



*Transfiguration Sunday*  
*Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ*  
*February 19, 2023*

*from: Tears We Cannot Stop*

*Beloved, your white innocence is a burden to you, a burden to the nation a burden to our progress. It is time to let it go, to let it die in place of the black bodies that it wills into nonbeing. In its place should rise a curiosity, but even more, a genuine desire to know and understand just what it means to be black in America.*

*-Michael Eric Dyson, Tears We Cannot Stop, p. 123*

**Welcome**

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Prelude**                      "Prelude for Organ No. 48" by C. H. Rinck

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

**Call to Worship**

**In this place of gratitude,  
respect for others;  
with willingness to struggle for justice,  
the courage to seek clarity,  
and a wide-openness to God, as we know God—  
we come first with love and welcome—  
for kin and stranger.  
For one and all.  
No exceptions.**

*Please be seated*

**The Chancel Choir**                      "Lest We Forget"  
by Mary Kay Beall and Charles Yannerella

*Please rise and remain standing through the Passing of Christ's Peace*

**Unison Prayer**

(A Variation of Psalm 67 from "O God, Show Mercy to Us")

**God with us always and in this hour,  
shower kindness upon us; bless us with your grace, please.  
Help us be the reflection of your love and mercy and justice  
for all peoples, for every heart in every land –  
beginning here, in this hour, with ours.**

## **Assurance of God's Love**

This is the assurance of God's Love: "Look toward one another and say in the ways you will, 'You are Loved.'"

## **Passing of Christ's Peace**

Please be seated

**Hymn**      "Ferry Our Prayers"      Sing! Prayer and Praise #105

## **Joys and Concerns**

Please respond, "**God, hear our prayers.**"

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

(You are invited to pray this prayer in the ways that are closest to your heart.)

**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

**First Reading**      2 Peter 1:16-21      (Inclusive Bible)

We did not cleverly devise fables when we taught you of the power and coming of our Savior Jesus Christ; we ourselves saw the majesty of our Savior. For Jesus was honored and glorified by our Creator God when the voice of the Majestic Glory spoke out, “This is my Own, whom I love, and with whom I am well pleased.” We heard this ourselves—this voice from heaven—when we were with Jesus on the holy mountain. Moreover, we have the prophetic word, which is even more certain. Depend on it for your own good as a light shining in the dark, until first light breaks and the morning star rises in your hearts. At the same time, you need to know that no prophecy of scripture ever occurred by one’s own interpretation. Prophecy never comes through an act of human will, but comes as people have spoken for God under the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Please stand if you wish and join us in singing the following hymn:*

**Hymn**      “We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding”  
New Century Hymnal #182

*Please be seated*

**Gospel Reading** Matthew 17:1-9

Six days later, Jesus took Peter, James and John up on a high mountain to be alone with them. And before their eyes, Jesus was transfigured—his face becoming as dazzling as the sun and his clothes as radiant as light.

Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said, “Rabbi, how good that we are here! With your permission I will erect three shelters here—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah!”

Peter was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them. Out of the cloud came a voice which said, “This is my Own, my Beloved, on whom my favor rests. Listen to him!”

When they heard this, the disciples fell forward on the ground, overcome with fear. Jesus came toward them and touched them, saying, “Get up! Don’t be afraid.” When they looked up, they did not see anyone but Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountainside, Jesus commanded them, “Don’t tell anyone about this until the Chosen One has risen from the dead.”

**Homily**

*Please remain seated*

**The Chancel Choir**

"The Peace of God" Adapted from Philippians 4:7-8  
Music by Douglas Wagner

**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*

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Postlude**

"I Can See Clearly Now"  
by Johnny Nash



***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, we 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 – Karen Maust

Usher – Lorraine Martin

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](http://www.sayvilleucc.org); [www.facebook.com/sayvilleucc](https://www.facebook.com/sayvilleucc)

Heather Corcoran, Church Administrator; eChimes Editor

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

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. Shanti. For the ways of peace are many. “Namaste”

**2023 Lenten & Easter Schedule**  
**V = Vestry S = Sanctuary O = Online**

Wed., February 22	Ash Wednesday	Service at 7PM	S,O
	Light Repaste Follows		V
	No Bible Jam; Returns Wednesday, March 1		
Sat., Feb. 25	Chair Yoga with Randolph	11 AM	V
Sun., Feb. 26	First Sunday in Lent		
Wed., March 1	Bible Jam	10 AM & 7 PM	S,O
Sat., March 4	Chair Yoga with Randolph	11 AM	V
Sat., March 4	High Point University Chorus	7:30 PM	S,O(Free)
Sun., March 5	Second Sunday in Lent		
Wed., March 8	Bible Jam	10 AM & 7 PM	S,O
Sat., March 11	Combined Boards Meeting	10 AM	V,O
Sun., March 12	Third Sunday in Lent		
Wed., March 15	Bible Jam	10 AM & 7 PM	S,O
Sat., March 18	Chair Yoga with Randolph	11 AM	V
Sun., March 19	Fourth Sunday in Lent		
Wed., March 22	Bible Jam	10 AM & 7 PM	S,O
Sat., March 25	Chair Yoga with Randolph	11 AM	V
Sun., March 26	Fifth Sunday in Lent		
Wed., March 29	Bible Jam	10 AM & 7 PM	S,O
Sat. April 1	Chair Yoga with Randolph	11 AM	V
Sun., April 2	Palm Sunday		
Wed., April 5	No Bible Jam; Returns on April 12		
Thu., April 6	Maundy Thursday Service	7 PM	S,O
Fri., April 7	Good Friday – Sanctuary Open 12-3		

Easter Sunday

Sun., April 9	Easter Sunrise Service on The Great South Bay		
	-Boarding	5:40 AM	Departure 5:50 AM
	Sunrise	6:26 AM	Return to Dock by 7 AM
	Park at Sayville Ferry, 41 River Road		
	-Polish Breakfast	7:15 AM	Fellowship Hall
Sun., April 9	Easter Sunday Service at	10 AM	S,O