



Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ  
Second Sunday after Christmas  
January 5, 2025

Welcome

The Bell is Rung

Prelude

"Good Morning Starshine" from *HAIR*  
Music by Galt MacDermot  
Lyrics by James Rado and Gerome Ragni

Unison Call to Worship (Based on Isaiah 43:1-7)

The God who breathed this world alive and sustains it day by day  
Whose hands flung stars into space and controls our destiny  
Says, "Do not be afraid, for I am with you."

The God who filled the ocean depths and set tides on their way  
Who caused mountains to be raised up and rainbows to display  
Says, "I have called you by name, you are mine."

The God who made the fertile earth and seed within to sow  
Whose artistry creates butterflies and the early morning dew  
Says, "You are precious in my sight."

[And, let us add, this God, in all the ways this God is understood,  
would surely remind us, "You are Loved". Indeed.]

Hymn "Adeste Fideles" (O Come, All You Faithful)  
NCH #135 v. 1, 3 & 4

*O come, all you faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come now, O come now to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold the ruler of all angels:  
O come in adoration, O come in adoration,  
O come in adoration: Christ is Lord!*

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all you messengers of heavenly love:  
"Glory to God, all glory in the highest":  
O come in adoration, O come in adoration,  
O come in adoration: Christ is Lord!*

*Amen, Lord, we greet you, born this happy morning;  
Jesus to you shall all glory be given;  
Word of our God now in flesh appearing:  
O come in adoration, O come in adoration,  
O come in adoration: Christ is Lord!*

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

### Unison Prayer

In part from Amanda Gorman's Inaugural Poem of January 20, 2021.

"When day comes we ask ourselves,  
    where can we find light in this never-ending shade?  
The loss we carry, a sea we must wade  
We've braved the belly of the beast  
We've learned that quiet isn't always peace  
And the norms and notions of what just is  
Isn't always justice  
And yet the dawn is ours [and] before we knew it  
Somehow we do it..."

[Let this day, and the next, and all days  
be the days we hold the dawn in our hearts together,  
    spoken in each of our own ways,  
so the Light breaks through  
all that casts shadows on our kin and one another. Amen.]

### 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            "There's A Star" from *Emmanuel*  
by Dorothy Davidson Hausske

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 – "The Lord's Prayer"

Creator God who is in heaven  
Hallowed\* be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For yours is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory forever, Amen.

\*Hymn

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

NCH #154

*Refrain:*

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hill and everywhere.  
Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

*Refrain*

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

*Refrain*

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

*Refrain*

The Chancel Choir "Arise, Shine, For Your Light Has Come"

Isaiah 60: 1, 3, 19

Music by Allen Pote

Gospel Reading

John 1:1-18

Inclusive Bible

In the beginning there was the Word;  
the word was in God's presence,  
and the Word was God.

The Word was present to God  
from the beginning.

Through the Word  
all things came into being,  
and apart from the Word  
nothing came into being  
that has come into being.

In the word was life, and that life was humanity's light —  
a Light that shines in the darkness,  
a Light that the darkness has never overtaken.

Then came the one named John, sent as an envoy from God, who came as a witness to testify about the Light, so that through his testimony everyone might believe. He himself wasn't the Light; he only came to testify about the Light — the true Light that illuminates all humankind.

The Word was coming into the world —  
was in the world —  
and though the world,  
was made through the Word, the world didn't recognize it.

Though the Word came to its own realm,  
the Word's on people didn't accept it.  
Yet any who did accept the Word,  
who believed in that Name,  
were empowered to become children of God —  
children born not of natural descent,  
nor urge of flesh  
nor human will —  
but born of God.  
And the word became flesh  
and stayed for a little while among us;  
we saw the Word's glory —  
the favor position a parent or guardian gives an only child —  
filled with grace, filled with the truth.

John testified by proclaiming, "This is the one I spoke of when I said, 'The one who comes after me ranks ahead of me, for this One existed before I did.'"

Of this one's fullness we've all had a share —

gift on top of gift. For a while the Law was given through Moses,  
the Gift — and the Truth — came through Jesus Christ.  
No one has ever seen God;  
It is the Only Begotten,  
ever at Abba's side,  
who has revealed God to us.

Congregational Voice

Roger Kauffman

"Handel and his Messiah"  
James Cesare, trumpet soloist

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

Choral Blessing

"Communion Prayer"  
Words and Music by Allen Pote

Ringing of the Bell

Postlude

"When You Wish Upon a Star"  
Music by Leigh Harline  
Words by Ned Washington



## 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!

Roger Kauffman, Congregational Voice

Sean Cameron, Music Director

James Cesare, trumpet soloist

Liturgist – Mike Jayne

Ushers – Kim Thompsen, Debby Langstaff, James and Elise Cesare

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](http://www.sayvilleucc.org); [www.facebook.com/sayvilleucc](http://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](http://www.echimestv.org) Tune in any time!

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

“Namaste”