

Easter Sunday Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ March 31, 2024



Introit

"Processional" from *The Occasional Oratorio* by George Frideric Handel James Cesare, trumpet soloist

Ringing of the Bell

Chancel Choir Procession

"An Easter Chant" by Gordon Young

Please rise or remain seated, as you wish.

Call to Worship

Gracious Easter God! Be with us in this world, especially now. Fill us and call us closer to you with your Resurrection's glory: That is, the Glory of God in you – in us. Roll all the stones away... open our hearts to your love and power, for this world that needs you always, especially now,

Gracious Easter God.

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

Hymn "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" New Century Hymnal # 240 vs. 1, 2, 3

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

To the tomb the women bring, Alleluia! Spices rich and offering, Alleluia! Asking where might Jesus be, Alleluia! Savior come to set us free, Alleluia!

There the angel clothed in white, Alleluia! Tells the news with great delight, Alleluia! This the news the angel gives, Alleluia! That the Sovereign glorious lives, Alleluia

### Please be seated and share in the reading our Unison Prayer

Unison Prayer	"Surely This is the Day,"	by Joseph H. Gilmore		
	O Thou wondrous, Easter Go whom space cannot contain Thou who art earlier than ou and later than our dying:	bace cannot contain nor time weary; no art earlier than our living		
	Surely this is a day for a triumphant shout. For like mourners at dawn having come prepared to anoint the lifeless remains of goodness, gentleness, humility and truth, we are astonished by Thy power and blinded by Thy grace. Hallelujah!			

What dies at the hands of corrupt authority, blind arrogance and insatiable violence, is raised up by the hands that laid the foundations of the earth.

On this glad morning, we stand as at the First Day – life is again a garden and not a jungle. Thine is the kindom, and the power, and the glory forever!

Assurance of God's Love

Today, we witness the Resurrection of Christ Jesus in our own lives; we open ourselves to your love and assurance that never failed Jesus nor ever fails us. Help us to remember you are always there. Always. Of this and your eternal presence we are ever assured. May we answer your call to love, as Jesus did yours, in all the ways we may.

# Friends, please rise

### Passing of the Peace

Filled with this Joy of Easter and the renewal of this day and the days to follow, we share the Peace of Jesus Christ; may it find its way into the hearts of all around the world... Friends, with this in our hearts...

May the Peace of the Risen Christ be with you! And also with you!

Let us offer one another a sign of peace!

# <u>Please be seated</u>

### Joys and Concerns

Friends, we now invite you to share your Joys, Celebrations, Petitions and Concerns. Please wait for the microphone so that all those here and at home can hear you... all to hear...

### **Pastoral Prayer**

### The Prayer of Jesus

Creator God who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kindom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

## Gospel Reading: John 20:1-18

Early in the morning on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance, <sup>2</sup> so she ran off to Simon Peter and the other disciple—the one Jesus loved—and told them, "The Rabbi has been taken from the tomb! We don't know where they have put Jesus!"

<sup>3</sup>At that, Peter and the other disciple started out toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup> They were running side by side, but then the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup> He didn't enter, but bent down to peer in and saw the linen wrappings lying on the ground. <sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter arrived and entered the tomb. He observed the linen wrappings on the ground, <sup>7</sup> and saw the piece of cloth that had covered Jesus' head lying not with the wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup> Then the disciple who had arrived first at the tomb went in. He saw and believed. <sup>9</sup> As yet, they didn't understand the scripture that Jesus was to rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples went back to their homes.

<sup>11</sup> Meanwhile, Mary stood weeping beside the tomb. Even as she wept, she stooped to peer inside, <sup>12</sup> and there she saw two angels in dazzling robes.

One was seated at the head and the other at the foot of the place where Jesus' body had lain.

<sup>13</sup> They asked her, "Why are you weeping?"

She answered them, "Because they have taken away my Rabbi, and I don't know where they have put the body."

<sup>14</sup> No sooner had she said this than she turned around and caught sight of Jesus standing there, but she didn't know it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup> He asked her, "Why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?"

She supposed it was the gardener, so she said, "Please, if you're the one who carried Jesus away, tell me where you've laid the body and I will take it away."

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned to him and said, "Rabboni!"—which means "Teacher."

<sup>17</sup> Jesus then said, "Don't hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to Abba God. Rather, go to the kin and tell them, 'I'm ascending to my Abba and to your Abba, my God and your God!' "

<sup>18</sup> Mary of Magdala went to the disciples. "I have seen the Teacher!" she announced. Then she reported what the savior had said to her.

Anthem "Christ is Arisen" by Franz Schubert

aum

### **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

Anthem	"An Easter Prayer (Open the Tomb)"		by James Ahrend
Ushers	The Bell is Rung		
Chancel Choir	Postlude	"Hallelujah!" from <i>The Messiah,</i> by George Frideric Handel	

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### **IN CELEBRATION OF:**

The Ryan & The Chiappino families and all families during this season of new beginnings! Ryan Michael Venini

### **IN HONOR OF:**

Katie, Elise and Jim Cesare Abigail & Olivia Linsner Our grandchildren, Sarah, Laura & Thomas Maust

# IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

**Geoffrey Horton** Friends & family Ron Robinson and Lucy Paul Lanchantin & Paul, Jr. Phil, Loved Ones Martha & Robert Pierce Nana, Papa, Edie, Grampy & Aunt Chick Dorothy & Otto, Patricia Kubelle **Our Beloved Riley** Loved Ones Loved Ones Gordon MacGowan Loved Ones Margaret Ann, Robert, Frances, Anthony, Annette, Gloria, Dick and Julias Shirley & James McMann, Herminie & Michael Bavosa

Please remember to take your Easter Plants with you today.



# 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! Rev. Jeanne Baum, Guest Preacher Music Director Sean Cameron and The Chancel Choir James Cesare, Trumpet Soloist Connie Kauffman, Liturgist Ushers, Sue Lanchantin and Michael Hoff Media Team – Karin Conrad, Mark Conrad, Casey Cunningham Connie Kauffman, Kathy Leis and Hank Maust And all of you!

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Today's Service is simulcast www.echimestv.org Tune in any time!

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