



Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 29, 2024

Welcome

The Bell is Rung

Prelude Prelude for Organ, Nos. 46 & 47
by C.H. Rinck

Call to Worship A Variation on Psalm 67: 1-5 Ray Bagnuolo

May God be gracious to us all;
May God bless us all and shine God's face upon us.
May God's ways be known on Earth and
God's living transformative Grace among all nations
 bless us all and make God's face shine on us all —

May the peoples' hearts be lifted in Light and Wisdom and Love.
May nations and leaders come to embrace You, Gracious Creator.
May we all be grateful and glad for your songs of Joy.

And, may the World today, remember
these things and more, as we worship together.

Hymn "God of Grace and God of Glory" NCH #436, verses 1-3, 5

God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your power;
crown your ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

From the evils that surround us
and assail the Savior's ways,
from the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts for faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure your children's warring madness;
bend our pride to your control.
Shame our reckless, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
make our broken spirits whole,
make our broken spirits whole.

Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the search for your salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.

Our hearts, Wonderful One, are steadfast; they are steadfast in trusting you, even when we are unsure – we know you are here.

So, we sing when our voice is worn; for even tired voices can be heard in this world. We lift up the music, even when we barely hear its sound – for softness is gentle and strong in its own way.

We know you among nations and neighborhoods; politics and policies; we know you in the sorrowful and the sanguine – you are in all peoples before they know you and long after they have forgotten: you remember.

You are with us at this and every table and the world sits at a feast and still, sometimes, sees scarcity. We see your abundance and behold it not for us but to share in community with You that has been ours before the first of atoms were formed.

Our hearts, Wonderful One, are steadfast; they are steadfast in trusting you, even when we are unsure – we know you are here.

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.

The Chancel Choir "I Love the Lord" Psalm 116
 Music by Hank Beebe

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

Hymn "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

NCH #498, vs. 1-3

Refrain:

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.*

Knelt at the feet of his friends,
silently washing their feet,
Jesu, you acted as servant to them.

Refrain

Neighbors are rich and poor,
varied in color and race,
neighbors are near and far away.

Refrain

These are the ones we should serve,
these are the ones we should love;
all these are neighbors to us and you.

Refrain

First Reading: Esther 7:1-6. 9-10; 9:20-22

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled."

Then Queen Esther answered "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me – that is my petition – and the lives of my people – that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace, but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king."

Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and an enemy, the wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen...

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very pole that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that!" So they hung Haman on the pole that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated...

Mordecai recorded these things and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday, that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

The Chancel Choir "Deep Peace" Music by David N. Davenport

Second Reading: James 5:13-20

They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of God. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and God will raise them up, and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Message

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: Psalm 121.7-8

The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.
Go forth and serve. Amen.

Choral Blessing "May The Road" Traditional Irish Blessing
 Music by James Ahrend

Ringling of the Bell

Postlude "The Sound of Silence"
 Words and Music by Paul Simon



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
Sean Cameron, Music Director
Liturgist – Kim Thompsen
Ushers – Tina and Carl MacGowan
Hospitality – The Maust Family

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”