



# Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ

March 13, 2022



Welcome

Announcements

Ring the Bell

Prelude

"Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten sein"  
(When in the hour of utmost need) by CH Rinck

Call to Worship

"The reputation of Jesus continued to grow. Large crowds gathered to hear him and be healed of their sicknesses. But Jesus often withdrew to some place where he could be alone and pray." (Luke 5:15)

We move within our lives with compassion and healing for one another. Folks know they can rely on us and we on them. Even so, we all need time alone and together to pray.

Come, be together today in prayer and in the quiet places we know, as well.

**(Please rise or be seated, as you wish, joining with us singing.)**

Hymn      "Pray"      Sing! Prayer and Praise #122

Pray, pray, pray, for peace within our world.  
Pray, pray, pray, for peace within our souls.  
Pray, pray, pray, for love and unity;  
*quiet our busy hearts.*  
Pray, pray, pray. Pray, pray, pray.  
.  
*...comfort our anxious hearts*  
*...open our angry hearts.*  
*...nourish our hungry hearts.*

**(Please be seated and join us in prayer.)**

Unison Prayer      Adapted from "Let This be a Place" by Joseph Gilmore

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**(Please rise or be seated, as you wish, joining with us in singing.)**

Hymn      "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

New Century Hymnal #193    vss. 2, 3, 5

When the woes of life o'er take me,  
hopes deceive and fears annoy,  
Never shall the cross forsake me;  
Lo! it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming,  
light and love upon my way,  
from the cross the radiance streaming  
adds more luster to the day.

In the cross of Christ I glory,  
towering o'er the wrecks of time;  
All the light of sacred story  
gathers 'round its head sublime.

**(Please remain standing or seated, as you wish.)**

## Passing of the Peace of Christ

In John 14:27, Jesus said, "Peace I leave you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

Paul, in Philippians 4:7 adds, "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

The peace we offer one another is an expression, a breath of the peace that Jesus spoke of to the world. Breathe, Pause, Take a breath, and from deep inside the beguiling whispering voice of God in your being, let us offer one another a sign of that peace... that peace.

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

And now, to one another...

**(Please be seated.)**

## Joys and Concerns...

We turn to our Joys and Concerns as we approach this table for our Communion Meal. With the world, we struggle to stir hope in ourselves, while in awe of the determination of the Ukrainian people. We pray to find ways to reverse the insanity that has gripped the invaders of their land and the one that leads the criminals of this war.

In the stillness of our hearts, in the words we express, in all the ways we pray let this be a time to share your petitions and joys in the ways you may...

**(Please join together in praying the Prayer of Jesus, using the words that comfort you most.)**

## The Prayer of Jesus

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                    "In Our Prayers"                    Sing! Prayer and Praise #125

In our prayers, in our hearts  
in our prayers, in our hearts,  
God in your grace, hear our prayers,  
God in your grace, O God, hear our prayers.

## Holy Communion: Come to the Table

Friends, we come to this table in prayer. We *abide* in this Communion we share in this break from the world and its power. We pause from our goings and comings and breathe in the presence of the Holy Spirit that surely filled Jesus in his life, especially that last night; the Spirit that fills us in our life, surely in this moment.

## Words of Institution and Sharing of The Meal

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Hymn                    "In Our Prayers"                    Sing! Prayer and Praise #125

In our prayers, in our hearts  
in our prayers, in our hearts,  
God in your grace, hear our prayers,  
God in your grace, O God, hear our prayers.

Gospel Reading Luke 13:31-35 (The Inclusive Bible Version)

*Some introductory verses to today's reading*

Indignation

“At these words, the whole audience in the synagogue was filled with indignation. They rose up and dragged Jesus out of town, with the intention of hurling him over a cliff. But Jesus slipped away.”

Luke 4:28 – 30.

Hubris

One day, as Jesus was teaching, there were Pharisees and experts on the Law sitting there, who had come from every village, and the power of God was present for Jesus to heal the sick. As Jesus healed and forgave sins, the Pharisees complained, “Who is this person talking blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” Luke 5:21b

Judgement

Levi, the tax collector accepted Jesus' invitation to follow him and his teaching. Levi, still a tax collector, gave a big reception at his house for Jesus and Jesus was there. And, yes, the Pharisees had something to say about that, too: “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and ‘sinners’?” Luke 5:39

Jealous

At this and more, they (the Pharisees) were furious with Jesus and began to discuss with one another what they could do with him.

*And from today's lectionary, Luke 13:31-35*

(Trying to get Jesus to go away...)

[...] some Pharisees trying to help him came to Jesus and said, "You need to get out of town and fast. Herod is trying to kill you."

Jesus replied, "Go tell that fox, 'Today and tomorrow I'll be casting out devils and healing people, and on the third day I'll finish here.' Even after doing all that for everyone to see, I'll need to continue on my journey today, tomorrow and the day after that, since no prophet can be allowed to die anywhere except in Jerusalem.

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem! You kill the prophets and stone those who are sent to you! How often I have wanted to gather your children as a mother bird collects her babies under her wings—yet you refuse me! So take note: your house will be left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, "Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God!" "

## Homily

**(Friends, please rise or be seated, as you wish, joining with us singing our Church Covenant and remain as you are for the Benediction.)**

### “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      A Prayer for Today by Shannon Conrad

“Let us pray. God we thank you for all that you do in our lives, whether we are conscious or not. You do so much for us. You keep us safe. You watch over us. You ground us. You guide us through times of uncertainty, even if we are not certain it is You guiding us. We pray for those who are not aware of your Light shining in their lives. We pray for safety, comfort, and peace. Please bring peace to us here, and those abroad so that we may live according to your image.” Amen

**(Please be seated.)**

### Ringling the Bell

Postlude      The Chancel Choir  
"Forgiveness and Love" by James Ahrend



### ***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 – Michael Jayne

Music Director – Sean Cameron

Ushers – Sue Lanchantin and Fran Bergmann

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

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Heather Corcoran, Church Administrator; eChimes Editor

Ray Bagnuolo, Pastor [ray@sayvilleucc.org](mailto:ray@sayvilleucc.org) 631-827-8611 (Cell/Text)

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

[www.echimestv.org](http://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"*