

Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ Third Sunday after the Epiphany January 26, 2025

Welcome

The Bell is Rung

Prelude "Prelude for Organ, No. 6"

by C.H. Rinck

Call to Worship "Canticle of Praise" by David Boswick (Modified)

"The Spirit of God" is upon us. All of God is upon us. Every name by which God is known; every song by which God is sung; every heart in which God beats – is upon us.

Be. In that Spirit of God, be. As we worship together.

Hymn "Community of Christ"

NCH #314

Community of Christ, who make the Cross your own, live out your creed and risk your life for God alone: The God who wears your face, to whom all worlds belong, whose children are of every race and every song.

Community of Christ, look past the church's door and see the refugee, the hungry, and the poor. Take hands with the oppressed, the jobless in your street, take towel and water, that you wash your neighbor's feet.

Community of Christ, through whom the word must soundcry out for justice and for peace the whole world 'round: Disarm the powers that war and all that can destroy, turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish into joy.

When menace melts away, so shall God's will be done, the climate of the world be peace and Christ its Sun; Our currency be love and kindliness our law, our food and faith be shared as one for evermore.

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

Unison Prayer by Rev. Bruce Prewer (Modified)

There are those among us, now and then, who reflect the teachings we strive to follow. "The Spirit of God" is upon them, we say (in some variation of those words).

And the "Spirit of God" is upon us.

We inspire each other more with Love than brilliance; more with compassion than status; more with presence than accomplishments...

And, always, in caring for one another, as we, ourselves, wish to be cared for... it is the way and the Light and God's language of the heart. We practice here. Now.

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

"The Peace of God"
by Douglas Wagner

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

"Love Has Come"

SPP #110 vs. 1, 3

With one voice the angels sing, songs that make creation ring. Prophets here and call us to live in spirit and in truth.

(Refrain)
Word of God, enthroned,
dwell in us forever more.
Love has come to show the way.
Hallelujah, peace be with us.
Love has come to show the way.

God of Covenant, divine, lead us to the end of time, beyond sorrow, beyond fear, beyond pride and earth and tears. (Refrain) First Reading: Psalm 139:1-12

YHWH, you've searched me, and you know me.
You know, if I am standing or sitting, you read my thoughts from far away.
Whether I walk or lie down, you are watching; You are intimate with all of my ways.
A word is not even on my tongue, YHWH, before you know what it is: you hem me in, before and behind, shielding me with your hand.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, a height my mind cannot reach!

Where could I run from your Spirit?
Where could I flee from your presence?
If I go up to the heavens, you're there;
if I make my bed in Death, you're already there.
I could fly away with wings made of dawn,
or make my home on the far side of the sea,
but even there your hand will guide me,
your mighty hand holding me fast.
If I say, "The darkness will hide me,
and night will be my only light,"
even darkness won't be dark to you;
the night will shine like the day –
darkness and light are the same to you.

The Chancel Choir

"Deep Peace" by David N. Davenport

Gospel Reading: Luke 9:57-61; 10:1-2

As they were making their way along, they met a fellow traveler, who said to Jesus, "I'll follow you wherever you go."

Jesus replied, "Foxes have lairs, the birds of the sky have nests, but the Chosen One has nowhere to rest."

To another traveler Jesus said, "Follow me."

The traveler replied, "Let me bury my father first."

Jesus said in return, "Let the dead bury their dead; you go and proclaim the reign of God everywhere."

Yet another traveler approached Jesus in the same way: "I'll be your follower, Rabbi, but first, let me say goodbye to my people at home."

After this, Jesus appointed seventy others, and sent them on ahead in pairs to every town and place he intended to visit. He said to them, "The harvest is rich, but the workers are few; therefore ask the overseer to send workers to the harvest."

Message

"A Few Will Do"

Rev. Jeanne Baum

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 Rev. Jeanne Baum

Choral Blessing "Go Now In Peace"

by Don Besig and Nancy Price

Ringing of the Bell

Postlude "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" by W.S. Stevenson



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. Jeanne Baum, Guest Preacher
Sean Cameron, Music Director
Liturgist – Jenna Murphy
Ushers – Marie Mandell, Jean Newcombe, Laura Heaney,
Roxy York and Sarah Hartmann

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"