

Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost November 10, 2024

Welcome

The Bell is Rung

Prelude "Prelude for Organ No. 6" by C. H. Rinck

Unison Call to Worship

"Living Outside of Bounds"

Ray Bagnuolo

Is there such a place? Outside of bounds? It seems there might be, but only for those not there. Living as God has created us to be is always within the boundless love of God. Here, in this place as well...we are within the boundless love of God and one another. Is there such a place? Surely there is. Here in this place. Hymn "Here in This Place" Sing! Prayer and Praise #5

Holy one may your presence here open our minds. May your Spirit among us help us to find you are rising up now like a fountain of grace from the holy ground. Here in this place. Here in this place.

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Please be seated and join us in reading this morning's Unison Prayer

Unison Prayer "Speak Your Truth" Ray Bagnuolo

The "first" truth: we are all loved. When we embrace this "love-in-us-all" we speak our truth before any words are spoken. When we hold the covenant-before-time of Emmanuel: "God with us; God in us"; God in each other's hands: The truth becomes true in our lives. And we remember: love is love. For all. 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 "Love Grows Here" Words and Music by Don Besig

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 "Spirit of the Loving God" New Century Hymnal #283

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me; Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me; Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me, Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. First Reading: Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17

One day, Naomi said to Ruth, "My daughter, it's my duty to secure your security and fulfillment, and make sure that you are provided for. And Boaz, whose workers you have been following, is our closest relative. Tonight he'll be winnowing grain on the threshing floor. Wash up and put on perfume and dress in your finest clothes. Then go down to the threshing floor. But don't let him know until he has finished eating and drinking.

When he goes to sleep, watch where he lies down, then go and 'uncover his feet' and lie down with him. He will tell you what to do next."

Ruth replied, "I will do as you tell me.

So Ruth and Boaz were married. And from their union, YHWH enabled Ruth to conceive and she gave birth to a child. Then the women of the village said to Naomi, "Praised by YHWH, who has not abandoned you but provided you with yet another redeemer! May the child's name be remembered through all of Israel – and give you renewed life and support you when you are old! For your daughter-in-law, who loves you and has proven better than seven of your own children could ever have been, has given birth to him."

Naomi took the child into her lap and she became his caretaker. And Naomi's neighbors named the child, saying, "A son has been born to Naomi; we will call him Obed."

And Obed begot Jesse – and Jesse begot David.

The Chancel Choir

Gospel: Mark 12:38-44 TIB

In his teaching, Jesus said "Beware of the religious scholars who like to walk about in long robes, be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, and take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. These are the ones who swallow the property of widows and offer lengthy prayers for the sake of appearance. They will be judges all the more severely."

Jesus sat down opposite the collection box and watched the people putting money in it, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny.

Then Jesus called out to the disciples and said to them, "The truth is, this woman has put in more than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have put in money from their surplus, but she has put in everything she possessed fro=m the little she had – all she had to live on."

Message "Job, Part 3, and a Bit of Ruth" Rev. Rebecca West

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

As we leave this sacred church, take God with you. Not that God isn't already here, but we forget. Try, this week, to remember God three times a day. At least, Morning, noon, night, Perchance breakfast, lunch, supper, like a grace. Or more often, if you like, if you can. For God remembers us Every moment.

~ anonymous

Choral Blessing

"A Closing Prayer" Words and Music by Don Besig

Ringing of the Bell

Postlude

"energy flow" by Ryuichi Sakamoto



Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ

For more than a century and a half, Sayville 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 – Karen Maust Ushers – Elise and James Cesare, Lorraine Martin and Pat Mahar

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

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