



The Fourth Sunday of Advent  
"Ange' Candle"  
The Candle for Peace



*Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ*

*December 19, 2021*

*How far is it to Bethlehem?*

## Announcements:

Good morning, everyone and welcome to Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ on this Fourth Sunday of Advent. Whether you are joining us in person, online or will view this later in the week – please know you are welcome here before you arrive or begin our broadcast.

Thank you for joining us.

Before we begin we have a few announcements:

1. Our Annual Meeting of the Congregation takes place immediately following today's worship. Our meeting will be brief. We ask all church members to remain so we can achieve quorum, and we invite all others to stay if you wish. As per our Constitution, all are welcome at these meetings, however only member can vote on items presented at the meeting.
2. If you would like to read for our Christmas Eve Service at either 5:30 or 7:30 PM, please let Sue Lanchantin know. We have room for all who wish to participate.
3. Today is the last day to donate gift cards and gifts for the Department of Social Services drive for youth in out of home placements in Suffolk County. Thank you to everyone who has ordered gifts online or made donations.
4. If you would like to add the name of someone to the list of Chancel Flowers for Christmas, we have some forms available in the front of the room.
5. Lastly, thank you to everyone who helped with our Christmas Concert that took place last evening. It was a fabulous event and lifted spirits, while extending the calm and warmth of this place and its welcoming. Look for notice in eChimes for rebroadcast times of the concert on our YouTube Channel.
6. Are there any other announcements at this time? If so, please use the microphone so that others at home can hear.

Let us now join together in beginning today's worship with the ringing of the bell.

Heather Welcome

Usher Ringing of the Bell

Sean Prelude "Trumpet Tune" by Henry Purcell  
James Cesare, trumpet soloist

Heather \*Call to Worship (Adapted from Writings of Henri  
Nouwen)

(\*Please rise or be seated, as you wish. Please pray with us aloud with your masks on.)

We remember the words of Jesus in John 14:27, when he spoke to the disciples, saying:

"Peace, I leave you; my peace I give you. I do not give as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled."

Yes, that Peace of inextinguishable Hope, Love, Joy and Calm.  
That Peace which embraces us long before the world settles.  
The Peace of Angels, filled with Joy and Love and Hope  
and the Promise of the One that lives in us all.

Sean Begins playing *One Candle is Lit* as Heather reads the following.

Heather \*Lighting of the Advent Candle for Peace

\*Please remain standing or be seated and join us in singing the four verses of *One Candle is Lit* for Hope, Love, Joy and Peace.)

Sean As we begin the lighting process, please lead us in these four verses.

Come surely, Sweet Jesus, as dawn follows night,  
our hearts long to greet you, as roses, the light.  
Salvation draw near us, our vision engage.  
One candle is lit for the Hope of the Age.

Come, wanderer where lion and lamb gently play,  
where evil is banished and faith takes day,  
a babe in a manger to fool the world's eyes.  
One candle is lit for God's loving surprise.

Come, festively sing while awaiting the birth,  
join angels in dancing from heaven to earth.  
Wave banners of good news, lift high thankful praise  
One candle is lit for the joy of these days.

Come quickly, shalom, teach us how to prepare  
for a gift that compels us with justice to care.  
Our spirits are restless till sin and war cease.  
One candle is lit for the reign of God's peace.

Heather \*Unison Prayer Based on Psalm 46:7-11  
(Please be seated and join us in praying today's Unison Prayer)

The Beloved is ever with us, the infinite heart of Love.  
Come, behold the works of the Beloved,  
how love does reign even in humanity's desolation.  
For the Beloved yearns for peace to follow the end of strife,  
for light to fill fearful hearts; for love to touch –  
even those who oppress, refining aggression into compassion.

*Be still and know that I am God.  
I am Love and Hope and Joy and Peace.  
And I am with you.*

Be not afraid.

Heather \*Passing of the Peace  
(\*Please rise or be seated.)

May the Peace of the Risen Christ be with you  
**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.



Heather

*(Please be seated) Today's Gospel reading is from Luke 1:39-55, in two parts. The first is when Mary announces the news of her visit from the angel to Elizabeth. The second is Mary's response to the news, often referred to as "The Magnificat of Mary." which will be sung together as Hymn # 119: "My Soul Gives Glory to My God" from the New Century Hymnal.*

Sometime after the arrival of the Archangel and being told that she had found favor with God, Mary set out and hurried to the hill country to a town of Judah where she entered Zechariah's house and greeted her relative Elizabeth.

As soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child in Elizabeth's womb leaped and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice, Elizabeth exclaimed, "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why am I so favored that the mother of the Messiah should come to me? The moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who believed that what our God said to her would be accomplished.

Sean "My Soul Gives Glory to My God" New Century Hymnal #119

My soul gives glory to my God. My heart pours out its praise.  
God lifted up my lowliness in many marvelous ways.

My God has done great things for me; yes, holy is God's name.  
All people will declare me blessed, and blessings they shall claim.

From age to age, to all who fear, such mercy love imparts,  
dispensing justice far and near, dismissing selfish hearts.

Love casts the mighty from their thrones, promotes the insecure,  
leaves hungry spirits satisfied, the greedy suddenly poor.

Praise God whose loving covenant supports those in distress,  
remembering past promises with present faithfulness.

Ray Provocation

Sean Please join us in singing "Come, Gather in This Special Place"  
Hymn #335 in the New Century Hymnal

Come, gather in this special place; the table here is long and wide;  
For all who heed Communion's call, there's room for thousands side by side.

The grapes have yielded essence pure, a drink to quench the gravest thirst;  
The cup is passed from hand to hand, and each will sense despair reversed.

The bread is freshly baked today, a fragrant feast of grain supplied;  
And even crumbs that dust our palms will leave souls fully satisfied.



Ray Communion Prayer

God be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God.  
**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Ray Jesus said:  
I am the bread of life.  
You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never  
thirst.

Heather In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to experience again the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread.

In this place as in all places, it is indeed right to always bring thanks to you. You Creator God, Christ and Spirit are our Divine path of all that is – and then more.

You are the Universe's Guarantor:  
Hope. Justice. Peace. Joy.  
And virtues we have yet to learn.  
All these are your gifts to us.  
May this meal nourish us in them all.

Ray The Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Drink

Sean \*Church Covenant – Sung in Unison  
\*(Please remain seated and join us in singing.)

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."

Ray \*Benediction & Sending Forth  
\*(Please rise if you wish.)

Usher Ringing of the Bell

Sean Postlude "The Peace of God"  
The Chancel Choir by Douglas Wagner





For more than a century and a half, Sayville's Congregational Church has served families on the South Shore and been a voice for the progressive Protestant tradition. An original member of the United Church of Christ since it was established in 1957, today we continue to celebrate God's love, to speak for the oppressed, and to welcome those seeking a spiritual home. To learn about our congregation and membership, please speak with any deacon.

Today's Worship Leadership  
Liturgist – Heather Dominguez  
Music Director – Sean Cameron  
Trumpet Soloist – James Cesare  
Ushers – Elise and James Cesare  
Media Team – Karin Conrad, Mark Conrad,  
Connie Kauffman, Kathy Leis and Hank Maust

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Online Worship – [www.echimestv.org](http://www.echimestv.org)

Thank you for being with us today.  
Peace. Shalom. Salaam. For the ways of peace are many.  
“Namaste”

Please contact Heather if you have questions or need any additional help.