

## Leader Bulletin



*First Sunday of Advent  
Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ  
November 27, 2022*

*Whose laughter invites us, whose earth upholds us,  
whose stars we wish upon,  
whose symphony for birdsong awakens, oh awakens, us,  
candle to a blinding sun.*

from "By a Mighty and Shining Grace"  
by Joseph H. Gilmore

## **S1 Hilda Announcements**

Good morning everyone. My name is Hilda Baeza and I am delighted to welcome you to this morning's worship on the First Sunday of Advent.

We begin this morning with thanks to all who helped with our hugely successful Victorian Tea. We are also very grateful to everyone who helped to clean up and reset our sanctuary in preparation for today's First Sunday of Advent. What a beautiful gift you have given us all! Thank you!

And, today, we also remember World AIDS Day which is commemorated each year on December 1, which is this coming Thursday. We remember, we pray and we support the elimination of AIDS – as many of us say – “Until There's a Cure”.

I would also like to bring your attention to the insert in today's bulletin for you to submit the name of someone you would like to remember this Advent and Christmas season. Names of those you remember will be listed in our Christmas Eve bulletin and online. You do not need to make a donation or purchase flowers for your loved one's name to be listed. Simply use the form and we will take it from there.

After worship today, we invite you to Hospitality and then to help in the greening of the sanctuary and decorating of the tree. Please join us – even if only for a few minutes.

Also, if you are interested in becoming a member of Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ, please join immediately following worship next week to plan a time for meeting. If you will not be with us next week and wish to join, just give Ray a call and he will work out a time for you.

Are there any other announcements?

Now, please take a moment to breathe in the great love that surrounds you and exhale all that distracts and upsets you, as we prepare ourselves for this morning's worship with the ringing of the bell and the beginning of the Advent Season.

**Usher**  
**Ringling of the Bell**

**S2 Sean**

**Prelude** "Prepare Ye" from *Godspell*  
by Stephen Schwartz

**S3 Hilda**

**\*Call to Worship & Lighting of the Candle**

*Liturgist: Today is the first Sunday of Advent. In a moment, we will light the first candle on our Advent wreath: the candle of Hope.*

*In the time before the birth of Jesus, the Israelites had little hope for the future of their nation or their people, except for the power of God that remained strong in their lives, even as it wavered from time-to-time. They awaited the "One who would come; a messiah, an anointed leader, like David. They believed when that happened, all would be well – again."*

*Today begins our 2022 Advent journey as we anticipate the birth of Jesus, the one who is called the Light of the World and the Hope of the Nations.*

*As we light the candle of Hope, we give thanks for all who ceaselessly and courageously speak words of hope and encouragement and love for each of us and this world, in the name of the one called Jesus.*

*(The candle is lit...)*

**Hilda** This morning we invite \_\_\_\_\_ to come forward to light the Candle of Hope.

**S4** Please stand and join us in singing “One Candle is Lit”

**S5 Sean**  
One Candle is Lit

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

**Hilda**  
Please remain standing and join in praying our Unison Prayer

**S6-9 Hilda**  
Unison Prayer

Remind us, please, Gracious God,  
how near you truly are.  
Free us to be still in your presence, especially for this Advent, this day,  
and this time.  
A time in which we remember your love and ours –  
for all who know AIDS;  
all who struggle with illness.  
Inspire us – Loved One – with hope that fires our love and our resolve;  
Hope that brings warmth and comfort and change  
wherever it may be needed.  
May it be a hope that helps us remember—who and whose we are;  
A hope of “joyful awareness”  
that you are already with us, Emmanuel.  
And that we can breathe.

**S10 Hilda**

Now, Please be seated and join us in singing  
"Comfort, Comfort O My People"

**S11 – 13 Sean**

Opening Hymn

"Comfort, Comfort O My People"

New Century Hymnal #101

"Comfort, comfort, O my people, tell of peace," thus says our God;  
Comfort those whose hearts are shrouded, mourning under sorrow's load.  
Speak unto Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them:  
Tell them that their wrongs I cover, and their warfare now is over.

For the herald's voice is calling in the desert far and near,  
Bidding us to grow forgiveness since the realm of God is here.  
O that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way;  
Let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.

Right shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain!  
Let your hearts be true and humble, for Messiah's holy reign.  
For God's glory evermore shall be known o'er all the world;  
And all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

**S14 Hilda**

Please remain seated for this morning's first reading from The Book of  
Isaiah, Chapter Two, Verses 1 through 5

## S15-19

There's a day coming when the mountain of God's House  
Will be *The Mountain*—solid, towering over all mountains.  
All nations will river toward it, people from all over set out for it.  
They'll say, "Come, let's climb God's Mountain,  
go to the House of the God of Jacob.  
God will show us the way God works  
so we can live the way we're made."  
God will settle things fairly between nations.  
God will make things right between many peoples.  
They'll turn their swords into shovels, their spears into plowshares.  
No more will nation fight nation; they won't play war anymore.  
Come, family of Jacob, let's live in the light of God.

## Hilda

**Please remain seated**

## S20 Sean and Chancel Choir

**Chancel Choir** "Dona Nobis Pacem" Traditional

**S21 Hilda**

**Please remain seated as we listen to this morning's Gospel Reading from the Book of Matthew, Chapter 24, Verses 36 and following.**

**S22**

"But the exact day and hour? No one knows that, not even heaven's angels, not even Jesus. Only God knows.

"The arrival of the One to Come will take place in times like Noah's. Before the great flood everyone was carrying on as usual, having a good time right up to the day Noah boarded the ark. They knew nothing—until...

**S23-25 Ray**  
**Homily** *"Until"*

**S26 - 29 Ray**

**Ray Please stand and us in singing**

**Hymn "Little Bethlehem of Judah" New Century Hymnal #113**

**Little Bethlehem of Judah, what good news you bear!  
Out of you will come the Ancient One as heir.**

**Though your people suffer trouble waiting for the child,  
So all strife and hatred shall be reconciled.**

**Long awaited comes the Shepherd who will rule the earth;  
God made low has come to serve in human birth.**



**S30 Hilda**  
**Joys and Concerns**

**This is a time for us to hear your Joys and Concerns. Please wait for the microphone to come to you so that all here and at home can hear your requests. We respond to each of you petitions with “God Hear Our Prayers”.**

**S31 Hilda**  
**Please join me in praying “The Prayer of Jesus” – “The Lord’s Prayer”**  
**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 have trespassed against us.  
Lead us not into temptation and deliver us from evil  
for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

**S32 Hilda**

*Please rise*

**Passing of Christ's Peace**

We know God is with us; we hold the greatest of commandments to love as a practice, a way of life. And, with the greeting of the one who promises "peace" beyond all understanding, from our minds, our hearts and our souls we say:

"May the peace of the Risen Christ be with you!" **And also with you**  
Friends, let us offer one another a sign of peace.

**Hilda**

**Please ne seated**

**S33 Sean and The Chancel Choir**

"Simple Gifts" Shaker"      hymn      Arranged by John Coates, Jr.

**S34 Ray**

*Please remain seated*

**Benediction**

*Please rise and join us in singing...*

## **S35 Sean**

### **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.**

*Please be seated*

## **S36 Usher**

### **Ring of the Bell**

## **S37 Sean**

**Postlude** "I Can See Clearly Now"  
Words and Music by Johnny Nash

## **S38-39**

### **Closing Slides**



### ***Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ***

For more nearly 175 years, 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, celebrate God's love, however you may know God, by our continuing to advocate for the oppressed, while welcoming all on their spiritual journey, from wherever they may come. Thank you for being with us today. Please contact us at any time for more information about our congregation and questions you may have.

#### **Thank you!**

Sean Cameron, Music Director

Liturgist – Hilda Baeza

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

[www.echimestv.org](http://www.echimestv.org) Tune in any time!

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