



*First Sunday of Lent  
Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ  
February 26, 2023*

**Welcome**

**Centering Time**

**Ring of the Bell**

**Prelude**                    “Prelude for Organ No. 69”  
by C.H. Rinck

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

**Call to Worship**      Responsive (Adapted from "Hold Fast to What is Good")

Liturgist:      In this season of Lent, we make our way to the cross,

**All:              We remember the steps that led Christ there: betrayal and fear,  
but also trust in God and love for humanity.**

Liturgist:      In this season of Lent, we make our way to the cross,  
we strive to follow Christ's example: to admit betrayal and fear  
that are part of life.

**All:              To embrace trust in God and love for humanity.**

Liturgist:      And so, as we may make our journey, let us worship God,  
in all the ways God may be known, together and in the name of  
the one we follow, Jesus.

Please remain standing and join us in our opening hymn:

**Hymn**              "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"  
New Century Hymnal #193 vs. 1, 2, 3, 5

Please be seated

**Unison Prayer**

**Liturgist:**

Friends, in this season of Lent, we are invited to consider how we live as followers of Jesus – to look at our decisions and our actions straight on, and to hold them up to the example of Jesus – and to find a way to address what troubles us, directly, as we may. In this time of silence and prayer together, let us look at our lives. And so, we pray first in silence.

(Silent Prayer for One Minute)

### **In Unison**

**Holy God, Creator of all that is, hear our prayers – in silence and the voices in which we share. Help us to find a reconciled life in all the ways we seek, in wholeness with each other and you. Amen.**

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

Liturgist:

God is gracious and merciful and knows our needs even before they touch our mind or reach our lips. Be confident and comforted in God's Love that surrounds us now and always. Amen.

**The Chancel Choir**            "See What Love" from the oratorio *Saint Paul*  
by Felix Mendelssohn

### **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.**

Please rise and remain standing through “My Life Flows On in Endless Song”

**Passing of Christ’s Peace**

May the Peace of the Risen Christ be with you all!  
**And also with you.**

Please extend a sign of peace to one another.

**Hymn**        “My Life Flows On in Endless Song”  
New Century Hymnal #476

Please be seated

**First Reading**        Psalm 32    *By David, A Teaching Poem*        (Modified)

Happiness comes from having your rebellion taken away...  
Happiness comes from Yhwh not counting your mistakes,  
from having nothing to hide.  
As long as I kept my stubborn silence,  
My bones grew weak...because of my constant complaints.  
...my strength was sapped.

Finally, I admitted how I had moved further from you  
and you welcomed me in love, taking away the pain of distance.

That’s why people of everywhere should pray to you—  
they’ll find you.

...You are surrounded with unfailing love.  
Exult you of upright heart!

Please stand if you wish and join us in singing

**Hymn**        “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”  
New Century Hymnal #292

Please be seated

**Gospel Reading**    Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit, to be tempted by the Devil. After fasting for forty days and forty nights, Jesus was hungry. Then the tempter approached and said, "If you are the Only Begotten, command these stones to turn into bread."

Jesus replied, "Scripture has it, 'We live not on bread alone but on every utterance that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Next the Devil took Jesus to the Holy City, set him on the parapet of the Temple and said, "If you are the Only Begotten, throw yourself down. Scripture has it, 'God will tell the angels to take care of you; with their hands they will support you that you may never stumble on a stone.'"

Jesus answered, "Scripture also says, 'Do not put God to the test.'"

The Devil then took Jesus up a very high mountain and displayed all the dominions of the world in their magnificence, promising, "All these I will give you if you fall down and worship me."

At this, Jesus said to the Devil, "Away with you, Satan! Scripture says, 'You will worship the Most High God; God alone will you adore.'"

At that the devil left, and angels came and attended Jesus.

**Homily**

Please remain seated

**The Chancel Choir**

"There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob"  
by Felix Mendelssohn

**Benediction**

Please rise...

**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**

"What the World Needs Now"  
Words by Hal David, Music by Burt Bacharach



### ***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 – Mike Jayne

Usher – Lorraine Martin

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

Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ

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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. Shanti. For the ways of peace are many. "Namaste"

## 2023 Lenten & Easter Schedule (Update)

V = Vestry    S = Sanctuary    O = Online

|                |                                   |              |            |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|------------|
| 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             |              | S,O        |
| 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              |              | S,O        |
| 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             |              | S,O        |
| 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              |              | S,O        |
| 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                       |              | S,O        |
| 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 PM      | S,O        |

### Easter Sunday

|                  |   |                 |     |
|------------------|---|-----------------|-----|
| Sun., April 9    | Easter Sunrise Service on The Great South Bay |                 |     |
| Board: 5:40 AM   | Departure: 5:50 AM Sunrise: 6:26 AM           |                 |     |
| Return :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 |
|                  | Easter Egg Hunt to Follow Worship             |                 |     |

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