



# PALM SUNDAY

April 2, 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

"Life is difficult. This is a great truth, one of the greatest truths. It is a great truth because once we truly see this truth, we transcend it. Once we truly know that life is difficult-once we truly understand and accept it-then life is no longer difficult. Because once it is accepted, the fact that life is difficult no longer matters."

~ M. Scott Peck

PRELUDE “Empty Me”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER’S PRAYER – Ana Crosbourn

THE EXTINGUISHING OF THE LENTEN CANDLE

INTROIT “How Shall I Come Before the Lord”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus, how you came into Jerusalem  
has helped us to see that we can make a difference.  
You challenged the control of Empire  
by inviting people into laughter.  
***Thank you for the gift of laughter!***  
***May we never lose sight of the little joys***  
***in our everyday lives.***

You witnessed how the temple had been misunderstood;  
people had turned something sacred  
into a place of greed.  
You challenged the temptation to get rich  
by inviting people to remember the abundance of love.  
***Thank you for the gift of generosity!***  
***May we never forget to give freely***  
***and wholeheartedly***  
***where we can.***

You saw that the world had spiraled out,  
and love had become hard to find.  
You challenged the need for self-preservation  
by inviting people back into mutual care  
and love for one another.  
***Thank you for the gift of love!***  
***May we choose to build our relationships***  
***on sharing freely and generously,***  
***and on loving others deeply.***

Learning to live out a love that will change the world  
is not easy, God.

We have learnt to be callous towards suffering,  
protective of our possessions,  
and conditional with our love.

***May we open our hearts and lives a little more  
to the way of love that will offer healing,  
to generosity that will offer abundance  
and to loving others unconditionally.***

***Amen.***



# \* HYMN 203 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

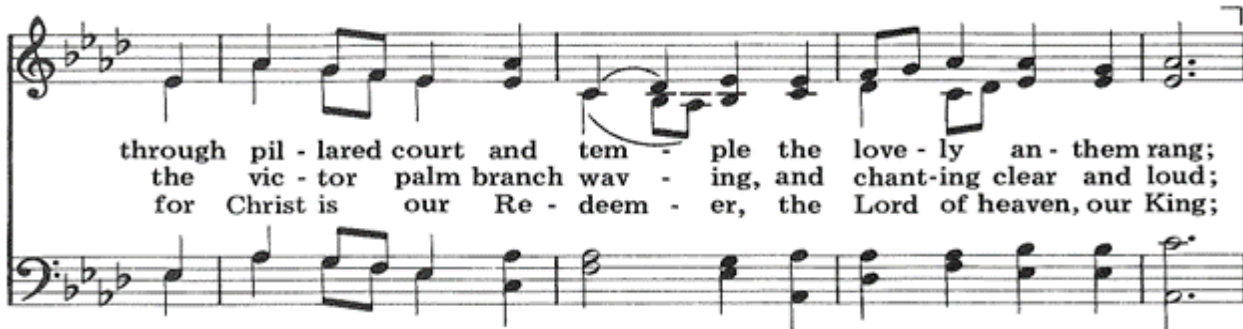
JESUS CHRIST

## 203 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

*Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Mk. 11:9*



1. Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na, the lit - tle chil-dren sang;  
 2. From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed 'mid an ex - ult - ant crowd,  
 3. "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song we sing,



through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang;  
 the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant-ing clear and loud;  
 for Christ is our Re - deem - er, the Lord of heaven, our King;



to Je - sus, who had blessed them close fold - ed to his breast,  
 the Lord of earth and heav - en rode on in low - ly state,  
 O may we ev - er praise him with heart and life and voice,



the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.  
 nor scorned that lit - tle chil - dren should on his bid - ding wait.  
 and in his bliss - ful pres - ence e - ter - nal - ly re - joice!

WORDS: Jeannette Threlfall, 1873, alt.  
 MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der H. W. K. Hofkapelle*, 1784

ELLACOMBE  
 7.6.7.6.D.

## PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

God, your love is extravagant!  
It doesn't seek to control,  
and it isn't based on any conditions.  
Yet our view of love doesn't look like this.

***The world's systems***

***seek to control us through fear.***

***We may make our love conditional,  
in the hope of keeping the fear  
of the unknown at bay.***

***Forgive us for making our love smaller.***

Your love is abundant!

You give so freely of yourself  
through creation,  
through forgiveness,  
through connection with others.

***We have often felt that resources are not abundant,  
and so we hoard and protect what we have.***

***Living in fear has made us unable to see  
the generosity of Mother Earth.***

***Forgive us for making our generosity smaller.***

But, Jesus, you have come riding on a donkey,  
and have shown us the value of simplicity,  
of breaking free of the world's systems.

***We praise you for showing us  
that love can be expressed  
in small things too.***

***We praise you for reminding us of the joy and laughter  
that we may have missed  
in our attempts to try to keep ourselves safe.***

***We open ourselves to connect with you once again.***

***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 GOD'S FORGIVENESS

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE – Melody York

### DEACON'S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Marv Helf

### ANTHEM “Garden”

### SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 21:1-11

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, “Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!” When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, “Who is this?” The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

### THE MORNING MESSAGE “The Hero’s Quest”

## THE SACRAMENT 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.*

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

### **\*APOSTLE'S CREED**

*I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into Heaven, and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.*

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

### **\*PEACE**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts since as members of one body you were called to peace (Colossians 3:15). The peace of Christ be with you.

*And also with you.*

### **\*THE OFFERING**

### **\*OUR PRAISE TO GOD (THE DOXOLOGY)**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Lift up your hearts.

***We lift them to the Lord.***

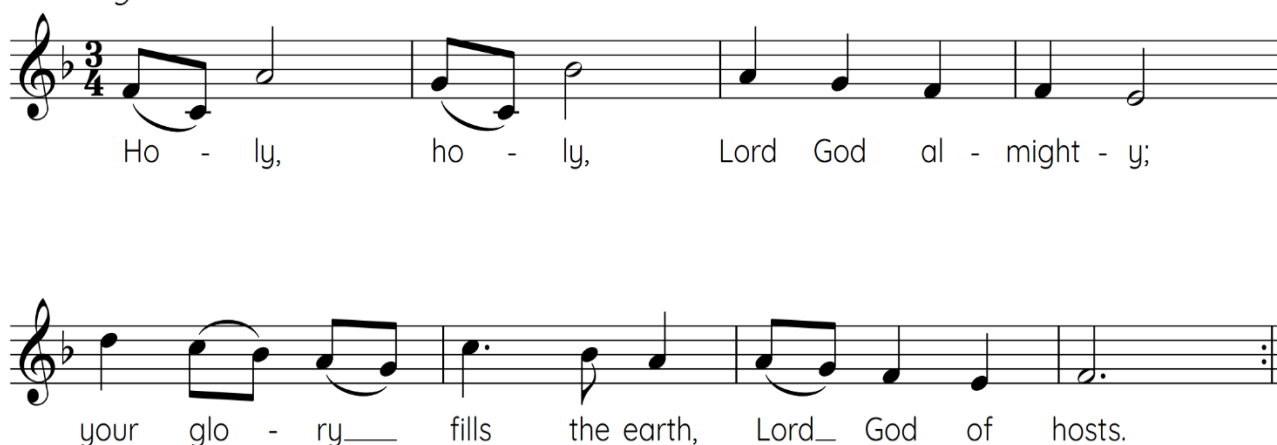
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

## THE PREFACE

### HYMN "Holy Lord" (3 times)

*Sing 3 times*



## THE MEANING OF THE SACRAMENT

The Holy Supper which we are about to celebrate is a feast of remembrance, of communion, and of hope: We remember with joy the grace by which you created all things and made us in your own image.

***We rejoice that you called a people in covenant to be a light to the nations.***

Yet we rebelled against your will.

***In spite of the prophets and pastors sent forth to us, we continued to break your covenant.***

In the fullness of time, you sent your only Son to save us.

***Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of your favored one, Mary, sharing our life, Christ reconciled us to your love.***



At the Jordan your Spirit descended upon Him, anointing Him to preach the good news of your reign.

***He healed the sick and fed the hungry, manifesting the power of your compassion.***

He sought out the lost and broke bread with sinners, witnessing the fullness of your grace.

***We beheld His glory.***

On the night before He died for us, Jesus broke bread and shared the cup with His disciples.

***After the meal our Lord was arrested, abandoned by His followers and beaten.***

He stood trial and was put to death on a cross.

***Having emptied himself in the form of a servant, and being obedient even to death, He was raised from the dead and exalted as Lord of heaven and earth.***

Through him you bestow the gift of your Spirit, uniting your church, empowering its mission and leading us into the new creation you have promised.

***By His death, resurrection and ascension, Jesus Christ has obtained for us the life-giving Spirit who unites us all in one body. We therefore receive this Supper in true and unconditional love.***

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE



## COMMUNION PRAYER

***Gracious God, we celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Grant that in praise and thanksgiving we may be a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable in your sight, that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:***



## "GLORIFY YOUR NAME"

Fa - ther, we love you,  
Je - sus, we love you, we wor - ship and a - dore you,  
Spir - it, we love you,

This system of music is in 4/4 time. The treble staff contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

glo - ri - fy your name in all the earth; \_\_\_\_\_

This system continues the melody and accompaniment. It features a long note in the treble staff at the end of the phrase, followed by a rest. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

glo - ri - fy your name, \_\_\_\_\_ glo - ri - fy your name,

This system continues the melody and accompaniment. It features a key signature change to one sharp (F#) in the treble staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

glo - ri - fy your name in all the earth! \_\_\_\_\_

This system concludes the piece with a final long note and a double bar line. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

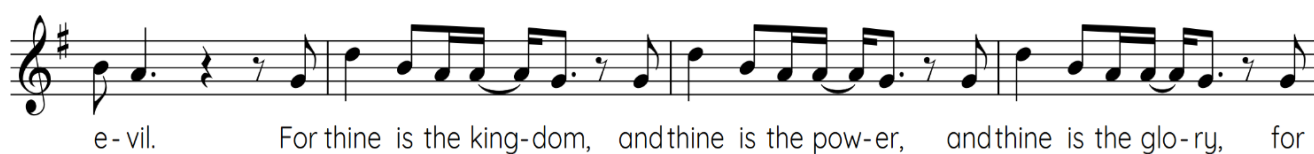
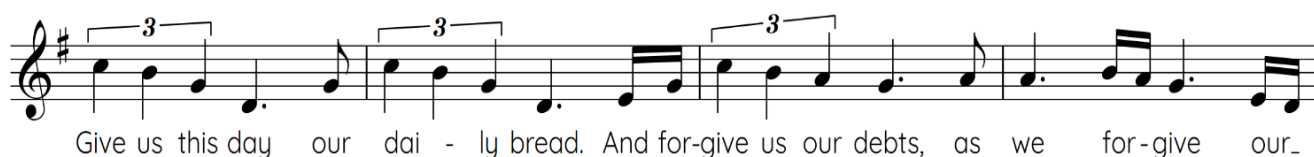
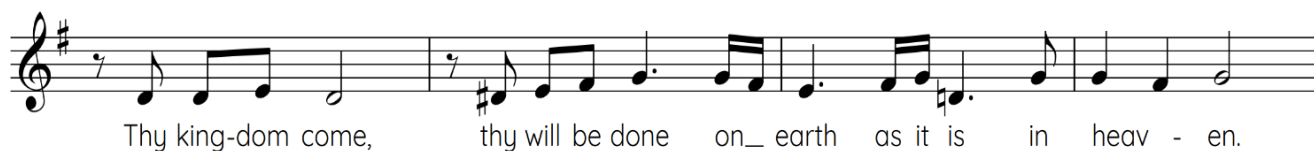
## COMMUNION

### THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

*Since, dear God, in this place at this table, we have touched, we have tasted, we have heard and we have seen the signs of your love for us, grant that we may go away from this house filled with our love for you and overflowing with your love for those who are around us and who share our lives. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.*



## HYMN "The Lord's Prayer"



## \*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. Bruce K.  
Cornwell**

Elder of the Day  
**Ana Crosbourn**

Deacon of the Day  
**Marv Helf**

Liturgist  
**Melody York**

Children's  
Message  
**Melody York**

Director of Music  
Ministries  
**Ben April**

Soloist  
**Brian Rhode**

### Choir

**Tina-Marie Bottini  
Michelle Braungard  
Maggie George  
Kaaren Haushalter  
Marvin Helf  
Kevin Ingalls  
Pam Izzo  
Marissa Lombardo  
Lisa McGee**

Technical Director  
**Cameron Kaercher**

Sound Technician  
**Jerry Kallner**

Video Technician  
**Cameron Kaercher**

Welcome Host  
**Linda Murphy**

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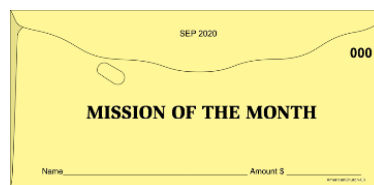
**Mailing Address:**

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

**Special Offering Envelopes –**

**The 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 [crccclori@gmail.com](mailto:crccclori@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

**Online Church Bulletin Board**

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





## Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

Sandy Cornwell  
[crccsandy@gmail.com](mailto:crccsandy@gmail.com)  
Karen Latta  
[kmlatta@nycap.rr.com](mailto:kmlatta@nycap.rr.com)

## COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH OF COLONIE STAFF AND CONSISTORY

### STAFF E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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**Ben April, Director of Music Ministries**  
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**Sarah Huiest, Youth  
Coordinator &  
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**Lori Coté**  
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**Cameron Kaercher**  
Technical Director  
[camkaercher@gmail.com](mailto:camkaercher@gmail.com)

### CONSISTORY

#### Elders

Karl Coté  
Ana Crosbourn  
Marissa Lombardo  
Linda Murphy

#### Deacons

Kevin Bottini  
Marvin Helf  
Kevin Ingalls  
Jessica Kaercher



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