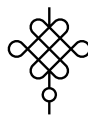




Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ  
The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
January 21, 2024



*Please take this bulletin home with you.*



Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bell

Prelude "Gigue in A" by Arcangelo Corelli

\*Call to Worship –

(Please rise or remain seated if you wish and join us in this morning's Call to Worship)

"The Spirit of God" is upon us.  
All of God is upon us.  
Every name by which God is known;  
every song by which God is sung;  
every heart in which God beats –  
is upon us.

Be.

In that Spirit of God, be.  
As we worship together.

Hymn "Community of Christ" New Century Hymnal #314 vss. 2,3

Community of Christ, look past the church's door  
and see the refugee, the hungry, and the poor.  
Take hands with the oppressed, the jobless in your street,  
take towel and water, that you wash your neighbor's feet.

Community of Christ, through whom the world must sound –  
cry out for justice and for peace the whole world 'round:  
Disarm the powers that war and all that can destroy,  
turn bombs to bread, and tears and anguish into joy.

(Please be seated.)

## Unison Prayer

There are those among us, now and then,  
Those who reflect the teachings we strive to follow.  
“The Spirit of God” is upon them, we say  
    (in some variation of those words).  
And the “Spirit of God” is upon *us*.  
Because of that, we inspire each other  
    *more with love*  
        than brilliance;  
    *more with compassion*  
        than status;  
    *more with presence*  
        than accomplishments...  
And, always, always...  
    *with caring for one another,*  
        as we, ourselves, wish to be cared for...  
it is the way and light of God’s love, it’s called:  
    “the language of the heart”.  
We practice this language and more. Here. Now.

The Chancel Choir      "Gratitude"      Words and Music by James Ahrend

(Please rise if you wish)

## 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.

Hymn      “Send Your Spirit to Set Us Free” (2X)      Sing! Prayer and Praise #108

Send your Spirit to set us free, send your Spirit to set us free.  
Fill our hearts and minds; loose the chains that bind.  
Send your Spirit to set us free.

(Please be seated.)

Joys and Concerns...

We take this time to share our Joys, Concerns, and Celebrations with one another. Please wait for the microphone.

Pastoral Prayer & The Prayer of Jesus

First Reading Psalm 62 Verses 5 - 12

<sup>5</sup> In God alone my soul finds rest,  
for my deliverance comes from God,  
<sup>6</sup> who alone is my rock, my salvation, my fortress:  
I will never be shaken.

<sup>7</sup> Only in God—my deliverance, my glory—  
my refuge is God.

<sup>8</sup> Trust in God always, my people;  
pour out your hearts before God our refuge.

<sup>9</sup> Humankind is but a breath,  
mortals are just an illusion.  
Put them on the scales and the balance is thrown off:  
they weigh less than a breath.

<sup>10</sup> Do not trust in extortion,  
or put false hopes in stolen goods;  
do not set your heart on riches  
even when they increase strength.”

<sup>11</sup> For God has said only one thing,  
only two do I know:  
that to God alone belongs power,

<sup>12</sup> and that you, YHWH, are loving—  
you repay all people according to their deeds.

The Chancel Choir      "There Shall a Star"      by Felix Mendelssohn

Gospel Reading      Mark 1:14-20

<sup>14</sup> After John's arrest, Jesus appeared in Galilee proclaiming the Good News of God: <sup>15</sup> "This is the time of fulfillment. The reign of God is at hand! Change your hearts and minds, and believe this Good News!"

<sup>16</sup> While walking by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus saw the brothers Simon and Andrew casting their nets into the sea, since they fished by trade. <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to them, "Follow me; I will make you fishers of humankind." <sup>18</sup> They immediately abandoned their nets and followed Jesus. <sup>19</sup> Proceeding a little further along, Jesus saw the brothers James and John Bar-Zebedee. They too were in their boat, putting their nets in order. <sup>20</sup> Immediately Jesus called them, and they left their father Zebedee standing in the boat with the hired help, and went off in the company of Jesus.

Homily

## “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.”

## Benediction

Choral Blessing            "Go Now In Peace"  
                                         by Don Besig and Nancy Price

## Ringling of the Bell

Postlude                    “Gloria from Mass”  
                                         by Leonard Bernstein



### ***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

Liturgist – Patricia Mahar

Guest Music Director – James Higgins

Hospitality – The Prayer Shawl Ministry

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

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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!

*Thank you for being with us today.*

*Peace. Shalom. Salaam. For the ways of peace are many.*

*"Namaste"*