



Third Sunday after Pentecost
Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ
June 18, 2023



The Historical Legacy of Juneteenth

National Museum of African American History & Culture

<https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/stories/historical-legacy-juneteenth>



Emancipation Day celebration, June 19, 1900 held in "East Woods" on East 24th Street in Austin. Credit: Austin History Center.

On "Freedom's Eve," or the eve of January 1, 1863, the first Watch Night services took place. On that night, enslaved and free African Americans gathered in churches and private homes across the country awaiting news that the Emancipation Proclamation had taken effect. At the stroke of midnight, prayers were answered as all enslaved people in Confederate States were declared legally free. Union soldiers, many of whom were black, marched onto plantations and across cities in the south reading small copies of the Emancipation Proclamation spreading the news of freedom in Confederate States. Only through the Thirteenth Amendment did emancipation end slavery throughout the United States.

But not everyone in Confederate territory would immediately be free. Even though the Emancipation Proclamation was made effective in 1863, it could not be implemented in places still under Confederate control. As a result, in the westernmost Confederate state of Texas, enslaved people would not be free until much later. Freedom finally came on June 19, 1865, when some 2,000 Union troops arrived in Galveston Bay, Texas. The army announced that the more than 250,000 enslaved black people in the state, were free by executive decree. This day came to be known as "Juneteenth" by the newly freed people in Texas.

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"Lift Every Voice and Sing" is a hymn with lyrics by James Weldon Johnson (1871–1938) and set to music by his brother, J. Rosamond Johnson (1873–1954). Written from the context of African Americans in the late 19th century, the hymn is a prayer of thanksgiving as well as a prayer for faithfulness and freedom, with imagery that evokes the biblical Exodus from slavery to the freedom of the "promised land." ~Wikipedia



Be a Part of Church School!

The Deacon Elders will be holding a meeting to start working out the steps needed to begin a Sunday School program. This meeting is open to anyone who is interested in working with us towards that vision. We will be meeting in the vestry on Tuesday, June 27th at 7P.M.. We look forward to seeing you.

EVERYONE
is welcome here
Long before you arrive!

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude

"Lift Every Voice and Sing" African American National Anthem
Words by James Weldon Johnson, Music by John Rosamond Johnson

Please rise or remain seated for this morning's "Call to Worship"

Call to Worship

"Flare #8." From Devotions by Mary Oliver

The poem is not the world.
It isn't even the first page of the world.

But the poem wants to flower, like a flower.
It knows that much.

It wants to open itself,
like the door of a little temple,

So that you might step inside and be cooled and refreshed,
and less yourself than part of everything.

*Friends, welcome to this place.
Be cooled. Be refreshed. Be "you" and who you are.
And, know how loved and welcome you are here..*

Opening Response Hymn: "We Are All God's Chosen People"
Sing! Prayer and Praise #115 (2x)

We are all God's chosen people
children of perfect Love.
Oh yes, there's no one less
There's no one greater.
We are all God's chosen ones.

Please be seated and join us in “Prayer” by Maya Angelou

Unison Prayer

[Creator God], thank You for Your presence during the hard and mean days. For then we have you to lean upon.

Thank You for Your presence during the bright and sunny days, for then we can share that which we have with those who have less.

And thank You for Your presence during the Holy Days, for then we are able to celebrate You and our families and our friends.

For those who have no voice, we ask You to speak.

For those who feel unworthy, we ask You to pour Your love out in waterfalls of tenderness.

For those who live in pain, we ask You To bathe them in the river of Your healing.

For those who are lonely, we ask You to keep them company.

For those who are depressed, we ask You to shower upon them the light of hope.

Dear Creator, You, the borderless sea of Substance, we ask You to give all the world that which we need most—Peace. Amen.

Please rise as you wish...

Assurance of God's Love & Passing of the Peace

Yes. Know this assurance of God's Love as God's "Yes" to us, as we share the peace from our affirmations with "Yes" to one another:

May the Peace of the Risen Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Let us offer one another a sign of peace!

Friends, please be seated.

Chancel Choir

"Love Grows Here" Words and Music by Don Besig

Joys and Concerns

Friends, we now invite you to share your Joys and Concerns.

A Prayer of Jesus

First: A Prayer of Jesus translated from the Aramaic language:

O Birther! Mother-Father of all the Cosmos,
focus your light within us – make it useful.

Create your reign of unity now –
through our fiery hearts and willing hands.

help us love beyond our ideals
and sprout acts of compassion for all creatures.

Animate the earth within us: [so we may]
feel the Wisdom underneath us – supporting all.

Untangle the knots within us
so that we can mend our hearts ties to each other.

Help us be free us from what holds us back from our true purpose.

Out of you, the astonishing fire emerges –
returning light and sound to the cosmos.

Amen

And now, perhaps, in more familiar ways:

Creator God, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kin-dom 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 trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kin-dom, the power,
and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Please remain seated...

First Reading Psalm 100

Acclaim YHWH with joy, all the earth!
Serve YHWH with gladness!
Enter into God's presence with a joyful song!
Know that YHWH is God!
Yhwh made us, and we belong to the Creator;
we are [all] God's people [...].
Enter God's gates with thanksgiving
and the public courts with praise!
Give thanks to God! Bless God's Name!
For YHWH is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever,
and God's faithfulness [extends] to all
[and to all] generations.

Solo Offering "Everything Possible"
Words and Music by Fred Small
Pat Cunningham, soloist

Second Reading

Modified from Henri Nouwen's Book:
Life of the Beloved pp. 28-29

"I kept refusing to hear the voice that speaks from the very depth of my being and says: 'You are my Beloved, on you my favor rests.' That voice has always been there, but it seems that I was much more eager to listen to other louder voices saying: 'Prove that you are worth something; do something relevant, spectacular or powerful, and then you will earn the love you so desire.'"

When all the time, God just wants us to know
Just how *delighted* God is in us.

Congregational Voices

Mariana, Samantha and Isabella Janosick-Torres

Hymn

"There is Room for All"

Sing! Prayer and Praise #76 (Sing 2x)

There is room for all in the shadow of God's wing;

There is room for all, sheltered in God's love.

And I rejoice and sing, "my refuge and my rock,

In whom I trust."

There is room for all, there is room for all.

Benediction

Church Covenant (Read in Unison)

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."

Choral Blessing

"A Closing Prayer"
Words and Music by Don Besig

Ringing of the Bell

Postlude "Somewhere Over the Rainbow"
Words by Yip Harburg, Music by Harold Arlen



Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ

For more than a century and a half, 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, today we continue to celebrate God's love, to advocate and act for the oppressed, and to welcome all those on their spiritual journey, from wherever they may come. Thank you for joining us. Please contact us at any time for more information about our congregation or with any questions you may have for us.

Thank you, All – Including

Mariana, Samantha and Isabela Janosick-Torres, Congregational Voices

Pat Cunningham, Soloist

Mariana Torres & Diane Vaughan, Hospitality

Deacon Elders & Deacon Trustees

The Chancel Choir and Sean Cameron, Music Director

Liturgist – Mariana Torres; Ushers – Diane Vaughan

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

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Livestream - www.echimestv.org Tune in any time!

Peace. Shalom. Salaam. For the ways of peace are many. “Namaste”



Dear Baker,

First, let me say thank you for donating your time and baking talents to our Annual Bake Sale on Friday, July 14th at the Sayville Ferry Dock! Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

All baked goods must arrive at the church pre-packaged. Baked goods should be delivered to our church kitchen between Noon and 1PM on Friday, July 14th.

In the next week or so, there will be a supply of “baggies” and other wrapping materials available. We will have labels for the name of your creations, and to include a list of ingredients, stating whether your baked goods contain nuts, peanut butter, or other allergy-causing ingredients.

In packaging, please try to follow these guidelines:

Cookies	Large Cookies (6 in a package)	Small Cookies (8 in a package)
Brownies	Large Brownies (4 in a package)	Small Brownies (6 in a package)
Bars	6 Bars to a package	
Muffins	Large Muffins (4 in a package)	Small Muffins (6 in a package)

Volunteers who are helping to price, box, transport and be there for the selling and fun - can arrive at our church kitchen any time after 12 Noon on the 14th. We will be loading cars and going to the Sayville Ferry Dock at 41 River Road around 2:30 P.M. to set-up and be ready for the 3:00 PM ferry.

If you are planning to bake or to help at the Bake Sale, please let me know. And don't forget, if baking isn't your thing, we are happy to accept cash donations!

Thank you again!

Sue Lanchantin