

The Fifth Sunday of Eastertide
May 3, 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

Today We Are Celebrating Communion

All those who seek fellowship with Jesus Christ are welcome to his table.
All bread is gluten-free, and all cups contain grape juice.
Please hold the elements; we will partake of them together.

For Your Information:

The Commitments of the Northeastern Middle Assembly:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Living Relationally | We are united in Christ through baptism and the Lord's Table; therefore, we are committed to serving Christ together with humility, integrity, and hospitality. We will show love and compassion to one another as we live and serve together. |
| Flourishing | We commit to the flourishing of our congregations and ministries through raising up and equipping leaders, resourcing and supporting our congregations to faithfully respond to God's call to proclaim the Good News. |
| Faithful Adaptability | We are Reformed and always reforming, according to the Word of God and the call of the Spirit. Therefore, we strive to be an evolving church in an ever-changing world. We commit to responding to contemporary challenges in the world with innovation and collaboration led by God. |
| Respect | We commit to holding space for the diversity of God's people. We will not discriminate against candidates, members, and delegates on the basis of their age, race, color, national or ethnic origin, disability, gender identity or expression, or sexual orientation. Consistories and congregations are permitted to determine their own mind on matters of same-sex marriage and affirmation of LGBTQ+ persons with faithful pastoral and theological reflection and a |

commitment to their Scriptural obedience.

PRELUDE “I Will Arise and Go to Jesus”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER’S PRAYER - Vicki

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

EASTERTIDE INTROIT “In Christ We Live”

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. It contains a melodic line with lyrics: "In Christ we live_ and in Christ we die_ and in Christ we rise_ up a - gain. Let". The second staff continues the melody with lyrics: "heav'n be glad and let earth re-joice and sing, "Al - le-lu - ia, a - men!" In men!". Above the second staff, there are two boxed repeat signs: the first is labeled "1.2." and the second is labeled "3.". The music ends with a double bar line.

CALL TO WORSHIP Based on the hymn, “God of Grace and God of Glory”

God of grace and God of glory,
you have called your people in every generation.

***We hear your call,
and gather to worship and give thanks to you!***

You have led this congregation through many seasons.

We remember our story with gratitude.

Grant us wisdom and courage for the living of these days.

Lead us with hope into the future.

By your grace, the church belongs to you,

and its glory shines when we remember that.

Let us worship the God whose grace and glory makes the church good!

* OPENING SONG "God of Grace and God of Glory"

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

PROFESSION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed*

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;***

***And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Into My Heart” (3 times)

***Into my heart, into my heart; Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.
Come in today, come in to stay; Come into my heart, Lord Jesus.***

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***God of every generation, we confess that we cling to old wounds
and rehearse old grievances. We even tell ourselves stories of
scarcity, fear, and decline, or speak too quickly of what cannot be
done or too slowly of your faithfulness among us. We are sorry.***

***Forgive us when our words have wounded rather than healed,
when our remembering has become bitter resentment or shallow
sentimentality, and when our vision for church has grown small.***

Help us to gaze to heaven and remember the story of your grace—a story wide enough for every person, strong enough for every season, and hopeful enough to lead us forward. 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 PARDON

SUMMARY OF GOD’S LAW

PASSING CHRIST’S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Please greet one another in the sanctuary and online with Christ’s peace.



CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – Sarah

DEACON’S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Kevin

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

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 LASST UNS ERFREUEN**

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures

high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise

God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it

one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

ANTHEM “How Firm a Foundation”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

***God, like Stephen, we as your church now gaze into heaven.
Reveal your glory to us, so that we might have hope. Amen.***

SCRIPTURE LESSON Acts 7:54-60

Once the council members heard these words, they were enraged and began to grind their teeth at Stephen.

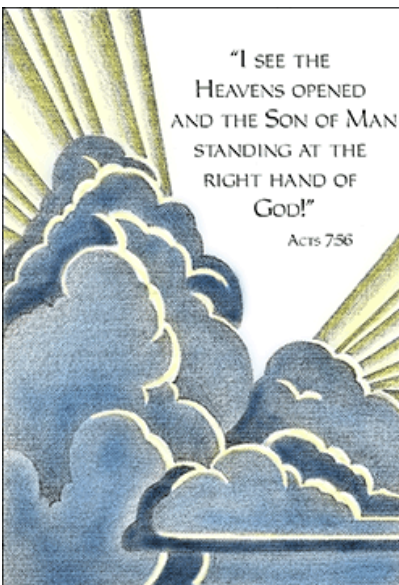
But Stephen, enabled by the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw God's majesty and Jesus standing at God's right side. He exclaimed, "Look! I can see heaven on display and the Human One standing at God's right side!"

At this, they shrieked and covered their ears. Together, they charged at him, threw him out of the city, and began to stone him. The witnesses placed their coats in the care of a young man named Saul.

As they battered him with stones, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, accept my life!" Falling to his knees, he shouted, "Lord, don't hold this sin against them!" Then he died.

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

SERMON Our Story: High Heals and Aerated Soil



"I SEE THE
HEAVENS OPENED
AND THE SON OF MAN
STANDING AT THE
RIGHT HAND OF
GOD!"

ACTS 7:56

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

* THE CALL TO COMMUNION

We have one Lord, one God, one Savior.

***The Holy Spirit makes Christ real to us,
binding us in one, as we share him together.***

This is something we do eagerly.

Christ welcomes us here.

This is something we do seriously.

***For this is the moment of greatest intimacy when we take the
symbols of the body and blood of the risen Lord.***

This is something we do together.

***I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go into the presence of the Lord".***

* THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

* THE PREFACE

* **HYMN** "Holy Lord"

Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord_ God Al - might - y!
Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee. Your
glo - ry fills the earth, Lord God a - bove. Ho -
san - na in the high - - - est!

THE MEANING OF THE SACRAMENT

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Come to the feast of the reign of God; we are in-vit - ed to share!_
Make no ex-cus-es, that you can't at-tend, sim-ply come, for your fam-ily is here!_

For around this table, you will find your family.



Come not be-cause you have to,___ come not to prove you are saved,



come not to speak, or to hear what's ex - pect - ed, have



cour - age to fol - low wher - ev - er Christ leads!

And be open to the ways the Spirit moves among you.



Come to the feast___ of the reign___ of God;___



we are in - vit - ed to share!___ Bring all your sor - rows and



all of your_ joy; the bro - ken are all___ wel-come here!___

*For this is the feast of the reign of God, where the
broken are molded into a Beloved Community.*



Come, for the ta - ble is read-y!___ Come, for the ta - ble is read-y!___



Come for the ta - ble is read-y to of - fer new life!_____

COMMUNION PRAYER



Christ has died! Christ is ris - en! Christ will come a - gain!

"GLORY TO BE ALMIGHTY GOD"



Glo - ry be to Al might-y God, and glo-ry be_ to the Son,_____



Glo - ry be to the Spir - it,___ e - ter-nal three in one!___ We



praise your name, we bless your name, we glo - ri - fy your name!



Hope_ with-out end, love_ with-out end World with-out



end, oh Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - - est!

COMMUNION

THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all God's benefits.

God forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases.

God redeems your life and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The Lord does not always accuse, and does not hold anger forever.

The Lord does not deal with us according to our sins nor repay us according to our iniquities.

As the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love toward those who revere the Lord.

As far as the East is from the West, so far does God remove our transgressions from us.

As a parent has compassion for their children, so the Lord has compassion for all who revere the Lord.

For God knows how we are made, and remembers that we are but dust.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

* **HYMN** "The Lord's Prayer"

Our Fa - ther, who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be thy name.

Thy king - dom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heav - en.

Give us this day our dai - ly bread. And for - give us our debts, as we for - give our

debt - ors. And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from

e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and thine is the pow - er, and thine is the glo - ry, for

ev - er, for - ev - er, for - ev - er. A -

men, a - men, a - men, a - men.

*** 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
Vicki Lane

Sound Technician
John Lombardo

Deacon of the Day
Kevin Bottini

Video Technician
Cameron Kaercher

Liturgist
Melody York

Welcome Host
Beth Colbert

Children's Message
Sarah Huiest

Coffee Hour Host
Beth Colbert

Zoom Host
Debra Desnoyers

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How Firm a Foundation
Traditional American Melody, arr. Victor Labenske
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Holy Lord
Mystery of Faith
Glory Be to Almighty God
Come to the Feast
The Lord's Prayer
All above © 2023 Bruce Cornwell & Benjamin April

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 Zeffy (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.

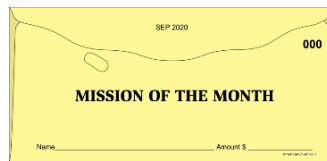
Website:

www.communityreformedchurch.com

Mailing Address:

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

May Special Offering Envelopes –



zeffy 



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



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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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.



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

**Website - www.communityreformedchurch
Facebook - facebook.com/coloniereformed
Twitter - @ColonieReformed**