



Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

*Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ
January 29, 2023*

*Welcome All!
Members, New Members, Friends, Visitors, Guests...
Welcome!*

Welcome

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

"You've Got a Friend"

Words and Music by Carole King

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

Call to Worship

We are here today, grateful for all members and friends of our church family. We come into prayer with thanks for each person who joins us in person, online, or in the memories of times together.

We know that it is the Spirit that brings us here, each in its own way, a Spirit that then blossoms into the welcoming and hospitality that is here long before we arrive in its midst.

It is in this Presence we pray, and worship with the gifts and energy we all bring, long-ago blessed by the God who delights in each and every one.

The Chancel Choir

"Many Gifts, One Spirit"

Words and Music by Allen Pote

Installation of Members

Passing of Christ's Peace

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."**

Unison Prayer

We, we lift our hearts with love and compassion and justice, living into the people God has created us to be – together. We pray to know God's energy and presence more closely, aligning us with comfort and a sense of personal and shared purpose that fulfils the prophecies of past and present times. We ask for the wisdom that brings us here to be revealed in the life of this congregation and those we meet along the way. We ask for the power to always be a beacon for welcoming, radical hospitality and a gracious and humble appreciation for being so loved by God – that we are together.

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 be seated

Hymn

“Spirit of the Living God”

New Century Hymnal #283

Gospel Reading Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the mountainside, and after he sat down and the disciples had gathered around, Jesus began to teach them:

“Blessed are those who are poor in spirit:

the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Blessed are those who are mourning:

they will be consoled.

Blessed are those who are gentle:

they will inherit the land.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice:

they will have their fill.

Blessed are those who show mercy to others:

they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are those whose hearts are clean:

they will see God.

Blessed are those who work for peace:

they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of their struggle for justice:

the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

“You are fortunate when others insult you and persecute you, and utter every kind of slander against you because of me. Be glad and rejoice, for your reward in heaven is great; they persecuted the prophets before you in the very same way.

Please remain seated

Homily

Please remain seated

The Chancel Choir

"Sing Community, Sing Peace"

Words by Terry York, Music by

Mark Hayes

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 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.

Please remain standing for our closing hymn: "Let It Shine" # 196 in our Sing!
Prayer and Praise Hymnal.

Closing Hymn

"Let It Shine"

Sing! Prayer and Praise #196

Please be seated

Ringling of the Bell

Postlude

"A Closing Prayer"

by Don Besig

IT'S TIME TO SHARE

One Great
HOUR
OF SHARING

Give to One Great Hour of Sharing
ucc.org/oghs

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery.

Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place.

IT'S TIME TO SHARE



In Galatians, the Apostle Paul encourages followers of Jesus to generously help and care for others. Though there is great need in the world and we can grow weary because we do not know how to help, God's Spirit energizes and re-energizes us in every season.

We can make a difference. We do make a difference. Your generosity makes all the difference. Your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing provide immediate aid and long-term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst, disaster, or crisis around the world.

The need has never been greater. The opportunity is now. **It's time to share.**

YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE.

Esmerelda Robles lives in rural Honduras. She and her neighbors participate in a "pass chain" program. A family receives a pregnant pig, sheep, or cow; families are taught how to feed and care for the animals. When the next piglet, lamb, or calf is born, it is passed on to another family, which in turn will do the same. "A dream we have as a family is to have a micro-business for the production and sale of meat," Esmerelda says. Families now envision a future not possible before. This is just one part of a program to improve food security. This program and its components are made possible because of your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing.

So let's not allow ourselves to get
fatigued doing good. At the right
time we will harvest a good crop
if we don't give up...

— Galatians 6:9



One Great
HOUR
OF SHARING

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



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.

Sean Cameron, Music Director

Liturgist – Kris Minschke

Usher – Michael Hoff

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

Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ

131 Middle Road, Sayville, NY 11782-3101

631-589-1519; churchadmin@sayvilleucc.org

www.sayvilleucc.org; www.facebook.com/sayvilleucc

Heather Corcoran, Church Administrator; eChimes Editor

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

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"