

Easter Sunday

The Resurrection of the Lord

April 4, 2021

In-Person and Online 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

“Any church that is alive lives on the edge of heresy.”

~ Anonymous well-known theologian

PRELUDE “Who Am I”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER’S PRAYER – Karl Coté

INTROIT “Easter Alleluia”

CALL TO WORSHIP

We long for life to go back to normal, Jesus;
it’s easy to cling to the familiar, the way things were.
But we know that going back isn’t possible.

The resurrection life we seek is in a world still unknown,
a world still beyond what we can see.
***Help us to let go of the way things were,
and step into the resurrection life that awaits us.***

Jesus, you have named us, seen us, and loved us,
perhaps as no one else ever has.
***Thank you for reminding us of our value and worth
as people who are deeply loved and celebrated.***

Help us now to rise up and share our lives with those around us,
so that they may see their unique selves.
***May we gently name those around us
as we acknowledge who they are,
celebrate them,
and encourage them to live into their fullest lives.
Through us, may they know that they are valued and loved,
and may they find the courage to move forward
into your new, resurrection life.***
Amen.

*HYMN “Christ is Alive” (243)

TRURO

***1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.***

*2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now
and touching every place and time.*

*3 Not throned afar, remotely high,
untouched, unmoved by human pains,
but daily, in the midst of life,
our Savior in the Godhead reigns.*

*4 In every insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.*

*5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.*

THE SYMBOLS OF THE RESURRECTION

THE SHROUD

This reminds us of the cloth in which they wrapped the body of Jesus. On Easter morning it was found empty, lying in the tomb where Christ's body had been placed. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

THE FRAGRANT OIL

This fragrance reminds us that very early on Easter Day some women came to the tomb to prepare Jesus' body for proper burial. The women were the first to hear of Jesus' resurrection. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

THE STONE

This stone reminds us that on the resurrection morning, the stone which sealed the tomb was rolled away. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

THE BREAD

This bread reminds us that on the first Easter evening, Jesus walked and talked with two of his followers on the road to Emmaus. It was not until he broke bread with them that they recognized who he was. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

THE WINE

This wine, representing Christ's blood, helps us to remember that Jesus died for us. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

THE CROSS

The cross you see is an empty cross. Jesus is not dead. He is risen. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

SOLO "Were You There"

Soloist: Tina Bottini

THE CANDLE

The lighted Christ candle recalls Jesus' promise as recorded in the gospel of Matthew: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them. Jesus Christ is the light of the world. Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

TAIZÉ MEDITATION "Sing Praise and Bless the Lord" (3 times)

Sing, praise and bless the Lord.

Sing, praise and bless the Lord.

Peoples! Nations! Alleluia!

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

On this day, Jesus,
we see the light and life that broke through the darkness and death,
and we celebrate your resurrection.

***Thank you for showing us that darkness won't last forever,
and that life will always come after death.***

You have called us to share in your resurrection life
to not be defined by the grave and grief.

***Sometimes this is where our hearts feel stuck,
sometimes imagining life seems impossible.***

You do not demand that we deny our pain,
but you gently lift our heads, look us in the eye,
and whisper our name.

***We thank you for staying with us,
and slowly guiding us out of the places of death.***

***May we hear you call us once again,
and may we look up,
take your hand,
and take the first steps into the unknown.***

Amen.

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***

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

SOLO – “Shepherd Boy”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – Mark Kaercher

DEACON’S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Kevin Ingalls

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 “Our Joy That Has No End”

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go and tell my brothers, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

MORNING MESSAGE “The Life We Seek Is Ahead Of Us”

***HYMN “Christ the Lord is Risen Today” (234)**

EASTER HYMN

*1 Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
All creation, join to say Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!*

*2 Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!*

*3 Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once he died our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!*

*4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Alleluia!*

***BENEDICTION**

***THE IRISH BLESSING**

*May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be ever at your back,
May the sunshine 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.*

Minister of Word and Sacrament
Rev. Bruce K. Cornwell

Director of Music Ministries
Benjamin April

Director of Youth Ministries
Sarah Huiest

SOLOISTS
Brian Rhode
Ron Smith

CHOIR
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Michelle Braungard
Maggie George
Marvin Helf
Marissa Lombardo

Liturgist
Vicki Lane

Deacon of the Day
Kevin Ingalls

Elder of the Day
Karl Coté

Children's Message
Mark Kaercher

Sound and Lighting Technician
Jerry Kallner

Video Technician
Addison York

The Call to Worship and the Prayer of Confession
were written by John Van de Laar

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Easter Alleluia

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Christ is Alive!

Brian Wren
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Sing Praise & Bless the Lord

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Shepherd Boy

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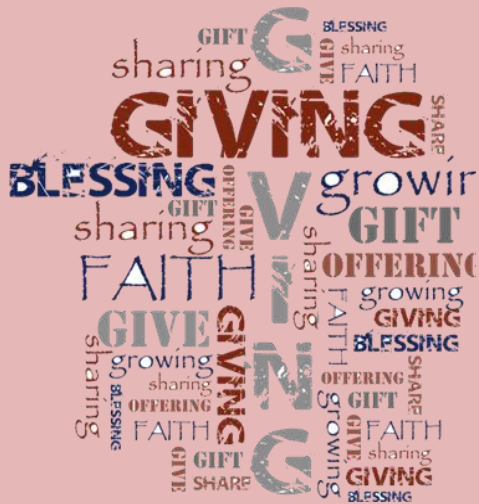
Holy Spirit Come to Us

Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taizé
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The Irish Blessing

Words: Traditional
Music: Benjamin April
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Website:

www.communityreformedchurch.com

Mailing Address:

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

GENERAL NOTICES

Today, Sunday School for children in grades 3-6 meets in the Gathering Room from 9:00 to 9:45 am.

Friday, April 22

Al-Anon - 7:30-8:30 pm meets in the Gathering Room.

Camp Fowler – It's not too early to plan for summer 2022. If any children are interested in attending Camp Fowler this summer, there are scholarships available. Contact Doris Neese at 518-456-6239 for further information.



Easter Flowers

Thank you for your orders of Easter Flowers. Flowers will be available to pick up after Worship on Easter Sunday (between 11am and 12pm) and during the next week. To pick up your flowers during the week please contact Lori Coté, crclori@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 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

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

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CONSISTORY

Elders

Karl Coté
Ana Crosbourne
Marissa Lombardo
Linda Murphy

Deacons

Kevin Bottini
Ellen Buono
Marvin Helf
Kevin Ingalls



Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

Sandy Cornwell
crccsandy@gmail.com
Karen Latta
kmlatta@nycap.rr.com

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday - Acts 5:27-32
Tuesday - Psalm 118:14-29
Wednesday - Psalm 150
Thursday - Revelation 1:4-8
Friday - John 20:19-23
Saturday - John 20:24-31
Sunday - Second Sunday of Easter

Household Prayer: Morning

God of endless life,
in the light of this new day
we see the dawning of your new creation.
Give us wonder and delight
to enjoy this day that you have made;
through Jesus Christ, our living Lord. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening
and the day is almost over.
Help us to know that you are with us—
through the promise of your Word,
in the sharing of a meal,
and by the power of your Spirit
that burns within our hearts.
Bless and keep us, this night and always. Amen.



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