



Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ
The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
July 28, 2024

The Bell is Rung

Prelude "aqua" by Ryuichi Sakamoto

Call to Worship

We gather today, hearts yearning for connection.

In this community of faith, we find belonging.

The burdens we carry feel heavy.

We come seeking God's strength and love to lift us.

The world overflows with need.

We yearn for God's abundance to nourish all.

In the whispers of prayer, we find intimacy with God.

In the feeding of the multitude, we witness God's overflowing grace.

Let us open our hearts and minds to the Word of God.

May we be transformed by God's love and empowered to share it with the world.

Hymn

“Love and Justice”

SPP #13

Love and justice, peace and pow'r,
show us how to live each hour,
raise us up and set us free,
show us how to live and be.

Love and justice, peace and power,
challenge us to give each hour,
raise us up and set us free,
help us be all we can be.

Tell your neighbors, tell your friends,
here's a place hope never ends.
Love and justice, peace and power,
God is with us in this hour!
God is with us in this hour!
God is with us in this hour!

Unison Prayer

Be our safe shores, no matter the conditions.
Guide us across thresholds of ominous storms
to the revealing [gloriously revealing] light
of your presence in our prayers.
Sustain in us the amazing safety of being with you,
and all we have been given to share.

Assurance of God's Love and Pastoral Prayer

Friends, please rise if you wish.

Passing of the Peace

Filled with this joy of togetherness, we share the Peace of Jesus Christ; may it find its way into the hearts of all around the world... Friends, with this in our hearts...

May the Peace of the Risen Christ be with you!
And also with you!

Let us offer one another a sign of peace!

Please be seated.

Musical Praise "energy flow" by Ryuichi Sakamoto

Joys, Celebrations and Concerns

Friends, we now invite you to share your Joys, Celebrations and Concerns. Please wait for the microphone and respond with:

"God, hear our prayers."

The Prayer of Jesus, (from The New Zealand Anglican Prayer Book)

Eternal Spirit, Earthmaker, Painbearer, Lifegiver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father, Mother, Guardian of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen

First Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21

That is why I kneel before Abba God, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. And I pray that God, out of the riches of divine glory, will strengthen you inwardly with power through the working of the Spirit.

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, so that you, being rooted and grounded in love, will be able to grasp fully the breadth, length, height, and depth of Christ's love and with God's holy ones, experience this love that surpasses all understanding, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

To God – whose power now at work in us can do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine – to God be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus through all generations, world without end! Amen.

Hymn "Jesus, the Very Thought of You" NCH#507

Jesus the very thought to me
with sweetness fills my breast;
But sweeter far your face to see,
and in your presence rest.

No voice can sing, no heart can frame,
nor can the memory find
A sweeter sound than your blessed name,
Savior of humankind.

O hope of every contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
How kind you are to those apart,
how good to those who seek!

But what to those who find? Ah this,
no tongue nor pen can show
Your love, O Jesus, what it is
none but your loved ones know.

Jesus, our joy, our greatest bliss,
and you our prize will be;
Our glory here and now is this,
and through eternity.

Gospel: John 6:1-21

Some time later, Jesus crossed over to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – that is, Lake Tiberius – and a huge crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by healing sick people. Jesus climbed the hillside and sat down there with the disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowd approaching and said to Philip, “Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?” Jesus knew very well what he was going to do, but asked this to test Philip’s response.

Philip answered, “Not even with two hundred days’ wages could we buy enough to give each of them a mouthful!”

One of the disciples, Simon Peter’s brother Andrew, said, “There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fishes. But what good is that with so many people?”

Jesus said to them, “Make the people sit down.” There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand families sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them out to all who were sitting there; he did the same with the fish, giving out as much as they could eat.

When the people had eaten their fill, Jesus said to the disciples, “Gather up the leftover pieces so that nothing gets wasted.” So they picked them up and filled twelve baskets with the scraps left over from the five barley loaves.

The people, seeing this sign that Jesus had performed, said, “Surely this is the Prophet who was to come into the world.” Seeing that they were about to come and carry him off to crown him as ruler, Jesus escaped into the hills alone.

As evening approached, the disciples went down to the lake. They got into their boat, intending to cross to Capernaum, which was on the other side of the lake. By this time it was dark, and Jesus had still not joined them; moreover, a stiff wind was blowing and the sea was becoming rough.

When they had rowed three or four miles, they caught sight of Jesus approaching the boat, walking on the water. They were frightened, but he told them, "It's me. Don't be afraid." They were about to take him into the boat, but suddenly the boat was ashore at their destination.

Message "My Thoughts and Prayers Are With You"

Invitation to Give

We welcome your offerings at this time and invite you to place your prayer and information cards in the plate as we sing our Church Covenant.

Church Covenant

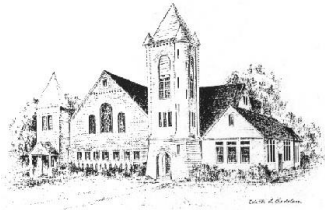
In response to God's love,
we covenant with each other...
to be faithful to the demands
and inspiration of the eternal spirit,
revealed in the event of Jesus Christ;
to accept and respect each other
with love and concern
in our worship and witness;
to reach out with the courage
of our convictions
in the cause of justice,
liberation, and equality for all.
In this, we covenant to keep the
ultimate promise: "I care, I am with you."

Benediction

Rev. Rebecca West

Ringling of the Bell

Postlude "Merry Christmas, Mr. Lawrence" by Ryuichi Sakamoto



Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ

For more than a century and a half, Sayville's Congregational Church has served families on the South Shore of Long Island and has been a voice for the progressive Protestant tradition. A member of the United Church of Christ since it was established in 1957, today we continue to celebrate God's love, to advocate and act for the oppressed, and to welcome all those on their spiritual journey, from wherever they may come. Thank you for joining us. Please contact us at any time for more information about our congregation or with any questions you may have for us.

Thank You, Worship Leadership!
Rev. Rebecca West, Guest Preacher
The Chancel Choir and Sean Cameron, Music Director
Liturgist – Kim Thompsen
Ushers – Bill Johnson and Michael Hoff

Media Team – Karin Conrad, Mark Conrad, Casey Cunningham,
Connie Kauffman, Kathy Leis and Hank Maust

Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ
131 Middle Road, Sayville, NY 117823101
6315891519; churchadmin@sayvilleucc.org
www.sayvilleucc.org; www.facebook.com/sayvilleucc
Heather Corcoran, Church Administrator
Gail Kieser, eChimes Editor

Today's Service is being simulcast on our church channel at
www.echimestv.org Tune in any time!

Peace. Shalom. Salaam. For the ways of peace are many.
"Namaste"