



*Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany
Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ
February 12, 2023*

Welcome

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude "Moon River" Lyrics by Johnny Mercer; Music by Henry Mancini

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

Call to Worship from "Write Some New Agenda" by Joseph H. Gilmore

Meditation (Read by Liturgist followed by a moment of silence):

“Breaking the deep sleep that filled my head,
A heavy clap of thunder startled me up...
As though by force; with rested eyes I stood
Peering to find where I was –

In Unison:

**God of hope, reconciliation and promise...
God who makes all things new...
Bring us new visions and a “freed” open heart.
Send the selfish chill away;
Warm us with your compassion
And your quiet unmistakable voice to love.
Really. Love. Even when it’s hard to do.**

Hymn "You Are!" Sing! Prayer and Praise #56

Please be seated.

Unison Prayer

We pray for change. Real change. We pray not to be discouraged because there remains much to do. We give thanks for the progress we have made and pray to relentlessly build on what has been done. Help us not be distracted by trying to end or finish what will take more time than we have – but to rely more on our partnership with you that fills the day, each day, Gracious God. Stir us to live in openness to your teachings, Wonderful Counselor. Inspire us to embody gratitude for you, Eternal Spirit. Take our hand – and guide us on the way, please.

Assurance of God's Love

We travel together – whether near or far, riding the Spirit that fills us and spills from us as gracious as God's Love can be.

Minutes for Mission Sharing a Meal

The Chancel Choir "God Be In My Head" by John Rutter

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

Passing of Christ's Peace

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.

Hymn

“Spirit of the Living God”

New Century Hymnal #283

Please be seated.

First Reading Sirach 15:15-20 (Adapted)

You are free to keep the Commandments;
It is in your power to be faithful.
YHWH has placed fire and water before us all;
Each must choose one.
Choose life and God.
For God’s wisdom is immense;
It is all-powerful and all-seeing;
God sees everything in all creation;
Nothing escapes God.
None is given the strength to tell lies
And not be known.

The Chancel Choir

"Feed My Lambs" Words and Music by Natalie Sleeth
Arranged by Tom Fettke

Gospel Reading Matthew 5:33-37 (Adapted)

“Again, you have heard that our ancestors were told, ‘Don’t break your vow; fulfill all oaths made to our God.’ But I tell you not to swear oaths at all. Don’t swear by heaven, for it is God’s throne; don’t swear by the earth, for it is God’s footstool. Don’t swear by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great Ruler. And don’t swear by your own head, for you can’t make a single hair white or black. Say ‘Yes’ when you mean ‘Yes’ and ‘No’ when you mean ‘No.’ Anything beyond that is from the shortcomings of the human condition.”

Please remain seated.

Homily

Please stand if you are able for our closing hymn:

Closing Hymn

“Spirit of Jesus, If I Love My Neighbor”
New Century Hymnal #590

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."

Please be seated.

Ringling of the Bell

Postlude

"Is This the World We Created?"
by Freddie Mercury and Brian May



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 – Jean Newcombe

Usher – Lorraine Martin

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

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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"