

For the beauty of the earth,
for the splendor of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,
God of all, to you we raise,
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light,
God of all, to you we raise,
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,
God of all, to you we raise,
this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the good that love inspires,
for a world where none exclude,
For a faith that never tires,
and for every heart renewed,
God of all, to you we raise,
this our hymn of grateful praise.

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

Unison Prayer

Eternal and Gracious God,
whose Word is a lamp for our feet,
whose Truth beats in our hearts,
reconcile us to you and all people.
Strengthen us for life anew,
as you intended,
may it be so.

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 "Simple Gifts" Traditional hymn tune
Arranged by Marie Pooler

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

Come, O thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in
as the winter storms begin;
God our Maker does provide
for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

All the blessings of the field,
all the stores the gardens yield,
all the fruits in full supply,
ripened 'neath the summer sky,
All that spring with bounteous hand
Scatters o'er the smiling land,
all that liberal autumn pours
from its rich o'er-flowing stores,

These to you, our God, we owe,
source from whom all blessings flow;
and for these our songs we raise,
grateful vows and a solemn praise.
Come, then, thankful people, calm,
raise the song of harvest home;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

First Reading 2 Samuel 23:1-7

These are the last words of David:
"The oracle of David ben-Jess,
the Oracle of the person.
God raised up the anointed by the God of Jacob,
the favorite of the songs of Israel:
The spirit of YHWH has spoken through me;
God's word was on my tongue.
The God of Israel spoke,
the Rock of Israel said to me:
'Rulers, who govern with justice,
who rule in the reverence of YHWH,
are like the light of mornings at sunrise,
a cloudless morning after a rain shower,

that makes the grass of the Earth sparkle.’
Yes, my house is right with YHWH!
YHWH has made an everlasting covenant with me,
its terms spelled out and faithfully obeyed;
God will ensure my complete success,
and bring my every desire to fruition.
But the ungodly are rootless,
they are like abandoned thorns;
none dare put out a hand to pick them up,
none touch them but with a tool or a piece of wood;
They are fit only for burning where they lie.”

Psalm 132:1-12

Oh God, remember David, and all his hardships!
Remember the oath, he swore to you,
his vow to the strong one of Israel:
“I won’t enter my house, I won’t go to my bed –
I won’t give sleep to my eyes or slumber to my eyelids
until I find a place for YHWH,
dwelling for the Strong One of Israel!”
At Ephrata we heard of the ark;
we found it on the plains of Yearim.
Let us go then, to the place of God’s dwelling;
let us kneel at YHWH’s footstool.
Arise, YHWH, to the place of your rest,
you and the ark of your strength!
Your priests will be closed with holiness;
your faith will sing for joy.

For the sake of David, your faithful one,
don’t reject your Anointed.
You swore an oath to David –
don’t go back on your word:
“I will set your offspring on your throne!
If your children keep my covenant
and my laws that I teach them,
their descendants will sit on your throne forever. ”

The Chancel Choir

“True Colors”

by Billy Steinberg and Tom Kelly

Gospel Reading: John 18:33-37

Pilate went back into the palace and called for Jesus. He said, "Are you the 'King of the Jews'?"

Jesus answered, "Are you saying this on your own, or did others tell you this about me?"

Pilate said, "Do I look like a Jew? Your people and your high priests turned you over to me. What did you do?"

"My king-dom," said Jesus, "doesn't consist of what you see around you. If it did, my followers would fight so that I wouldn't be handed over to the Jews. But I'm not that kind of king, not the world's kind of king."

Then Pilate said, "So, are you a king or not?"

Jesus answered, "You tell me. Because I am King, I was born and entered the world so that I could witness to the truth. Everyone who cares for truth, who has any feeling for the truth, recognizes my voice."

Message

"Who's in Charge?"

Rev. Barbara Toll

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

Go,
Hold fast to the reign of Christ
Proclaim the good news through word and deed
Make your life the demonstration
Keep love as your hope and guide
Testify to the truth
And the Sovereign God will be with you
Now and forever.

Choral Blessing "Give Peace Again"
by James Ahrend

Ringling of the Bell

Postlude "Way Over Yonder"
by Carole King



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. Barbara Toll, Guest Preacher
Sean Cameron, Music Director
Liturgist – Kim Thompsen

Ushers – Heather & Mariana Dominguez, Judie & Mike Jayne

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

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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"