



## The First Sunday of Lent



Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ

February 18, 2024

Welcome

Announcements

Ring the Bell

Prelude

“Prelude to a Kiss”

Words and Music by Duke Ellington,  
Irving Mills, and Irving Godron

## Call to Worship

(Please rise or be seated, as you wish, joining with us in response.)

Present.  
Here. In between the breaths.  
Breathe. Pause. Breathe.  
There. In the “pause” ...  
Be still...  
Breathe. Pause. Breathe.  
Know how you are Loved.  
Breathe. Pause. Breathe.  
Love.

Hymn      *“Be Still and Know”*      Sing! Prayer and Praise #111

Be still and know that I am God.  
Be still and know that I am God.  
Be still and know that I am God.  
Be still and know that I am God.

Calmat tu ser, que soy tú Dios.  
Calmat tu ser, que soy tú Dios.  
Calmat tu ser, que soy tú Dios.  
Calmat tu ser, que soy tú Dios.

(Please be seated)

Unison Prayer      Adapted from “Roll Back the Stone” by Joseph Gilmore

If Easter is a rock heaved away, then  
Lent is groping for the offending boulder.  
Where, where, where in us are we entombed,  
deep, dark down,  
buried in our own years,  
wrapped in our own disappointments,  
anointed with our own fear?  
If thou knowest, then come, we beseech thee.  
Enter the twilight corridors of our deepest self,  
where a small child remains afraid in the night:  
where a stranger hunches, grieving, over something,  
someone lost;  
an unknown voice chants a strange and  
wonderful story in a low and  
beguiling whisper.

*Listen. Between the breaths. Pause. Be still...  
the beguiling whisper is there.  
[Pause]*

(Please rise if you wish and join with us in singing.)

Hymn

“O God of Love, O God of Peace”

New Century Hymnal #571

O God of love, O God of peace,  
make wars throughout the world to cease;  
The wrath of human wrongs restrain:  
Give peace, O God, give peace again!

Remember, God, your works of old,  
the wonders that our people told;  
Heal every malice, harm and pain:  
Give peace, O God, give peace again!

Whom shall we trust, O God, but you?  
For you are constant strong and true.  
None ever called on you in vain:  
Give peace, O God, give peace again!

(Please remain as you are for the Passing of the Peace.)

Passing of the Peace

Friends, welcome to this place of prayer and praise; light and love,  
blessings and benediction! With all this and more in mind, as we now  
begin this Lenten Season, we greet one another with the Peace of  
Christ and all that means to us and the world:

May the Peace of the Risen Christ be with you  
**And also with you.**  
Let us offer one another a sign of this Peace.

(Please be seated.)

The Chancel Choir

“Christ Be With Me”

Words from St. Patrick’s Breastplate

Music by H. T. Burleigh

Joys, Concerns and Concerns...

We take this time now to share our Joys and Concern with one another.  
Please wait for the microphone so that all those here and home can  
hear you... all to hear...

Pastoral Prayer and Assurance

The Prayer of Jesus (As you are most comfortable praying...)

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 trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation  
But deliver us from evil.  
For yours is the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory Forever, Amen.

(Please rise if you wish and join us in singing.)

Hymn            "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"            ("We "Version)  
New Century Hymnal #292 v. 1, 3

Breathe on us, Breath of God, fill us with life anew  
That we may love the way you love and do what you would do.

Breathe on us, Breath of God, stir in us one desire:  
That every earthly part of us may glow with holy fire.

(Please be seated.)

First Reading

Psalm 25: 1-10

To you, YHWH, I lift up my soul.  
My God, I trust in you;  
don't let me be ashamed,  
don't let my enemies triumph over me.  
No—none who hope in you will be ashamed,  
but shame will come to the wantonly treacherous.

Show me your ways, YHWH! Teach me your paths!  
Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation.  
I wait all the day long for you.  
Remember your mercies, YHWH,  
your love— your ancient and unwavering love!  
Pardon the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways;  
remember me because of your love,  
because of your goodness, Yhwh!  
And how good and upright you are, YHWH!  
You instruct the wayward in the path,  
you guide the humble in what is right, and teach them your way.

All of your paths, YHWH, are full of love and faithfulness  
for those who keep your Covenant and Testimonies.

The Chancel Choir

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

Words from Jeremiah 8:22

Music by William L. Dawson

Gospel Reading            Mark 1:9-15

<sup>9</sup> It was then that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan River by John. <sup>10</sup> Immediately upon coming out of the water, Jesus saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. <sup>11</sup> Then a voice came from the heavens: "You are my Beloved, my Own. On you my favor rests."

<sup>12</sup> Immediately the Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness, <sup>13</sup> and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by the Tempter. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

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<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!"

Homily                      Rev. Jeanne Baum  
                                     based upon "Catch Me In My Scurrying" by Ted Loder

"Church Covenant"

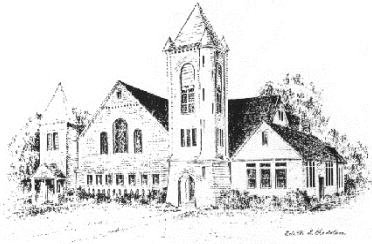
In response to God's love, we covenant with each other...  
to be faithful to the demand and inspiration of the eternal spirit,  
revealed in the event of Jesus Christ;  
to accept and respect each other with love and concern  
in our worship and witness.;  
to reach out with the courage of our convictions  
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            "A Closing Prayer"  
                                     Words and Music by Don Besig

Ringing of the Bell

Postlude                    "Ambassador Hotel"  
                                     Words and Music by Gabriel Kahane



***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, 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.

Thank you!

Today's Worship Leadership

Guest Preacher – Rev. Jeanne Baum

Liturgist – Kris Minschke

Music Director – Sean Cameron

Usher – Sue Lanchantin

Media Team – Casey Cunningham, Karin Conrad, Mark Conrad,

Connie Kauffman, Kathy Leis and Hank Maust

And all of you!

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[www.sayvilleucc.org](http://www.sayvilleucc.org); [www.facebook.com/sayvilleucc](http://www.facebook.com/sayvilleucc)

Heather Corcoran, Church Administrator; eChimes Editor

Today's Service is simulcast [www.echimestv.org](http://www.echimestv.org) Tune in any time!

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