



## *Third Sunday of Easter*

April 23, 2023

Order of Service – 10:00 am

\* - Please rise in body or in spirit

### *Words of Welcome*

*The Community Reformed Church of Colonie welcomes you. 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. Thank you for worshipping with us.*

#### FOR CONTEMPLATION

The person who risks nothing does nothing, has nothing, is nothing, and becomes nothing. They may avoid suffering and sorrow, but they simply cannot learn and feel and change and grow and love and live.

~ Leo F. Buscaglia

**PRELUDE “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”**

**THE COMMUNITY GATHERS**

**THE ELDER’S PRAYER – Marissa Lombardo**

**THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**INTROIT “Make Me a Servant”**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

God of Life,  
Thank you for your gift of  
    resurrection now,  
and for all the ways you encourage us to  
    embrace the small risks of living fully.

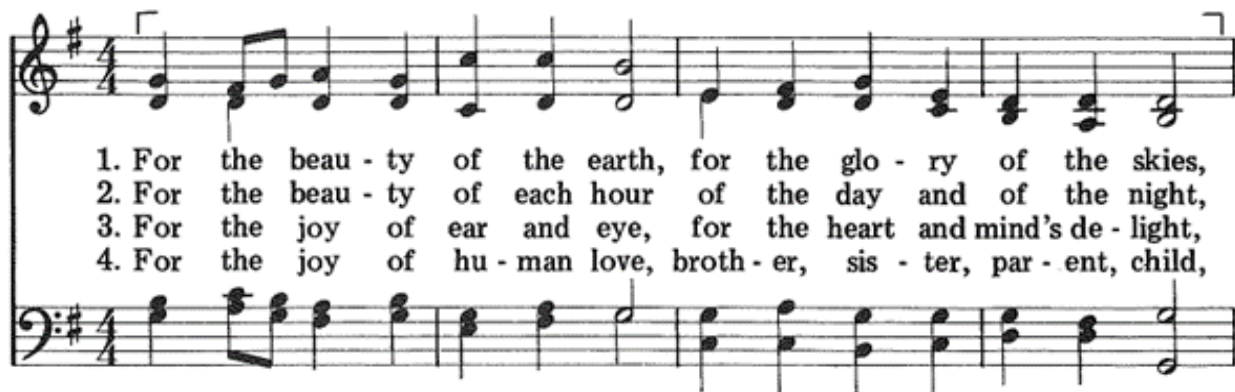
*As we worship today,  
    we invite your courage-nurturing Spirit  
    to lead us away from false,  
    life-reducing security  
        and into true, life-expanding boldness,  
    that we may become inspirers  
    of resurrection courage in our world here and now.*

*Amen.*

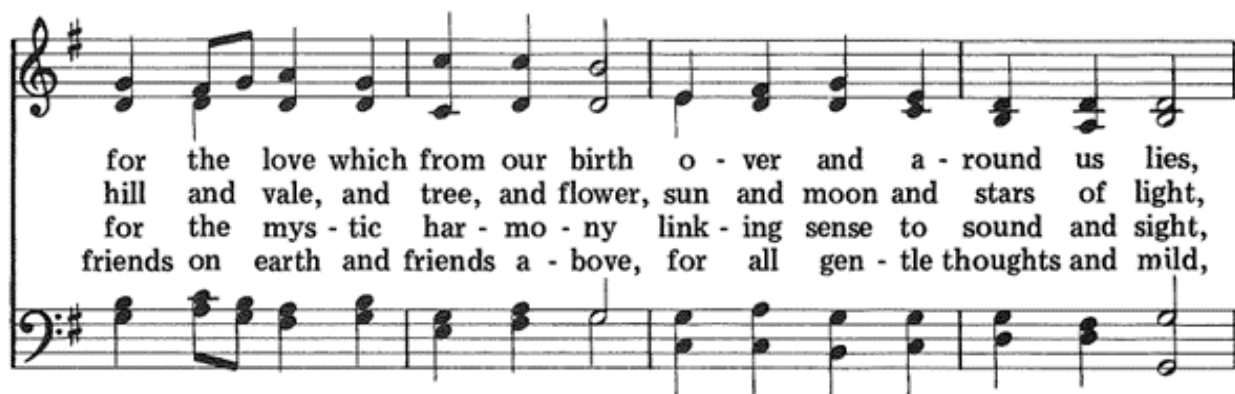
\*HYMN 353 "For the Beauty of the Earth" (Verses 1-4)

# 353 For the Beauty of the Earth

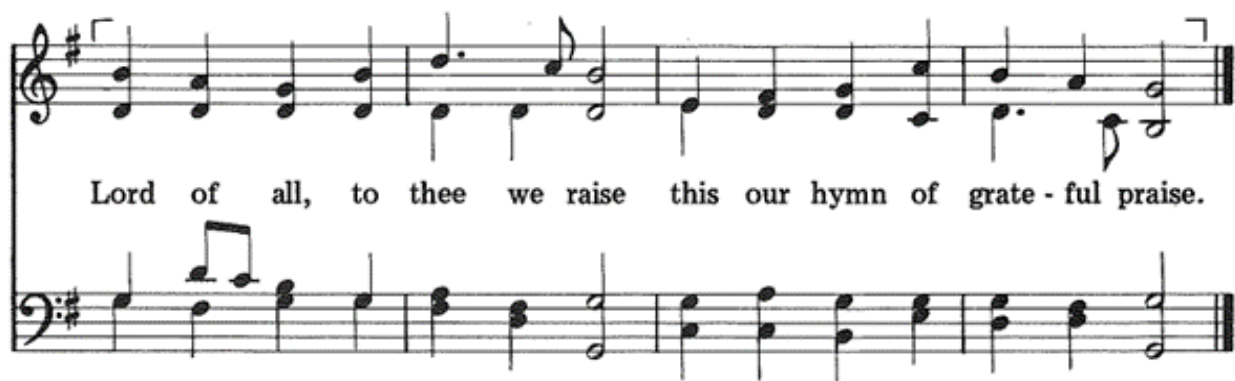
*Every good and perfect gift is from above . . . Jas. 1:17*



1. For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,  
2. For the beau - ty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
4. For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies,  
hill and vale, and tree, and flower, sun and moon and stars of light,  
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight,  
friends on earth and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

5. For the Church that evermore lifteth holy hands above,  
offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

6. For thyself, best gift divine, to the world so freely given;  
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

WORDS: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1864, alt.  
MUSIC: Conrad Kocher, 1838; harm. William H. Monk, 1861

DIX  
7.7.7.7.7.7.

## RESPONSIVE READING

Jesus, you appeared  
to your disciples  
when they were  
hiding in fear.

***And you understood their fear  
and helped them overcome their doubt.***

And you appear to us again today,  
as we gather as  
those who doubt  
and also believe.

***Thank you that your resurrection appearance  
can be felt even today  
as we sense you here in the people around us.***

Changing the world shouldn't  
seem daunting; it starts  
with one small action.

***May we listen to the voice  
asking us to step up, to  
step out in whatever  
small way we can.***

We accept your call to follow your way of love;  
***to resist racism,  
to stand up  
to sexism,  
to protest  
poverty,  
and to confront injustice.***

For those living in fear,  
feeling like life isn't vibrant anymore;  
***we share the  
life we discover,  
we share the  
love that grows,  
we share the grace that forgives and heals.***

*May we all know that vibrant, fulfilling,  
courageous life is  
waiting for us, and may  
we grab hold of it.  
Amen.*

## MEDITATION “Sing Praise & Bless the Lord”

*Sing, praise and bless the Lord.  
Sing, praise and bless the Lord.  
Peoples! Nations! Alleluia!*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We praise you God,  
for the richness of life we experience.  
*The things that make our  
hearts beat faster  
with adrenaline and  
excitement.*

We praise you God,  
for the richness of life we experience.  
*The things that break  
our hearts deeply  
with sadness and  
loss and grief.*

We praise you God,  
for the richness of life we experience.  
*The things that make our  
heartbeats race  
with fear and  
uncertainty.*

We praise you God,  
for the richness of life we experience.  
*The things that make our hearts  
grow ten times larger with love  
and adoration.*

Life is found in all the  
mysterious,  
wonderful and  
exciting adventures  
that await us if we will just try.

***But sometimes the  
unknown can be  
scary and it's easier  
to stay where it's  
safe.***

Forgive us for making our lives smaller in fear;  
***for letting the vibrant colors fade  
and the buoyant music die down.***

Forgive us for being scared of the risks;  
***for creating monsters out of  
the unknowns and  
rejecting the call of the  
adventures.***

***There is life waiting for us,  
and so we reach out for it.  
Amen.***

TAIZÉ MEDITATION "Come & Fill Our Hearts" (3 times)

***Come and fill our hearts with your peace.  
You alone, O Lord, are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace,  
Alleluia!***

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Lisa McGee

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.*

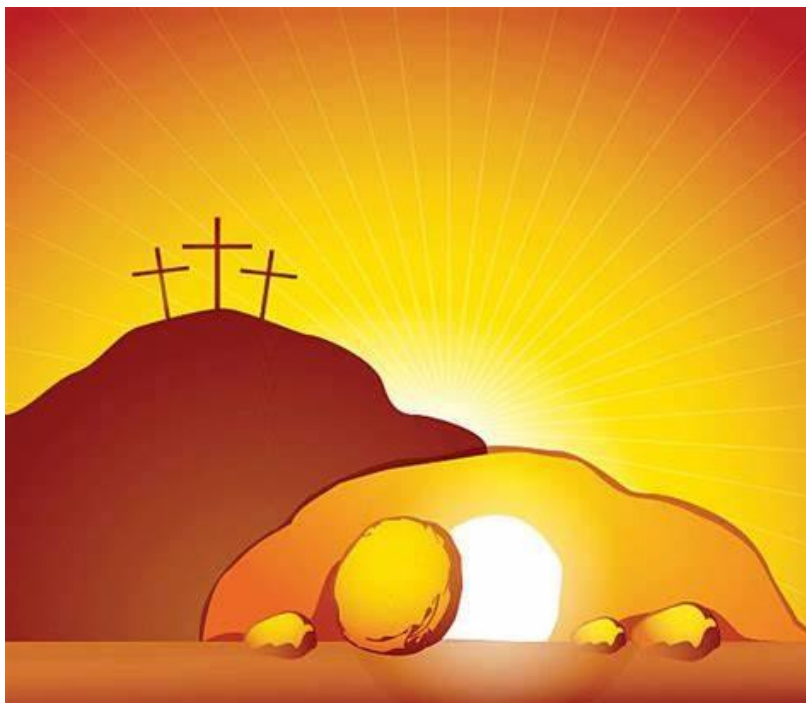
## CHORAL ANTHEM "Jesus is My Lord"

## SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening

and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

### **MORNING MESSAGE “Risky Business”**





\*HYMN 768 "I Come With Joy"

# 768 I Come with Joy

"I have eagerly desired to eat . . . with you." Lk. 22:14

Unison

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord, for-giv-en, loved and  
 2. I come with Chris-tians far and near to find, as all are  
 3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di-vi-sion  
 4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord. his pres-ence, al-ways  
 5. To-geth-er met, to-geth-er bound, we'll go our dif-ferent

free, in awe and won-der to re-call his  
 fed, the new com-mun-i-ty of love in  
 ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
 near, is in such friend-ship bet-ter known; we  
 ways, and as his peo-ple in the world, we'll

life laid down for me, his life laid down for me.  
 Christ's com-mun-ion bread, in Christ's com-mun-ion bread.  
 stran-gers now are friends, and stran-gers now are friends.  
 see and praise him here, we see and praise him here.  
 live and speak his praise, we'll live and speak his praise.

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1968, rev. 1977

MUSIC: Traditional American melody; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, 1977

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DOVE OF PEACE  
8.6.8.6.6.

## \*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.*

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Elder

**Marissa Lombardo**

Deacon

**Jessica Kaercher**

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**Mark Kaercher**

Children's Message

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**Marv Helf**

Welcome Host

**Lou Ann Connelly**

Coffee Hour Host

**Cheryl Brooks**

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### **Come & Fill our Hearts**

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Words & Music: Tom Fettke

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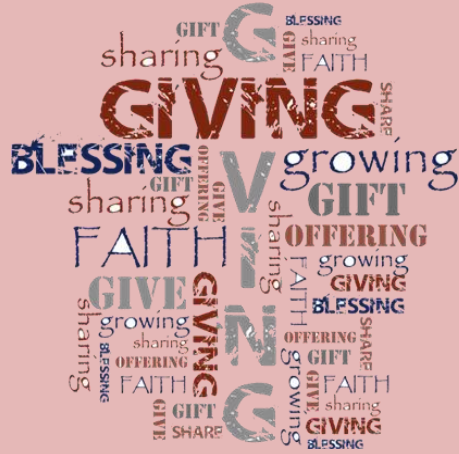
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### **I Come with Joy**

Author, Brian Arthur Wren

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**Online Church Bulletin Board**

[padlet.com/crccsarah.ChurchBulletinBoard](http://padlet.com/crccsarah.ChurchBulletinBoard)

**In Person Worship Guidelines**

Even though you may be vaccinated, mask wearing continues to be encouraged to protect our vulnerable and medically compromised worshippers. We ask you to respect the distance and comfort levels of others.

Reminder: If you are feeling under the weather, please remain home and participate in worship via Zoom

**ZOOM**

To join in Devotions, The Wired Word and 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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**Prayer E-Chain**

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