



Entry of Christ into Jerusalem (1912) by Wilhelm Morgner

Palm Sunday

March 29, 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

Join in the reenactment!

After extinguishing the Lenten candle, all are welcome to gather at the sanctuary entrance with your bulletin and palm fronds. Together, we will process around the sanctuary during the Lenten Introit, reenacting Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, an ancient Christian tradition. Read below:

For Contemplation

An excerpt from *Egeria's Diary* (c. 380), a letter to a close circle of fellow women and the earliest recorded pilgrimage account to Jerusalem of its kind:

“At one o'clock all the people go up to the Eleona Church [in Jerusalem] on the Mount of Olives. The bishop takes his seat, and they have hymns and antiphons suitable to the place and the day, and readings too... At five o'clock, the passage is read from the Gospel about the children who met the Lord with palm branches, saying, ‘Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.’

At this, the bishop and all the people rise from their places, and start off on foot down from the summit of the Mount of Olives. All the people go before him with psalms and antiphons, all the time repeating, ‘Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.’

The babies and the ones too young to walk are carried on their parents' shoulders. Everyone is carrying branches, either palm or olive, and they accompany the bishop in the very way the people did when once they went down with the Lord.

They go on foot down the Mount to the city and all through the city to the Anastasis [the worship space around the tomb of Christ], but they have to go pretty gently on account of the older women and men among them who might get tired.”

PRELUDE “Give Me Jesus”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

PROCESSIONAL INTROIT "All Glory Laud and Honor" (v. 1 & 4)

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to thee, Re-deem-er, King,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho-san-nas ring!

1 Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da - vid's roy - al Son,
2 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore thee went;
3 To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;
4 Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and bless - ed One.
our praise and prayers and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.
to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra-cious King!

to Refrain

THE ELDER'S PRAYER - Vicki

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLES OF LENT

CALL TO WORSHIP Based on Zechariah 9 & Psalm 118

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he!
Humble and riding on a donkey.

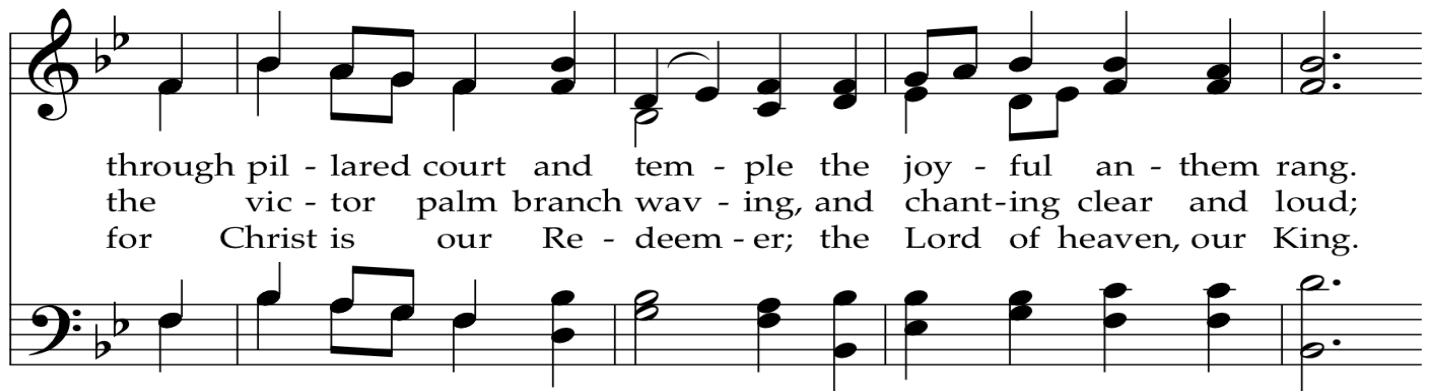
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest!



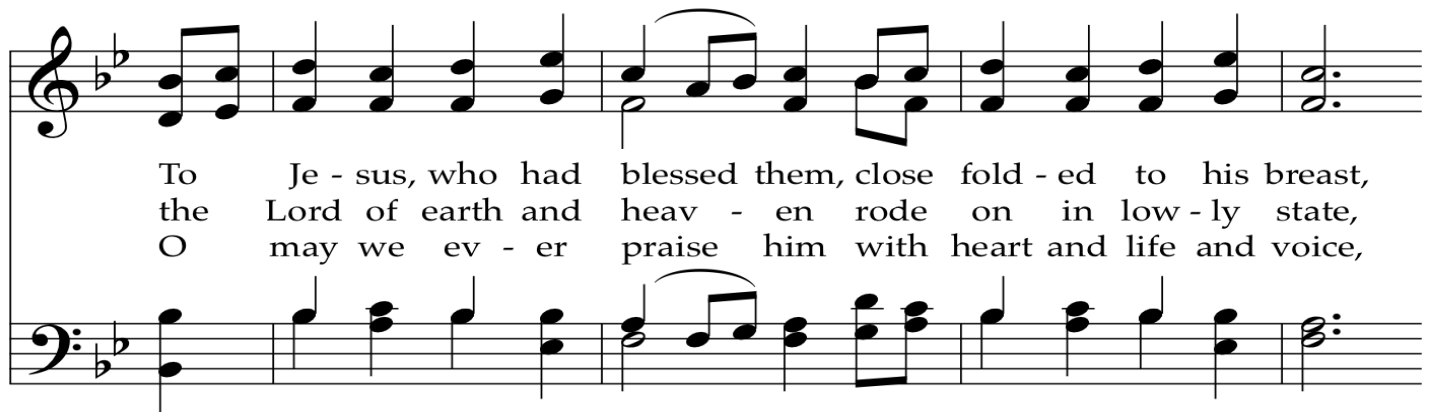
* **OPENING HYMN** "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"



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 joy - ful 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.

DIALOGUE IN FAITH *Confession of Faith, Article 23: The Church's Relation to Government & Society* (Mennonite Church, USA & Canada)

We believe that the church is God's "holy nation," called to give full allegiance to Christ its head, and to witness to all nations about God's saving love.

The church is the spiritual, social, and political body that gives its allegiance to God alone. As citizens of God's kingdom, we trust in the power of God's love for our defense.

The church knows no geographical boundaries and needs no violence for its protection. The only Christian nation is the church of Jesus Christ, made up of people from every tribe and nation, called to witness to God's glory.¹

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.***

¹ The remaining portion of *Article 23*: "In contrast to the church, governing authorities of the world have been instituted by God for maintaining order in societies. Such governments and other human institutions as servants of God are called to act justly and provide order. But like all such institutions, nations tend to demand total allegiance. They then become idolatrous and rebellious against the will of God. Even at its best, a government cannot act completely according to the justice of God because no nation, except the church, confesses Christ's rule as its foundation.

As Christians we are to respect those in authority and to pray for all people, including those in government, that they also may be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. We may participate in government or other institutions of society only in ways that do not violate the love and holiness taught by Christ and do not compromise our loyalty to Christ.

We witness to the nations by being that 'city on a hill' which demonstrates the way of Christ. We also witness by being ambassadors for Christ, calling the nations (and all persons and institutions) to move toward justice, peace, and compassion for all people. In so doing, we seek the welfare of the city to which God has sent us."

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Based on a prayer from Rochester CRC

O King of Glory, we confess that our praise of your majesty has often been faint. Our lives as citizens of your kingdom can be considered treasonous for we have surrendered to easy living, evil societal norms, and ugly selfishness. This Holy Week, take up your throne in our hearts again. Send your Holy Spirit to teach us your humble way of peace—the way of the cross—and on Easter Sunday, instill in us the joy of your resurrection. 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 PARDON

SUMMARY OF GOD’S LAW

PASSING CHRIST’S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Please rise and greet one another with Christ’s peace.

You’re encouraged to embrace, shake hands, or give the Orthodox sign of Christ’s peace, greeting both those in-person and online. To make the sign, touch your thumb to the tip of your ring finger.

When the music starts to play, the children are invited to come forward for the children’s message.



CHILDREN’S MESSAGE - Sarah

DEACON’S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD - Jessica

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.

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

You're invited to participate in the mission of The Community Reformed Church of Colonie by giving through the offering plates as they come by, placing your gift in the box at the back, or using Zeffy on our website.

* DOXOLOGY OLD HUNDREDTH

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

ANTHEM "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal God, whose Word silences the shouts of the mighty. Quiet within us every voice but your own. Speak to us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS Matthew 21:1-11 (CEB)

When they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus gave two disciples a task. He said to them, "Go into the village over there. As soon as you enter, you will find a donkey tied up and a colt with it. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that their master needs them." He sent them off right away.

Now this happened to fulfill what the prophet said, Say to Daughter Zion, "Look, your king is coming to you, humble and riding on a donkey, and on a colt the donkey's offspring." The disciples went and did just as Jesus had ordered them. They brought the donkey and the colt and laid their clothes on them. Then he sat on them.

Now a large crowd spread their clothes on the road. Others cut palm branches off the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds in front of him and behind him shouted, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”

And when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up. “Who is this?” they asked. The crowds answered, “It’s the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

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

SERMON Faith & Allegiance



* **SENDING HYMN** "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"

1. I have de-cid-ed to fol-low Je-sus, I have de-
 2. The world be-hind me, the cross be-fore me, the world be-
 3. Though none go with me, I still will fol-low, though none go
 4. Will you de-cide now to fol-low Je-sus? Will you de-

3
 cid-ed to fol-low Je-sus, I have de-cid-ed to fol-low
 hind me, the cross be-fore me, the world be-hind me, the cross be-
 with me, I still will fol-low, though none go with me, I still will
 cide now to fol-low Je-sus? Will you de-cide now to fol-low

6
 Je - sus— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.
 fore me— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.
 fol - low— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.
 Je - sus?— no turn-ing back, no turn-ing back.

* **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.*

WORSHIP TEAM

Worship Leader
Rev. Trey Tirpak

Elder of the Day
Vicki Lane

Deacon of the Day
Jessica Kaercher

Liturgist
Melody York

Children's Message
Sarah Huiest

Coffee Hour Host
Lori Coté

Music Director
Ben April

Musicians
Marv Helf
Bert Huiest
Alex Huiest

Sound Technician
Mike York

Video Technician
Cameron Kaercher

Welcome Host
Kyrra April

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Give Me Jesus
Traditional African-American Spiritual,
arr. Fernando Ortega
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I Belong to You, O God
Words & Music: Bruce Cornwell,
harmonized by Benjamin April
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Shepherd Me, O God
Contributors: Marty Haugen
Tune: © 1986, GIA Publications, Inc. Text: Psalm 23;
adapt. by Marty Haugen; © 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.
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Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)
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arr. Dan Galbraith © 2006
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Sixsteps music
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The Irish Blessing
Words: Traditional
Music: Benjamin April
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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 Zeffy (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.

Website:


www.communityreformedchurch.com

Mailing Address:

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

March Special Offering Envelopes -



<p><u>Offerings/Pledges</u></p> <p>Click on Link: Offerings/Pledges</p> 	<p><u>Mission of the Month</u></p> <p>Click on Link: Mission of the Month</p> 
<p><u>Puzzle Capital Campaign</u></p> <p>Each puzzle piece is a \$50 donation</p> <p>These gifts help pay the church's debt incurred from the roof repair.</p> <p>Click on Link: Puzzle Capital Campaign</p> 	<p><u>General Giving</u></p> <p>A general catchment fund for things outside of the other funds, e.g., flowers for Christmas or Easter, donations in honor of someone, building/grounds initiatives, etc.</p> <p>Click on Link: General Giving Fund</p> 



Prayer E-Chain

Please email prayer requests to:

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

COMMUNITY REFORMED CHURCH OF COLONIE STAFF AND CONSISTORY

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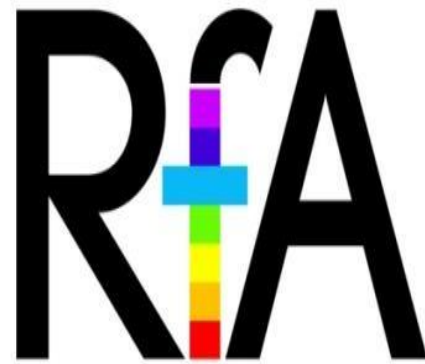
Elders

Karl Coté, 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**

**Website - www.communityreformedchurch
Facebook - facebook.com/coloniereformed
Twitter - [@ColonieReformed](https://twitter.com/ColonieReformed)**



Friday, April 3rd: Good Friday Service
@ 7:00 PM

Saturday, April 4th: Prayer Labyrinth
@ 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Sunday, April 5th: Easter Sunday @ 10:00 AM
New Member Sunday -
Join us for the Children's
Activity after Easter Worship