



*Fifth Sunday After Pentecost – Communion Sunday
Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ
July 2, 2023*

Enlarged Copies are Available on the Front Pew

Welcome

Ringing of the Bell

Prelude "America the Beautiful" by Samuel A. Ward, Arranged by Stephen DeCesare
Trumpet soloist, James Cesare

Please rise or remain seated.

Call to Worship "Don't Hesitate" by Mary Oliver

If you suddenly and unexpectedly feel joy, don't hesitate. Give in to it. There are plenty of lives and whole towns destroyed or about to be. We are not wise, and not very often kind. And much can never be redeemed. Still, life has some possibility left. Perhaps this is its way of fighting back, that sometimes something happens better than all the riches or power in the world. It could be anything, but very likely you notice it the instant that love begins. Anyway, that's often the case. Anyway, whatever it is, don't be afraid of its plenty. Joy is not made to be a crumb.

Please remain as you are and join with us in singing our opening hymn:

Hymn "Draw the Circle Wide" Hymn #123 Sing! Prayer and Praise

Please be seated.

Meditation "Messengers of the Most High #44
From Honey from the Rock by Lawrence Kushner

The Hebrew word for angel is *malach*. Which also means messenger. One who is sent.

There is one great difference between people chosen to be God's messengers and earthly messengers. While those on errands of this world almost always know that they are sent and where and why, people chosen to be messengers of the Most High rarely know that they are *its* messengers. Unsuspecting and unaware. [...]

Remember only that you are not always going where you are going for the reasons you think you are. (Continued next page.)

...When the angels are sent (as messengers) by God's word they are changed into winds, and when they minister before God they are changed into fire, as it is said. "Who makes God's angels into winds; God's ministers, a flaming fire." (Psalm 104:4)

What is it like to stand into the wind?

Pretty much like talking to anyone.

What is it like to speak to a messenger of the Most High?

Like standing into the wind.

[A moment of silence, please.]

Assurance of God's Love

Friends, stand into the wind and know how much you are loved and called, even when unsuspecting and unaware.

Now, please rise as we pass the Wind and Joy and Peace of the Risen Christ

Passing of the Peace

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.

Anthem "At the River" American hymn tune, Arranged by Aaron Copland

Please remain seated.

Joys and Concerns

Friends, we now invite you to share your Joys, Celebrations and Concerns. Please wait for the microphone and respond with:

"God, hear our prayers."

The Prayer of Jesus

*Please remain seated and join us in praying the **Prayer of Jesus** as you learned to pray.*

Gospel Reading The Book of Matthew 10:40 – 11:1

^{10:40} “Those who welcome you also welcome me, and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me. ⁴¹ “Those who welcome prophets just because they are prophets will receive the reward reserved for the prophets themselves; those who welcome holy people just because they are holy will receive the reward of the holy ones. ⁴² “The truth is, whoever gives a cup of cold water to one of these lowly ones just for being a disciple will not lack a reward.” ^{11:1} When Jesus had finished instructing the Twelve, he left the area to teach and preach in the outlying towns of the region.

Provocation

Hymn **“Come, Gather in This Special Place”** #335 New Century Hymnal

Holy Communion *All are invited to this Table*

Our Covenant Prayer [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.”

Please be seated.

Choral Blessing "A Closing Prayer" Words and Music by Doug Besig

The Bell is Rung

Postlude "The Sound of Silence" Words and Music by Paul Simon



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.

Today's Worship Leadership

Thank you!

Communion Preparers and Servers

The Chancel Choir and Sean Cameron, Music Director

Liturgist – Jenna Murphy

Usher – Diane Vaughan

Hospitality – Christine Hoff

Media Team – Karin Conrad, Kathi Leis, Mark Conrad

Connie Kauffman, Hank Maust

Laura Weyant, Building and Grounds

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

Please visit our website for the latest announcements: www.sayvilleucc.org