

Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ
Announcements for June 26, 2022

Good morning everyone and welcome to Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ - where we like to say that you are welcome long before you arrive. My name is Karen Maust and it is a privilege to serve as your liturgist this morning.

Whether you are joining us in person or online, at this hour or at a later time – we are grateful that you are here and at whatever point you may be on your spiritual journey...

This morning, we are excited to welcome our member and friend Barbara Salva as our “congregational voice” on this last Sunday of Pride Month. Thank you Barbara for agreeing to bring your message to us today.

We are also grateful, once again, to have James Higgins with us this morning as our guest music director, while Sean prepares for a tour later this summer. Thank you James for always being willing to join us when Sean is away.

And these few words... it has been a week of critical decisions in our society.

- There is much yet to be said and done about the Supreme Court's decision on women's rights and Rove v Wade, along with other decisions that are sure to follow. We will continue be engaged, as we have been. Please follow eChimes for weekly updates.

- Also this week, a second decision of the court that makes it easier to carry concealed weapons in places, like New York, where there has long-been specific and restrictive requirements to keep this practice in check. We have more to do there, as well. Still...
- ***For the first time in 30 years*** Congress and the President have signed into law measures to stem the tide of gun violence in this country. With this beginning, we honor the sacrifices of so many and are grateful to you and all who have prayed, been inspired and worked tirelessly in moving this nation in stemming the availability and access to guns for those who should never have a weapon in their hands.

[Pause]

Are there any other announcements for this morning...?

Friends, we know there are times when it can all seem overwhelming. Be assured that our being together in prayer and hopefulness, open to God's will in all things; caring for one another in all the ways we can...always leads us in the right direction.

And so, into the right direction this morning... we invite the bell to be rung as James continues our worship with today's prelude by Aaron Copland...