



Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 25, 2024

Welcome

The Bell is Rung

Prelude "Put On A Happy Face" from *Bye, Bye, Birdie*
 Music by Charles Strouse
 Lyrics by Lee Adams

Call to Worship

Gracious God, calling to us over the ages,
free us from the distractions of this world enough to hear you,
so that others may know you through us.
Let your Word touch us, let our voices sing your praise
And may your love and ours grow here, together...

Hymn "There's a Spirit of Love in This Place" SPP #33

There's a spirit of love in this place,
There's a spirit of love in this place,
You can't see it but it's there,
just as precious as the air.
There's a spirit of love in this place,

There's the presence of peace in this room,
There's the presence of peace in this room,
In God's tenderness is found
peace that passes human bounds.
There's the presence of peace in this room.

O alleluia, sing alleluia!
We bless your holy name.
O alleluia, sing alleluia!

There's a spirit of love in this place.

Unison Prayer *Wild Geese* by Mary Oliver

You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees
for a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your body
love what it loves.
Tell me about despair, yours, and I will tell you mine.
Meanwhile the world goes on.
Meanwhile the sun and the clear pebbles of the rain
are moving across the landscapes,
over the prairies and the deep trees,
the mountains and the rivers.
Meanwhile the wild geese, high in the clean blue air,
are heading home again.
Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,
the world offers itself to your imagination,
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting—
over and over announcing your place
in the family of things.

Assurance of God's Love

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

“Somewhere Out There”

Music by Barry Mann and James Horner

Lyrics by Cynthia Weil

Susan Ryan, soloist

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: Malachi 3:10

¹⁰ Bring the entire tithe into the storehouse so there be food in my house! Put me to the test, says YHWH Omnipotent, and see if I do not open windows in the sky and pour so much blessing on you that you cannot contain it!

Hymn "Blessed Assurance" NCH#473

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of the Spirit, washed in Christ's blood.

Refrain: This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight!
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain: This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blessed;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with God's goodness, lost in Christ's love.

Refrain: This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

Gospel: John 6:3-13

³ Jesus climbed the hillside and sat down there with the disciples.

⁴ It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

⁵ Looking up, Jesus saw the crowd approaching, and said to Philip, "Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?"

⁶ Jesus knew very well what he was going to do, but asked this to test Phillip's response.

⁷ Philip answered, "Not even with two hundred days' wages could we buy loaves enough to give each of them a mouthful!"

⁸ One of the disciples, Simon Peter's brother Andrew, said,
⁹ "There's a small boy here with five barley loaves and two dried fish, but what good is that for so many people?"

¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Make the people sit down." There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand families sat down. ¹¹ 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.

¹² When the people had eaten their fill, Jesus said to the disciples, "Gather up the leftover pieces so that nothing gets wasted." ¹³ So they picked them up and filled twelve baskets with the scraps left over from the five barley loaves.

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

Ringling of the Bell

Postlude

"Tomorrow" - from *Annie*

Music by Charles Strouse

Lyrics by Martin Chernin



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!
Jesse Ramos, Congregational Voice
Sean Cameron, Music Director
Susan Ryan, soloist
Liturgist – Randolph Pearson
Ushers – Kay and Tom Wolf

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

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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"