

# The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024  
Order of Service - 10:00 am

Please join in the worship liturgy by reading the sections in ***bold italics***.  
\* - Please rise in body or in spirit

## *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 worshipping with us.

## FOR CONTEMPLATION

“As Christ burst forth from the tomb, may new life burst forth from us and show itself in acts of love and healing to a hurting world. And may that same Christ, who lives forever and is the source of new life, keep your hearts rejoicing and grant you peace.”

Carol A. Wise, from “For All Who Minister:  
A Worship Manual for the Church of the Brethern

**PRELUDE** “I Love You Lord”

**THE COMMUNITY GATHERS**

**THE ELDER’S PRAYER** – Karl Coté

**THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**INTROIT** “Come and Find the Quiet Center”

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

People of God, let us worship the living God today!  
Remember that out of nothing God created the heavens and earth.  
Remember that God raised Jesus from the powerlessness of death to the power of God’s right hand.

Remember that not even the gates of hell can stand against God’s purposes.

Remember faith which can open our eyes to see Jesus, our risen redeemer and Lord.

***We open our eyes to behold God’s glory.***

***We open our ears to hear God’s wisdom.***

***We open our hands and offer our gifts to God.***

***We open our mouths to sing God’s praise.***

***We open our hearts to offer God our love and devotion.***

***We open our lives to serve our risen Lord.***

\* HYMN 612 "How Firm a Foundation"

1. How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,  
 2. "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis - mayed,  
 3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,  
 4. "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall lie,  
 5. "The soul that on Je - sus still leans for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
 for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;  
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;  
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
 the flame shall not hurt thee, I on - ly de - sign  
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 up - held by my right - eous, om - nip - o - tent hand.  
 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.  
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake!"

WORDS: Rippon's *Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.; sts. 2-5 from Isaiah 43:1-5  
 MUSIC: Traditional American melody; Funk's *Genuine Church Music*, 1832

FOUNDATION  
 11.11.11.11.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*“The concern that I lay bare before God today is:  
My concern for the life of the world in these troubled times.*

*I confess my own inner confusion as I look out upon the world.  
There is food for all – yet many are hungry.  
There are clothes enough for all – yet many are in rags.  
There is room enough for all – yet many are crowded.  
There are none who want war – yet preparations for conflict  
abound.*

*I confess my own share in the ills of the times.  
I have shirked my own responsibilities as a citizen.  
I have not been wise in casting my ballot. I have left to others  
a real interest in making a public opinion worthy of  
democracy.  
I have been concerned about my own little job, my own little  
security, my own shelter, my own bread.  
I have not really cared about jobs for others, security for  
others, shelter for others, bread for others.*

*Let thy light burn in me that I may, from this moment on, take  
effective steps within my own powers, to live up to the light and  
courageously to pay for the kind of world I so deeply desire.”*

Howard Thurman, from “Meditations of the Heart”

### TAIZÉ MEDITATION “Lord, Be Glorified”

*In our lives, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.  
In our lives, Lord, be glorified today.*

*In our homes, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.  
In our homes, Lord, be glorified today.*

*In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.  
In your church, Lord, be glorified today.*

*In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.  
In your world, Lord, be glorified today.*

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

**SUMMARY OF GOD'S LAW**

**TAIZÉ MEDITATION** "Holy Spirit, Come to Us" (3 times)

*Holy Spirit, come to us,  
Kindle in us the fire of your love  
Holy Spirit, come to us,  
Holy Spirit, come to us.*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** – Mark Kaercher

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

**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** "Consuming Fire"

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**



## SCRIPTURE LESSON Acts 4:5-22

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved." Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and ordinary men, they were amazed and recognized them as companions of Jesus. When they saw the man who had been cured standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition.

So they ordered them to leave the council while they discussed the matter with one another. They said, "What will we do with them? For it is obvious to all who live in Jerusalem that a notable sign has been done through them; we cannot deny it. But to keep it from spreading further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name." So they called them and ordered them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in God's sight to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge; for we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard." After threatening them again, they let them go, finding no way to punish them because of the people, for all of them praised God for what had happened. For the man on whom this sign of healing had been performed was more than forty years old.

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

**THE MORNING MESSAGE** "So, What Now?"

**\*HYMN “They’ll Know We Are Christians”**

We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord,  
 We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand,  
 We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side,  
 All\_\_\_ praise to the Fa - ther, from\_\_\_ whom all things come,

we are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord,  
 we will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand,  
 we will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side,  
 and all praise to Christ Je - sus, God's\_ on - ly\_\_\_ Son,

and we pray that all u - ni - ty will one day be re - stored:  
 and to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:  
 and we'll guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save\_\_\_ hu - man pride:  
 and all praise to the Spir - it, who\_\_\_ makes us\_\_\_ one:

*Refrain:*

And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our

love, yes, they'll know\_ we are Chris-tians by our love.

**\*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 Leaders

Minister of Word and Sacrament  
**Rev. Robert Hoffman**

Elder of the Day  
**Karl Coté**

Deacon of the Day  
**Kevin Bottini**

Liturgist  
**Jessica Kaercher**

Children's Message  
**Mark Kaercher**

Soloist  
**Brian Rhode**

Sound Technician  
**John Lombardo**

Video Technician  
**Cameron Kaercher**

Welcome Host  
**Pam Fitzpatrick**

Coffee Hour Host  
**Linda Murphy**



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### Website:

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

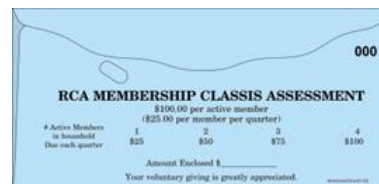
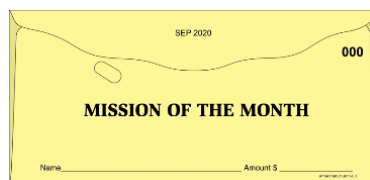
### Mailing Address:

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

## Special Offering Envelopes –

### There are three special offering envelopes for April

You may make your offering to these with the envelope provided, mail in the offering to the Church office or through Paypal. If you have any questions, contact Lori Coté at [crcllori@gmail.com](mailto:crcllori@gmail.com).



**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 Sunday Worship via Zoom, use the link below:

<https://tinyurl.com/CRCCZoom>

Meeting ID: 688 088 7155

By Phone: 1-646-558-8656



### **Prayer E-Chain**

**Please email prayer requests to:**

Sandy Cornwell  
[crccsandy@gmail.com](mailto:crccsandy@gmail.com)

and

Karen Latta  
[kmlatta@nycap.rr.com](mailto:kmlatta@nycap.rr.com)

**COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH OF COLONIE  
STAFF AND CONSISTORY**

**STAFF E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

**CONSISTORY**

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**Elders**

Karl Coté  
Ana Crosbourne  
Linda Murphy  
Melody York

**Deacons**

Kevin Bottini  
Marvin Helf  
Kevin Ingalls  
Jessica Kaercher



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