



*Baptism of Christ* (2005) by Dave Zelenka

The First Sunday after the Epiphany - Baptism of the Lord  
January 11, 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**

Immersed, we awaken—  
called to work, to love, to live—  
we find our freedom.

**PRELUDE** “Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”

**THE COMMUNITY GATHERS**

**THE ELDER’S PRAYER** – Melody

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**INTROIT** “Spirit Song”

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Almighty God, like the tide and waves that rise and crash every day,  
***the waves of your glory break over us every day.***

In the roaring waterfall of your Being,  
***deep calls out to deep, and the depths of our souls yearn for you.***

God, we long for living water—  
***water that will quench our thirst for renewal and grace.***

So we rejoice when we come to the well of life and you meet us, saying:  
***Drink, and never thirst again for what I give will well up within you as life without end.***

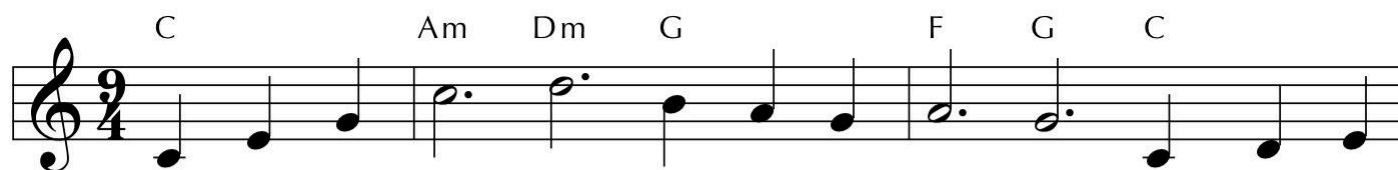
From the depths of the well within us to the depths of baptismal waters,  
***you meet us in ways beyond words.***

For in the waters of baptism, you claim us as your own,  
***washing us with your grace, and calling us into a life of freedom and meaning.***

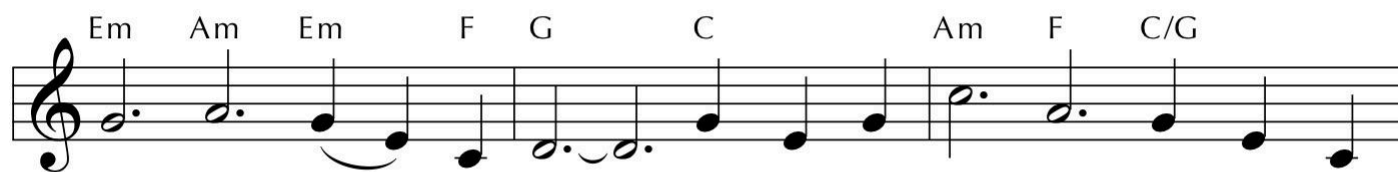
So call us out upon the water,

***and let us step with courage, trusting your promises beneath our feet.***

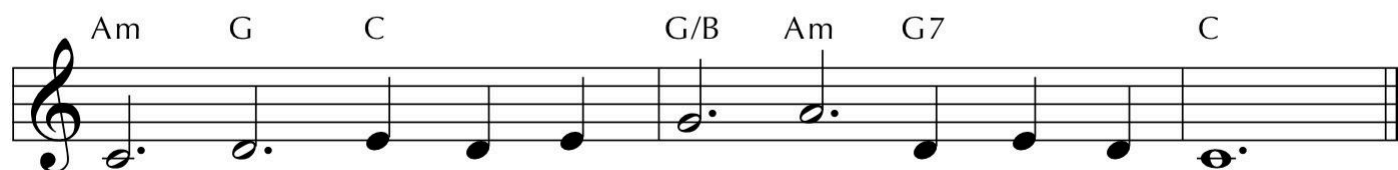
**\* OPENING HYMN "Baptized in Water"**



1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the  
2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the  
3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our King; heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing the  
tomb with Christ our King; one with his ris - ing, freed and for -  
sign of Christ our King; born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.  
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.  
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's prais - es we sing.

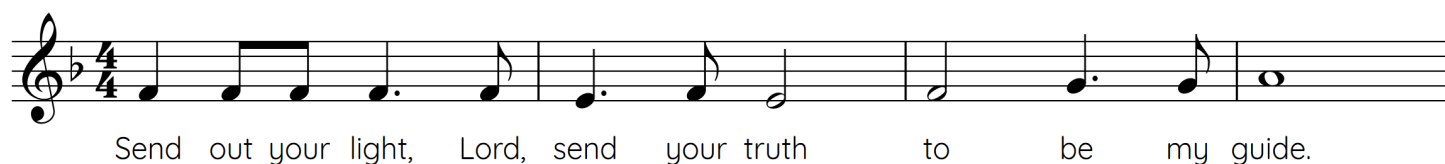
**DEACON'S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Kevin I**

**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.***

## BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

### EPIPHANY PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION “Send Out Your Light” (3 times)



### PROFESSION OF FAITH Summary excerpts from the RCA's confessions

***By baptism we are received into God's church and wholly belong to him whose mark and sign we bear.***

***For in baptism our souls are washed and our hearts are renewed by God's love and comfort.***

***And as baptized people, we are now clothed with the “new self” and its practices of love.***

### TAIZÉ MEDITATION “I Belong to You, O God” (3 times)

***I belong to you, O God, I belong to you.  
I belong to you, O God, I belong to you.***

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT – Remember your baptism, you'll know your purpose.

### A SCRIPTURAL READING - Excerpts from Romans 8:18-39

## BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE SONG “Neither Death Nor Life”

*The congregation is invited to come forward to the baptismal font in order to receive a sprinkling of water on their hand or forehead; please sing the refrain.*

Nei - ther death nor life, nor an - gels, nor rul - ers, nor

trails in the pres - ent, nor an - y trial to come; nei - ther height nor

depth, nor all of cre - a - tion can ev - er sep - a - rate us

from the love of God poured out in Christ Je - sus our Lord.

### **Cantor:** (not sung by congregation)

1. All who are led by the Spirit shall live as children of God, and heirs with Christ Jesus, God's adopted and chosen and loved.
2. All of the suff'ring we now must endure is nothing to the glory so soon to be revealed when creation itself is set free.
3. All things work for good for the ones who love God, and if God is for us, then who can be against us? God's justified cannot be condemned!
4. Who can separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship or distress, persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword?



## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Based on Psalm 36:9

***O Lord, “for with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.” In your light, reveal what you have for us today, so we might know life—true freedom. In Christ’s light we pray. Amen.***

## SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 3:13-17 (NRSVue)

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

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

## SERMON The Free Savior

### \* HYMN OF RESPONSE “Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters”



Wash, O God, our sons and daugh-ters, where your cleans-ing wa-ters flow.  
We who bring them long for nur - ture, by your milk may we be fed.  
Oh, how deep your ho - ly wis - dom! Un - im - ag - ined, all your ways!



Num-ber them a - mong your peo - ple; bless as Christ blessed long a - go.  
Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of bless - ing, liv - ing bread.  
To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our lives we wor-ship, praise!



Weave them gar-ments bright andspark-ling; com-pass them with love and light.  
God, re - new us, guide our foot-steps, free from sin and all its snares,  
We your peo - ple stand be-fore you, wa - ter - washed and Spir - it born.



Fill, a - noint them; send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light.  
one with Christ in liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.  
By your grace, our lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us: God, transform!

**\* 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.***

*As a gesture of gratitude for your generous Christmas gift, I have brought goodies from Hawaii for our coffee time. Thank you for your generosity!*

*- Pastor Trey*

**WORSHIP TEAM**

Worship Leader  
**Rev. Trey Tirpak**

Music Director  
**Ben April**

Elder of the Day  
**Melody York**

Sound Technician  
**Jerry Kallner**

Deacon of the Day  
**Kevin Ingalls**

Video Technician  
**Cameron Kaerchere**

Liturgist  
**Tina Bottini**

Welcome Host  
**Jessica Kaercher**

Children's Message  
**Melody York**

Coffee Hour Host  
**Linda Murphy**

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The Irish Blessing  
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## 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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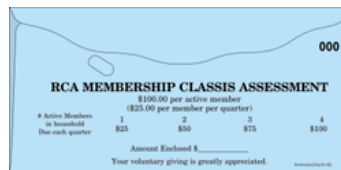
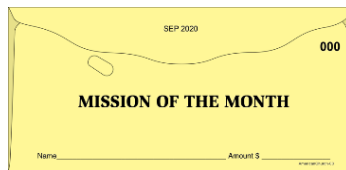
**Website:**

[www.communityreformedchurch.com](http://www.communityreformedchurch.com)

**Mailing Address:**

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

**January Special Offering Envelopes –**



**Prayer E-Chain**

**Please email prayer requests to:**

Karen Latta  
[kmlatta@nycap.rr.com](mailto:kmlatta@nycap.rr.com)  
&  
Karen Reynolds  
[kreynolds150@gmail.com](mailto:kreynolds150@gmail.com)

## COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH OF COLONIE STAFF AND CONSISTORY

### STAFF E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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Technical Director  
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### CONSISTORY

#### Elders

Karl Côté, 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.**



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

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