



LEADERS BULLETIN

Thank you, Leaders for today's worship!

Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ

February 20, 2022

Welcome Announcements

Good morning everyone and welcome to this morning's worship, whether you are joining us in person or online. This is the place where you are welcome long before you arrive.

We wish to thank everyone for their prayers and support during these last few weeks, as we said "Farewell" to Carolyn Kane and celebrated her life, here, in this sanctuary on Friday. We thank you for your continued prayers for Marjorie and Carolyn's family and for all you do in caring for each other.

We have recorded Carolyn's service, which along with a copy of the program, is online on our website. We invite you to visit our time together, as you wish.

We also ask for continued prayers this morning for Alice Gray, who is receiving care for a medical condition.

We also enter into worship and prayer this morning for a world on the brink of war between Russia and the Ukraine and all the unintended consequences that such actions would likely produce. Prayers for peace and that cooler heads prevail, especially now.

Are there any other announcements?

So, let this morning's worship begin with the ringing of the bell...

Elise and James Cesare, Ushers Ringing the Bell

Prelude "Gott des Himmels und der Erden"
 "God of Earth and Heaven" by C.H. Rinck

Patricia *Call to Worship
(*Please rise or be seated, as you wish, joining with us in response.)

We come together, not enough lately...

What makes that especially difficult these days
is that we know the core of all spiritual growth:
 "It's not about me."
 It is about you.

We come to worship thankful to be here now
and longing for more of You, more of us...
 more together now and in the days to come.

Let us worship, then, with gratitude for the lives we share
and our trust in you, Gracious Convener. Amen.

(*Please remain standing or seated as you are and join us in our opening hymn.)

Sean Hymn "Call to Prayer"
 Sing! Prayer and Praise #61

Floating and flaming and filling new life.
Hov'ring and healing and helping with sighs.
Spirit at work since the dawning of time;
meet us right here, touch us right now.
Meet us right here, touch us right now.

Seaching and saving and soothing indeed.
Teaching and turning and taking the lead;
Nurturing, Lovingly, birthing new ways;
meet us right here, touch us right now.
Meet us right here, touch us right now.

Calling and caring and changing each heart.
Loving and lifting us to a new start;
Following Jesus, our teacher our friend;
meet us right here, touch us right now.
Meet us right here, touch us right now.

(*Please be seated and pray with me this morning's Unison Prayer, "A Psalm of Lament" by Kristine Houghtalen.)

Patricia Unison Prayer: A Psalm of Lament by Kristine Houghtalen

God of mystery who is found in the spaces between our desire and your grace, You have always been there to guide us when we have lost our way. When we are embroiled in wrestling between our own ego and our worthiness of your love, you have been there filling the spaces between.

The darkness that we so fiercely challenged in the past seems to have a grip on us once more and is trying to pull us back from the light of your love.

We have stood up to hatred and intolerance and fought for justice and acceptance.
But, like a weed growing between the cracks, we are being forced apart.

We are tired, fearful and saddened as the spaces between have widened and the landscape has changed. Mountains have appeared where once the view was unobstructed..
We have let others fill the space between with discourse, hatred, and false witness as we celebrated and enjoyed the view from our own window without ever walking out the door.

We humbly put our desire to control aside and ask you to fill the spaces between, so that there is no room for hatred and anger and we can find a path back to love and acceptance.

Calm our minds so that we may know your presence;
Teach us to listen so that we hear your call and allow us to be a conduit of your love once more.

It is through you that mountains can be moved and we bow our heads in readiness.

(PAUSE: Please rise or be seated as you wish, for the singing of "There Is a Balm in Gilead")

(*Please rise or be seated, as you wish, and join in singing the African American Spiritual "There Is a Balm in Gilead")

Sean *Hymn "There Is a Balm in Gilead"
New Century Hymnal #553

There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,
there is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my works in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit, revives my soul again.

There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,
there is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul.

Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend.
who, if you ask for knowledge, will never fail to lend.

There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,
there is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul.

If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus, who died to save us all.

There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,
there is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul.

Patricia *Passing of the Peace

Friends, welcome to this place of prayer and praise; light and love,
blessings and benediction! With all this and more in mind, we greet
one another with the Peace of Christ:

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

Let us offer one another a sign of this Peace.

(*Please be seated)

Patricia Joys and Concerns...

We take this time now to share our Joys and Concern with one another. Please wait for Ray who will repeat your Joys and Concerns for all to hear...

Patricia We continue these prayers by joining together in the prayer Jesus taught his disciples to pray, as you learned to pray it.

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.

Sean Hymn "Spirit of the Living 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.

This morning's first reading are excerpts from Paul and his First Letter to the Corinthians 15:35; 42-45

Patricia Reading 1 Corinthians 15:35; 42-45 (excerpts)

Perhaps someone will ask, "How are the dead to be raised up? What kind of body will they have?"

"...there are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies. Heavenly bodies have a beauty of their own, and earthly bodies have a beauty of their own. The sun has one kind of brightness, the moon another, and the stars another. And star differs [from star to star in brightness].

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is a perishable body, what is raised is incorruptible. What is sown is ignoble, what is raised is glorious. Weakness is sown, strength is raised up. A natural body is sown, and a spiritual body is raised up. If there is a natural body then there is also a spiritual body.



Ray First thoughts...

Our second reading continues with excerpts from the Gospel of Luke 6:27-38

Patricia Reading Luke 6:27-38 (excerpts)

“To you who hear me, I say: love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you.

“[...] turn your cheek; ...give to all who ask.

“Do to others what you would have them do to you.

“Love your enemies and do good to them.

“Be compassionate, as your loving God is compassionate. Don’t judge and you won’t be judged. Don’t condemn and you won’t condemn. Pardon and you’ll be pardoned. Give, and it will be given to you: a full measure—packed down and shaken together and running over – will be poured into your lap. For the amount you measure out is the amount you’ll be given back.”

Ray Closing thoughts on this morning’s readings...

Sean “Church Covenant”

In response to God’s love, we covenant with each other...
to be faithful to the demand 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

Elise and James Cesare, Ushers Ringing the Bell

Sean Postlude



Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ

For more than a century and a half, Sayville's 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. Merry Christmas.

Today's Worship Leadership

Liturgist – Patricia Mahar

Music Director – Sean Cameron

Ushers – Elise and James Cesare

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

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Tonight's Service is being simulcast on our church channel at

www.echimestv.org Tune in any time!

Thank you for being with us today.

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

"Namaste"