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The First Sunday of Advent | Hope Sunday November 30, 2025, 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

Portions of this service are inspired by the "Grounded & Growing" Advent series from Reformed Worship, and from the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship's "Worship Sourcebook"

For Contemplation

"A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots...

The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them."

Excerpts from Isaiah 11

PRELUDE "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER'S PRAYER – Linda Murphy

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES | The Braunguard Family

Out of darkness a light shines.

Today we begin the journey toward the light.

For a new shoot grows out of a dead stump.

Hope sprouts from what we thought was a hopeless situation.

For a day is coming,

When the wolf shall live with the lamb,

and the lion shall lie down with a child.

The calf and the lion will feed together,

and a little child shall lead them.

Today we begin the journey toward the light.

Today we light this candle of hope.

INTROIT "Now the Heavens Start to Whisper"



Now the heav-ens start to whis-per as the veil is grow-ing thin.



Earth from slum-ber wakes to lis-ten to the stir-ring, faint with - in:



Seed of prom-ise, deep - ly plant-ed, child to spring from Jes-se's stem!



Like the soil be - neath the frost-line, hearts grow soft to wel-come him.

CALL TO WORSHIP Based on Psalm 130:5-7

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in God's Word I hope.

My soul waits for the Lord

more than those who watch for the morning.

I wait because there is no darkness with you, O Lord.

O people of God, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,

and with him is plenteous redemption.

There is no darkness with you, O Lord.

* **OPENING SONG** "Savior of the Nations, Come"



1. Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, show your - self the Vir - gin's son.
2. Not by hu - man power or seed did the wom - an's womb con - ceive;
3. Christ laid down his maj - es - ty, passed thro' dark Geth - sem - a - ne;
4. Christ in glo - ry, in - ter - cede for your crea - tures' suf - fer - ing need;
5. Praise to you, O Lord, we sing; praise to Christ, our new - born King!



Fill with won - der, all the earth, that our God chose such a birth.
 on - ly by the Spir - it's breath was the Word of God made flesh.
 though he left his Fa - ther's home, Christ now sits on God's own throne.
 let your res - ur - rect - ing power soon com - plete the vic - tory hour.
 With the Fa - ther, Spir - it, one, let your last - ing king - dom come.



WORDS: Attr. Ambrose of Milan, 4th C.; German version, Martin Luther, 1523;
 tr. Calvin Seerveld, 1984

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND
 7.7.7.7.

MUSIC: *Enchiridia*, Erfurt, 1524; harm. Seth Calvisius, 1594

Words © Calvin Seerveld

PROFESSION OF FAITH “O Come O Come Emmanuel”

***O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.***

Refrain

***O come, O Branch of Jesse's stem,
unto your own and rescue them!
From depths of hell your people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.***

Refrain

***O come, O Bright and Morning Star,
and bring us comfort from afar!
Dispel the shadows of the night
and turn our darkness into light.***

Refrain

Refrain:

***Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.***

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, always with us, always coming: We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent.

***We have forgotten how to hope in miracles;
we have ignored the promise of your kingdom;
we get distracted by all the busyness of this season.***

Forgive us. Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, so that we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us.

Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for his coming. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

***Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.***

ASSURANCE OF PARDON based on Jeremiah 33:14-16 & Isaiah 40:1-2

SUMMARY OF GOD'S LAW

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Sarah Huiest

DEACON'S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Jessica Kaercher

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 “Hallelujah! Christ is Coming”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Emmanuel, as we wait for your return, help us see your glory and love breaking forth through the reading and preaching of your Word. It's in your name, O Christ, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 11:1-9 (CEB)

A shoot will grow up from the stump of Jesse;
a branch will sprout from his roots.

The Lord's spirit will rest upon him,
a spirit of wisdom and understanding,
a spirit of planning and strength,
a spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord.
He will delight in fearing the Lord.

He won't judge by appearances,
nor decide by hearsay.
He will judge the needy with righteousness,
and decide with equity for those who suffer in the land.

He will strike the violent with the rod of his mouth;
by the breath of his lips he will kill the wicked.
Righteousness will be the belt around his hips,
and faithfulness the belt around his waist.

The wolf will live with the lamb,
and the leopard will lie down with the young goat;
the calf and the young lion will feed together,
and a little child will lead them.

The cow and the bear will graze.
Their young will lie down together,
and a lion will eat straw like an ox.

A nursing child will play over the snake's hole;
toddlers will reach right over the serpent's den.

They won't harm or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain.
The earth will surely be filled with the knowledge of the Lord,
just as the water covers the sea.

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

Sermon "Old Roots, New Shoots"

*** SONG OF RESPONSE “View the Present Through the Promise”**



View the pres - ent through the prom - ise, Christ will come a - gain.
 Probe the pres - ent with the prom - ise,
 Match the pres - ent to the prom - ise,



Trust de - spite the deep - ening dark - ness, Christ will come a - gain.
 Let your dai - ly ac - tions wit - ness,
 Make this hope your guid - ing prem - ise,



Lift the world a - bove its griev - ing through your watch - ing and be - liev - ing
 Let your lov - ing and your giv - ing and your jus - tice and for - giv - ing
 Pat - tern all your cal - cu - lat - ing and the world you are cre - a - ting



in the hope past hope's con - ceiv - ing; Christ will come a - gain.
 be a sign to all the liv - ing;
 to the ad - vent you are wait - ing;

*** 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
Rev. Trey Tirpak

Music Director
Ben April

Elder of the Day
Linda Murphy

Soloist
Tina Bottini

Deacon of the Day
Jessica Kaercher

Sound Technician
Mike York

Liturgist
Cameron Carley

Video Technician
Cameron Kaercher

Children's Message
Sarah Huiest

Welcome Host
Lou Ann Connelly

Coffee Hour Host
Pam Izzo

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Now the Heavens Start to Whisper

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Hallelujah! Christ is Coming

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The Irish Blessing

Words: Traditional
Music: Benjamin April © 2021 Benjamin April

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

Offerings and gifts to the church may be submitted online via PayPal (link or QR code found below or on our website), by mailed check, by direct bank payment or by placing them in the offering box.

PayPal:

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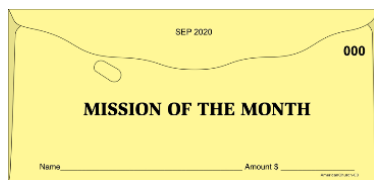
Website:

www.communityreformedchurch.com

Mailing Address:

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701 Sand Creek Road
Colonie, NY 12205

November Special Offering Envelopes –





Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

Karen Latta
kmlatta@nycap.rr.com
&
Karen Reynolds
kreynolds150@gmail.com

COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH OF COLONIE STAFF AND CONSISTORY

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CONSISTORY

Elders

Karl Coté, VP
Vicki Lane
Linda Murphy
Melody York

Deacons

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.



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