, teach us to love you fully and our neighbors faithfully, that your glory may be made visible in our lives. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 22:34-40 (CEB)
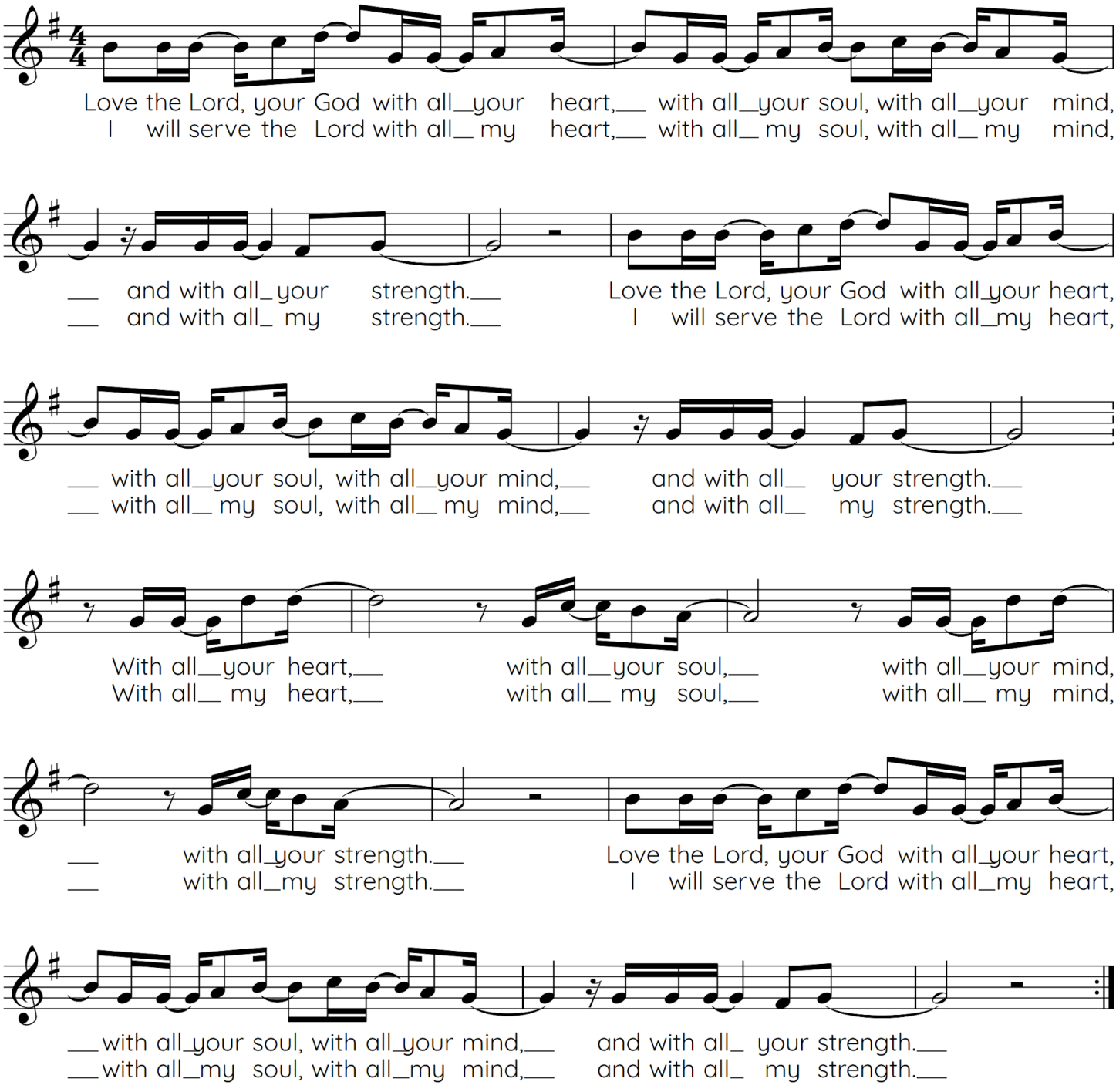
When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had left the Sadducees speechless, they met together. One of them, a legal expert, tested him. "Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

He replied, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You must love your neighbor as you love yourself. All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands."

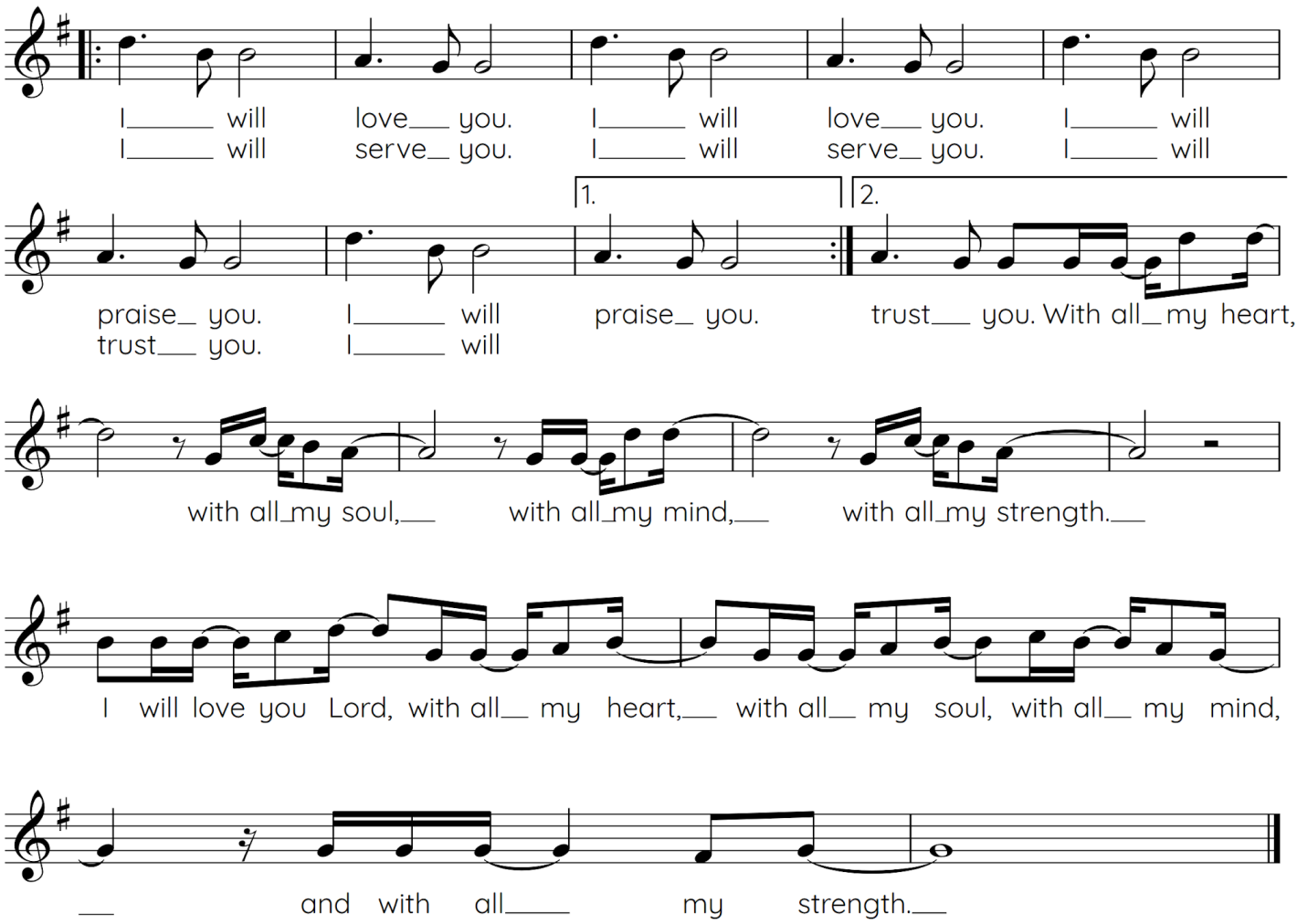
This is the Gospel of The Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ!***

SERMON How to Love The Invisible God

*** SONG OF RESPONSE** "Love The Lord:



2



*** 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:

Saturday Prep: **Kevin Ingalls**

Preacher: **Rev. Trey Tirpak**

Liturgist: **Karen Latta**

Special Announcer(s):
Vicki Lane

Musician 1: **Ben April**

Musician 2: **Bert Huiest**

Elder: **Vicki Lane**

Deacon: **Kevin Ingalls**

Sunday School:
Sarah Huiest

Children's Message:
Sarah Huiest

Children in Worship:
Sarah Huiest

Children's Aide:
Violet Braungard

Sound: **John Lombardo**

Video: **Alex Huiest**

Zoom: **Deb Desnoyers**

Welcome: **Lori Coté**

Coffee: **Lou Ann Connelly**

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In Christ There is No East or West
Music: Traditional Spiritual, adapted by Harry T. Burleigh, arr. Thomas Keesecker © 2024 Birnamwood Publications
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Lord Be Glorified
Contributors: Bob Kilpatrick
Text: © 1978, Radiant Music
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Prayer of St. Francis
Words: St. Francis of Assisi (PD)
Music: Benjamin April © 2024 Benjamin April

Love the Lord
Words & Music: Lincoln Brewster
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The Irish Blessing
Words: Traditional; Music: Benjamin April
© 2021 Benjamin April

Online Giving:

zeffy

[Link to CRCC Giving Page]

Offerings, MOM, Puzzle Campaign & General Giving:



Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

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

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday - Joshua 3:7-17
Tuesday - Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
Wednesday - Micah 3:5-12
Thursday - Psalm 43
Friday - 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Saturday - Matthew 23:1-12
Sunday - All Saints' Day;
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Household Prayer: Morning

You have made the day,
O God, to be a sign of your light, showering Earth with clarity and gladness. I thank you for this day, asking only that in all that I do and say, your joy in this world will shine through; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

For rest and quiet,
you have made the night, O God.
The day's activity has slowed,
and your people prepare for a time to dream. I thank you for all that has transpired in these last hours
and for the assurance that with sleep will come, as well, your presence and guardianship. Bless this night, in the name of eternal goodness:
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

General Announcements

The Quilt Group - Monday, October 26, 5:30-7:30 pm
The Quilt Group will meet to continue working on a comfort quilt for a veteran. No sewing experience is needed to participate. Contact Lou Ann Connelly for more information.

The Community Outreach Team of Community Reformed Church is seeking volunteers to assist with supplying dinners to the **Overflow Shelter at the First Church**. Use the Sheridan Ave parking lot to drop off meals. The number to call when you arrive is 518-426-1227. The shelter with dinners will be two Mondays a month. Don't worry about delivery; if you are able to have the meal to the church by 5:30, Tina will deliver it for you, please let her know that you will need her to deliver it at least two days before. If you have any questions, please contact Tina Bottini at tinambo85@gmail.com or Vicki Lane at vlane1020@gmail.com. For more information and to sign-up to volunteer, please follow this link:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EAEA92AA6FAC43-66117483-overflow

Fabric Needed: The South End Children's Cafe in Albany is starting a Sewing Club, and they need fabric! This will be an ongoing need. Donations can be brought directly to them or given to Sarah Huiest. They are also seeking volunteers to assist the children! If you are interested in volunteering or have fabric to deliver, you can contact Tracie at (518) 275-8890. You are also welcome to contact Sarah Huiest with any questions.

Community Outreach Team: For October, we will be collecting Mac-n-Cheese, Hamburger Helper, rice, and other boxed dinner staples. Shelf stable milk is always in need. They will be donated to the Capital Church Food Pantry on Vly Road. Your gifts are most appreciated.

The October Mission of the Month is Unity House in connection with Domestic Violence Awareness Month. CDC data reports that on average, 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner in the US. Over the course of a year, that equals more than 12 million women and men. In recognition of these staggering numbers, the **October Mission of the Month is Unity House.**

Donations to Unity House of Troy can be made via your Offering envelope, Zeffy on the church's website, or directly at
https://www.unityhouseny.org/how-to-help/donate/

We Need Your Help with Sunday Mornings:

- **Welcome & Coffee Hour Host Sign Up:**
  https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EAEA92AA6FAC43-65887124-welcome
  - **Welcome Hosts** greet everyone as they arrive for worship, and provide printed bulletins. Hosts will also provide a warm welcome for all visitors.
  - **Coffee Hour Hosts** will set-up then monitor coffee service after worship. This ministry promotes a time to catch-up with members of our church family and meet our visitors.
- **Liturgist Sign Up:**
  https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4EAEA92AA6FAC43-65887132-liturgist#/
  - As a Liturgist one's responsibility is to lead the congregational responses to The Call to Worship, The Responsive Reading and the Prayer of Confession along with other parts of the service as needed.





Agape Service on Sunday, November 22th at 10 AM.

As we end the liturgical year on Christ the King Sunday (11/22), the Sunday before Thanksgiving and Advent, we will gather for a special Agape Service, which consists of a simple meal featuring the traditional foods of early Christian fellowship. We'll share bread, cheese, grapes, cookies, and cider, all in the spirit of gratitude because at the heart of the Christian life is the generative practice of giving thanks.

So come to feast, fellowship, give thanks, and celebrate Christ our King with hearts full of gratitude!

Please sign up to bring a food item to share at the table in the back of the sanctuary or contact Lori (crcclori@gmail.com, 518-869-5589).

And, in the spirit of thankful giving, **please bring** a non-perishable food item for our local food pantry.

If you're unable to worship with us in the sanctuary, please enjoy the service via Zoom and with whatever food items you have at home. We'll send you gold and white paper strips so you can write what you're thankful for and return them to be added to our Chrismon tree.

COMMISSIONING SERVICE

The Classis of Albany will gather here on Sunday, **November 15th, at 3 PM** to commission Donna Davidson as a Preaching Elder.

Join us as we celebrate Donna's calling and pray for her as she begins this new chapter of service among us.

All are welcome to share in this joyful occasion!

October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sept 27	28	29	30	1	2	3
9am 10am	5:30pm					12pm
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9am 10am			Worship Committee 6:30pm			9:30am A Rocha 10am
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
9am 10am Mission in Motion 11am	DayCare Closed 2pm 6:30pm	6pm	6pm	6pm		9:30am Fall Clean Up 9am
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9am 10am Baptism 10AM	2pm	6pm	6:30pm			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
9am 10am Second Hour 11am	5:30pm	6pm	Deacon Meeting 7PM			

KEY

Indoor Worship | Sunday School | Women's Bible Study | Asset Walk | Shirley's Shawls | Sew and Reap Quilters

Upper Room for All | Stewardship and Creation Care | Advocacy and Global Missions | Orchid Society | Book Group | Consistory | Community Outreach