

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ January 22, 2023



Rev. Trevor Hausske SCUCC (r.) meeting with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in New York

"We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now." ~Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Welcome

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

Please stand if you wish and join in this morning's Call to Worship

Call to Worship from "Meditations on the Lord's Prayer" by Elaine Kanstantopoulos; *Hallowed be Thy Name*"

Praise the Name of God, for it is good. The psalmist says it best, "Your name is sacred, God, and should be uttered only with awe and reverence."

When we hold something sacred, we hold it tenderly and dearly, close to our hearts.
It becomes the most precious thing in the world.

So is your name, God most beautiful, most sacred, most sublime. [In all the ways your name may be known.]

Please remain standing, if you wish and join in singing "Bring Many Names, vs. 1, 2, 3, 6 in your New Century Hymnal as modified below.

Hymn "Bring Many Names" New Century Hymnal #11 Verses 1, 2, 3, 6 (Modified)

Bring many names, beautiful and good, celebrate in parable and story, holiness in glory, living loving God, Hail to Hosanna! bring many names!

Strong loving God, working night and day, planning all the wonders of creation, setting each equation, genius at play:
Hail and Hosanna, strong loving God.

Warm guiding God, hugging every child, feeling all the strains of human living, caring and forgiving till we're reconciled: Hail and Hosanna, warm guiding God.

Great, living God, never fully known, joyful darkness far beyond our seeing, closer yet than breathing, everlasting home: Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!

Please be seated and join in praying this morning's Unison Prayer

Unison Prayer

We continue the vision of such dreams, as we pray.

Prayers that include hope for the permanence of ideals for justice, equality, peace.

One day, because of our prayers and actions all peoples will sit as siblings, revealing the wonder of differences resolved.

The dreams of visions and more.

The God of Many Names will be known by all.

Assurance of God's Love

We are not made to do this work of Justice and Love alone or perfectly. When we miss the mark, when we fall short - we know you are there, moving us ever forward, preparing us for the next step – with the assurance of your pardoning love, and so it is today. Amen.

Please rise if you wish and join in this morning's Passing of the Peace

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.

Please remain standing, if you wish and join in singing "Heaven and Earth and Sea and Air" in your New Century Hymnal #566

Hymn "Heaven and Earth and Sea and Air

New Century Hymnal #566

Please be seated

First Reading

Psalm 27:1, 4-8

YHWH, you are my light, my salvation—whom will I fear?
You are the fortress of my life—of whom will I be afraid?

One thing I ask you, YHWH, one thing I seek: that I may dwell in your house all the days of my life, to gaze on your beauty and to meditate in your Temple. You will keep me safe in your shelter when trouble arises, you will hide me under the cover of your Tabernacle you'll set me on a rock, high and out of reach. Then I'll be able to hold my head up, even with opposition surrounding me. I will offer in your Tabernacle sacrifices of great joy— I'll sing and make music to you, YHWH

Hear me when I call you YHWH! Have mercy on me and answer me! You say to my heart, "Seek my face," and so it is your face I seek.

Please remain seated

The Chancel Choir

Gospel Reading Matthew 4:12-17

When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he went back to Galilee. He left Nazareth and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town near the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was fulfilled:

Land of Zebulum, land of Naphtali,
The way to the sea on the far side of the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles:
the people who lived in darkness
have seen a great light:
on those living in the land of the shadow of death
a light has dawned."

From that time on, Jesus began proclaiming the message, "Change your hearts and minds, for the kindom of heaven is at hand!"

Homily

<u>Please remain seated</u>

The Chancel Choir

Joys and Concerns

Please respond, "God, hear our prayers."

The Prayer of Jesus – "The Lord's Prayer"

Creator God who is in heaven; Hallowed be your name. Your kindom 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 kindom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

Benediction "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.

Please rise and join us in singing our church covenant

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

Ringing of the Bell

Postlude



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.

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Today's Service is being simulcast on our church channel at
www.echimestv.org Tune in any time!

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