



Earth From the perspective of Artemis II (April 3, 2026)

Earth Day Sunday
April 26, 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. We welcome and thank you for worshiping with us today!

Please join in the worship liturgy by reading aloud what is in ***bold italics***.

* - Please rise in body or in spirit

For Contemplation: The Canopy of Creation is an invitation to look up.

It's an invitation to notice the shade that meets us like mercy on a hot day; to remember the hush of a wooded trail, the steady presence of trunks and branches that outlast our moods and our news cycles. Many of us already love trees. We have felt their beauty in our bodies as cool air under leaves, birdsong held in a canopy, the quiet companionship of a living thing that asks nothing from us but attention. And yet Scripture suggests that trees are never only scenery.

From the beginning, God plants a garden and fills it with "every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food" (Genesis 2:9). Indeed, both beauty and nourishment belong together in God's economy. The story of salvation turns, for Christians, on a tree, where human violence and divine love collide, and where God begins the work of making all things new. And when the Bible reaches its final pages, God's future comes to us as a city healed by a river and lined with trees whose leaves are "for the healing of the nations" (Revelation 22:2).

In other words: trees are woven through the life of God with the world. They are gifts, they are witnesses, they are, mysteriously, instruments of healing.

- Avery Davis Lamb
Executive Director
Creation Justice Ministries

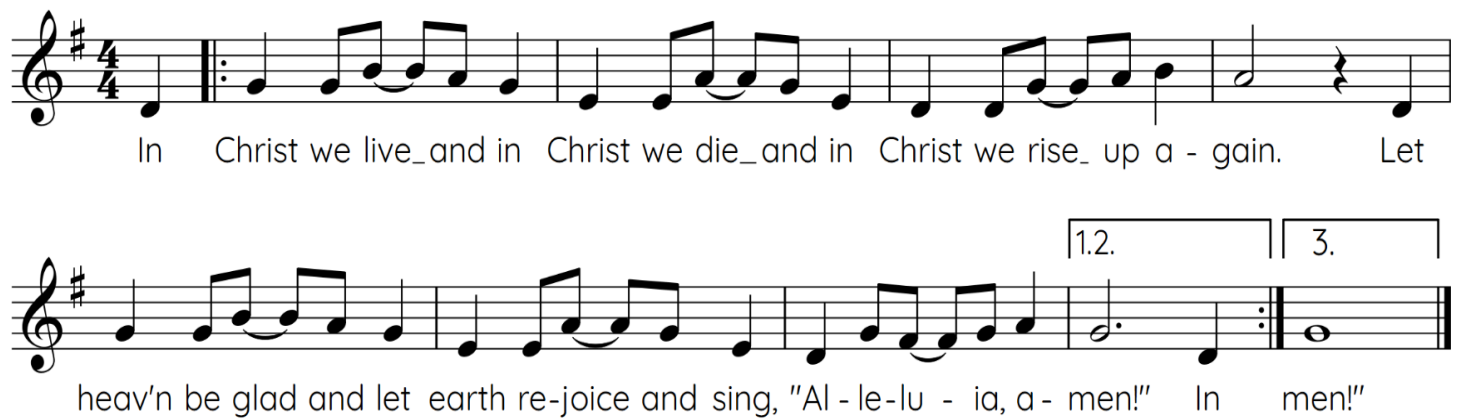
PRELUDE “God of Wonders”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THE ELDER’S PRAYER - Ana

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

EASTERTIDE INTROIT “In Christ We Live”



The musical notation is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a double bar line with repeat dots. The first line of music contains the lyrics: "In Christ we live_and in Christ we die_and in Christ we rise_up a - gain. Let". The second line of music contains the lyrics: "heav'n be glad and let earth re-joice and sing, 'Al - le - lu - ia, a - men!' In men!". The second line ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign. Above the final measure of the second line, there are two boxes: the first contains "1.2." and the second contains "3.", indicating first and second endings.

CALL TO WORSHIP Based on Psalm 24:1, Romans 8:22, 1 Corinthians 15

The earth is the Lord’s!

And all that is in it—praise God’s holy name!

From the soil to the sky, to the sea and to space,

God is the creator, sustainer, and redeemer of all things!

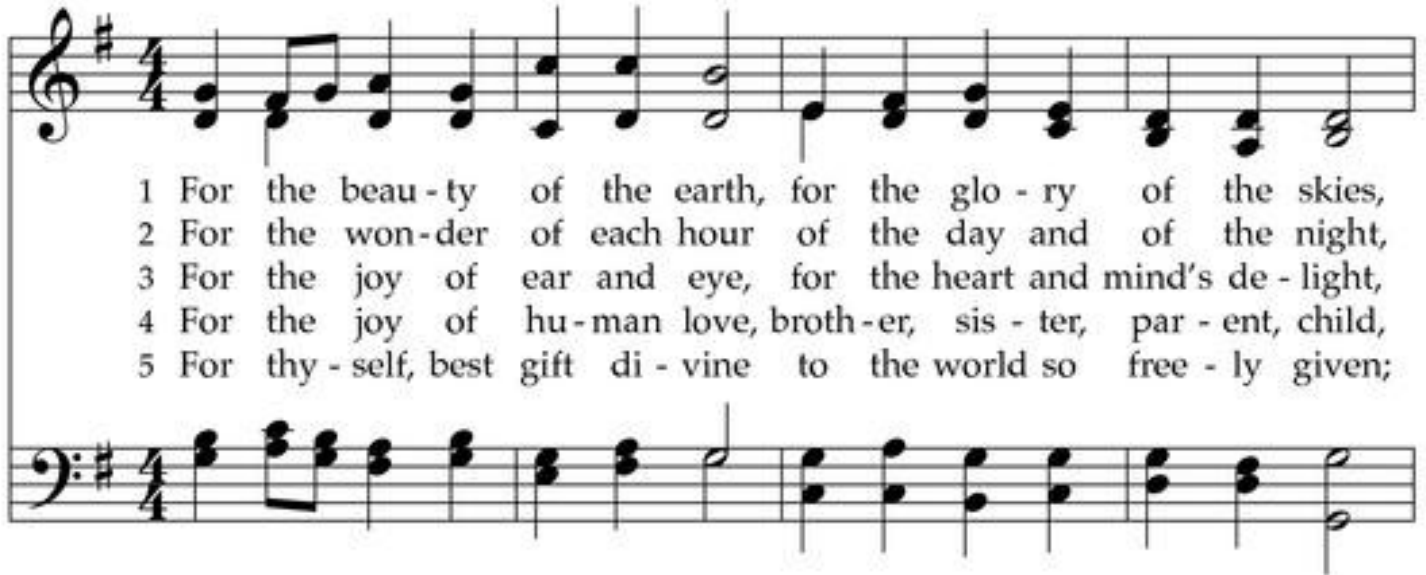
We know the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now,
waiting for the fullness of God’s restoring work.

But in his resurrection, Christ is the first-fruit of the new creation,
the beginning of God’s great renewal of all things.

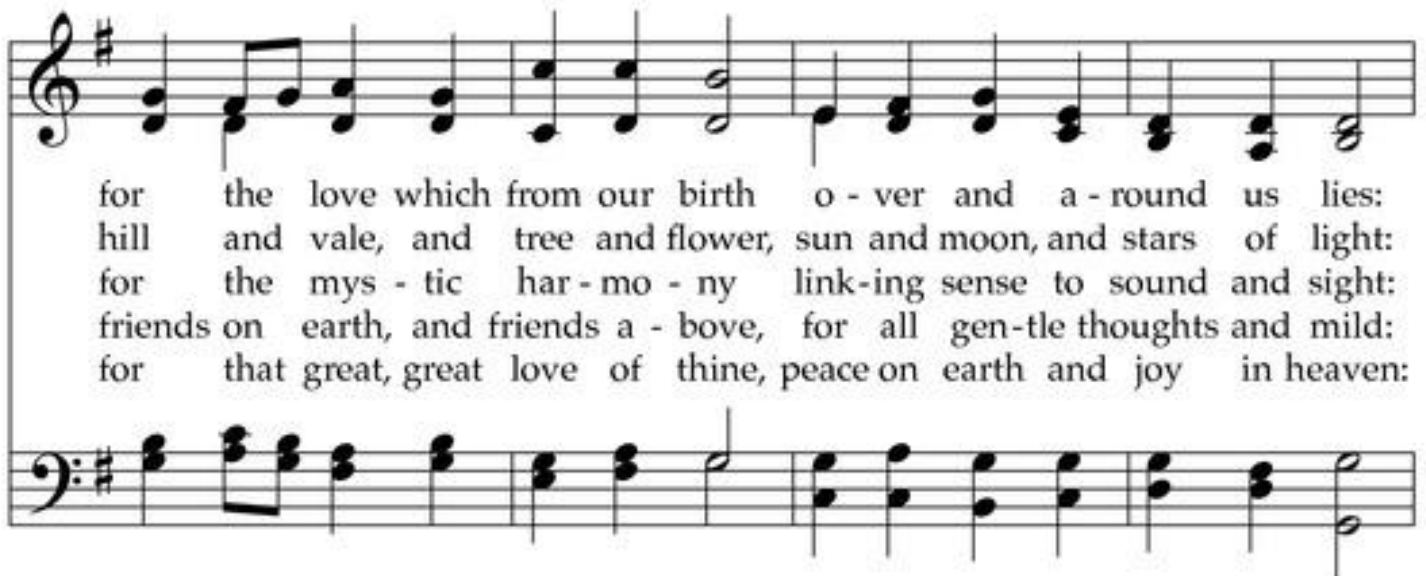
May we all be part of this glorious renewal and harvest!

Let us worship the God who makes all things new!

* **OPENING SONG** "For the Beauty of the Earth"

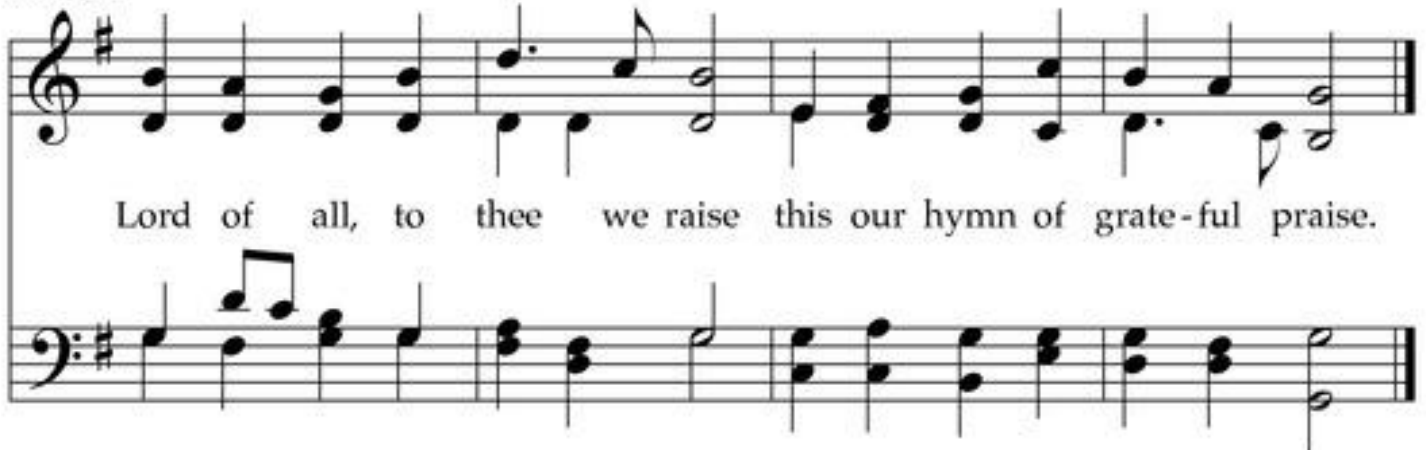


1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the glo - ry of the skies,
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly given;



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:
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:

Refrain



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

PROFESSION OF FAITH §51-52 from *Our World Belongs to God* (CRCNA)

Grateful for advances in science and technology, we participate in their development, fostering care for creation and respect for the gift of life. We welcome discoveries that prevent or cure diseases...

We lament that our abuse of creation has brought lasting damage to the world we have been given: polluting streams and soil, poisoning the air, altering the climate, and damaging the earth. We commit ourselves to honor all God's creatures and to protect them from abuse and extinction, for our world belongs to God.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION "In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful" (3 times)

***In the Lord I'll be ever thankful; In the Lord I will rejoice.
Look to God, do not be afraid.
Lift up your voices the Lord is near;
Lift up your voices the Lord is near.***

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creating and redeeming God, forgive us for so often shrinking your salvation to ourselves alone. You long not only to save humanity but to restore the whole cosmos. We confess to not seeing your bigger picture of salvation, and we end up treating your creation as something to merely own, use, and even destroy.

Renew our minds and hearts to widen and deepen our appreciation for all things, and by your Holy Spirit, make us partners in your renewing of all things, so we and all of creation might truly know your shalom. Amen.

TAIZÉ MEDITATION “In God Alone” (3 times)

***In God alone my soul can find rest and peace,
In God my peace and joy.
Only in God my soul can find its rest,
Find its rest and peace.***

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUMMARY OF GOD’S LAW

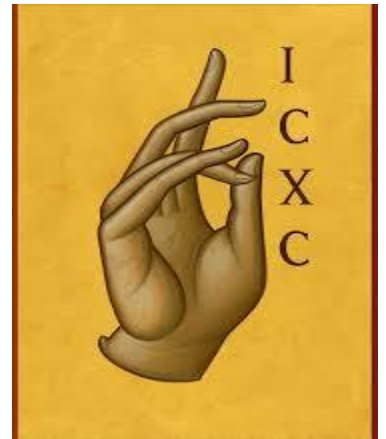
PASSING CHRIST’S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Please greet one another with Christ’s peace.

You’re encouraged to 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.



CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – Sarah

DEACON’S PRAYER FOR THE WORLD – Kevin

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 First Testimony for Consecration Sunday

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 LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise God, all crea-tures
high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise
God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it
one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

ANTHEM "Chain Breaker"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy Spirit, reveal to us how wide the gift of resurrection life extends, and give us the spiritual wherewithal to be part of it. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Revelation 21:1-5

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.
God will dwell with them;
they will be God’s peoples,
and God will be with them and be their God;
God will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.”

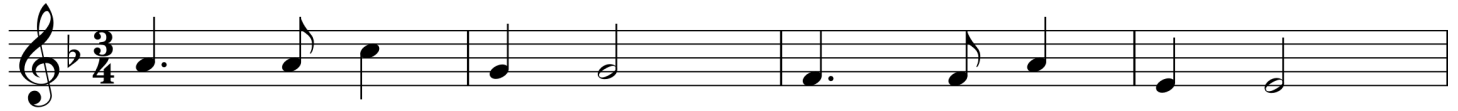
And the one who was seated on the throne [Jesus] said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

The Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God!***

SERMON The End of the World



*** SENDING SONG "Touch the Earth Lightly"**



Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,
We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,
Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,
God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,



nour - ish the life of the world in our care:
a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,
wa - ter that bless - es and air that is sweet,
God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,



gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,
we who would fos - ter clouds of dis - as - ter,
health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,
teach us, de - flect us, Christ, re - con - nect us,



trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.
God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!
re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.
us - ing us gen - tly and mak - ing us one.

*** 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

Music Director
Ben April

Elder of the Day
Ana Crosbourne

Soloist
Brian Rhode

Deacon of the Day
Kevin Ingalls

Sound Technician
Bert Huiest

Liturgist
Ana Crosbourne

Video Technician
Cameron Kaercher

Children's Message
Sarah Huiest

Welcome Host
Deb Helf

Zoom Host
Stephanie Wood

Coffee Hour Host
Sue Bredice

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The Irish Blessing
Words: Traditional
Music: Benjamin April © 2021 Benjamin April

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.

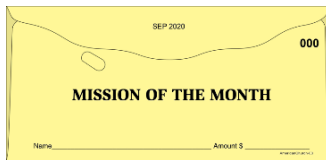
Website:

www.communityreformedchurch.com

Mailing Address:

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

April Special Offering Envelopes –



zeffy 

[Zeffy - CRCC Giving Page](#)

One link for all your giving:

Offerings, MOM, Puzzle Campaign and General Giving





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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Cameron Kaercher
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CONSISTORY

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.com
Facebook - facebook.com/coloniereformed
Twitter - @ColonieReformed**