

Celebration of the Life of
Fred Langstaff



Thursday, December 2, 1943 – Monday, August 7, 2023

Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ
Sayville, New York
Saturday, August 19, 2023
10:30 A.M.

Welcome

Rev. Ray Bagnuolo, Pastor

The Bell is Rung

Prelude "Amazing Grace"

Sean Cameron, Music Director

Reading "Footprints in the Sand" Written by Mary Stevenson, 1939
Read by Ethan Schulet

One night I dreamed a dream.
As I was walking along the beach with my God,
across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.
For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,
one belonging to me and one to my God.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me,
I looked back at the footprints in the sand.
I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,
especially at the very lowest and saddest times,
there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked about it.
"God, you said that once I decided to follow you,
You'd walk with me all the way,
but I noticed that during the saddest
and most troublesome times of my life,
there was only one set of footprints.
I don't understand why, when I needed You the most,
You would leave me."

God whispered, "My precious child, I
love you and will never leave you -
never, ever, during your trials and testings.
When you saw only one set of footprints,
It was then that I carried you."

Musical Praise "Hallelujah" Words and Music by Leonard Cohen
Sung by Sean Cameron

Jesus said to the disciples, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In God's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and I will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I'm going."

Thomas said to him, Rabbi, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life."

Jesus continues...

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom I will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

Homily Rev. Ray Bagnuolo, Friend

Remembering Fred...

Debby Langstaff

Voices of Family and Friends

Please stand if you wish and join us in singing this morning's hymn:

Hymn "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me;
let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our Creator, siblings all we are.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.

Let there be peace in me; let this be the moment now.
With every step we take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally,
let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

Prayer The Prayer of St. Francis (Traditional Prayer)
Read by Krystie Langstaff

God, make me an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen.

Benediction From the finale of “Emmanuel”
Words and Music by Dorothy Davidson Hauske

And so—when our songs have been sung
our promises made—

All those good things we say to each other—
“I would give you the world,”
“I will make you happy,”
“I will find a place for you,”
“I will take the stones from your path,”

“I will take care of you,” –

And we are down to the bottom of things,
all we can really promise is—
“I am with you.”

If we knew that tomorrow
the world would come to an end,
tonight, every phone circuit on earth
would be jammed with people calling
across the world,
the country,
the state,
the town—
saying out of their unfrozen hearts,
“I have loved you.”
“I love you.”
“I am with you,”

and that is God with us;
Emmanuel;
Bethlehem;
Room in the Inn;
Peace for the Earth.

Take my hand!

The Bell is Rung

Postlude “We Are the World” (Video Performance)
Written by Michael Jackson and Lionel Ritchie,
Produced by Quincy Jones



Fred's Family thanks you for joining us today.
It is so good and comforting to be together.

The Langstaff Family asks that any donations in Fred's name
be made to Donate Life: www.donatelife.net



You are Invited!

Following this morning's gathering, The Family invites you
to their home to continue celebrating Fred's Life!

164 Lincoln Avenue, Sayville, New York

Today's service will be available online at www.sayvilleucc.org

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To watch the 2020 Performance of "Emmanuel"
Visit www.emmanuel2018.org

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