



Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent  
March 30, 2025



Welcome

Ring the Bell

Prelude      Prelude for Organ, No. 55 by C.H. Rinck

Call to Worship: Adapted from Paul's Second Letter to the  
Corinthians 5:16-21

"From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know Christ no longer in that way."

We share in the knowledge of the Beloved in this new way of being; everything has become new.

We become new each day in a "daily resurrection" of the Love we have been given to embrace and share with all.

*So, friends, come. All. And let us join this new day! A day of resurrection in and of God's love as we join in worship and prayer and song.*

Hymn "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" NCH #190

Beneath the cross of Jesus I gladly take my stand,  
the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land;  
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.

Upon that cross of Jesus within my mind I see  
the very dying form of One who suffered there for me;  
And from my grieving heart with tears two wonders I confess –  
the wonders of Christ's glorious love and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, your shadow for my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of Christ's face;  
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss,  
my sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

*Please be seated and join us in reading this morning's  
Unison Prayer.*

## Unison Prayer

Psalm 32 from Psalms for Praying by Nan C. Merrill  
[excerpted/modified]

Our Beloved, You are our guide.  
You teach us to walk in the Light.  
Be watchful of us, counsel us as  
we listen to You in the Silence.  
We pray for gifts of inner peace  
and wisdom,  
For the grace to bring reverence to all of Creation.

## Assurance of God's Love and Pastoral Prayer

*Friends, please rise if you wish.*

## Passing of the Peace

Filled with this joy of togetherness, 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!

*Please be seated.*

The Chancel Choir

“We Shall Overcome”

Words and Adaption by Zilphia Horton,  
Frank Hamilton, Guy Carawan, and  
Pete Seeger  
Arranged by Roy Ringwald

Joys, Celebrations 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 – “The Lord’s Prayer”

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.

Hymn     "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"  
                 New Century Hymnal #423

Great is your faithfulness, O God, Creator,  
with you no shadow of turning we see.  
You do not change, your compassions they fail not;  
all of your goodness forever will be.

*Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed your hand has provided,  
Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
to your great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

*Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed your hand has provided,  
Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!*

Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring,  
your own dear presence to cheer and to guide.  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine with ten thousand beside.

*Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed your hand has provided,  
Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!*

First Reading: Psalm 32 from *Psalms for Praying*  
by Nan C. Merrill [excerpted/modified]

Blessed are you whose wrongdoings  
have been forgiven,  
whose shame has been forgotten.  
Blessed are you in whom Love Divine  
finds a home,  
and whose spirit radiates truth.  
...let everyone who is sincere  
give thanks to the Beloved;  
For whenever we feel paralyzed  
by fear,  
we shall be embraced by Love.  
Dwelling in the Heart of the Beloved,  
we are free from distress,  
free to live more creatively.

The Chancel Choir "Sing to the Earth"  
Words and Music by James Ahrend

Gospel Reading Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Meanwhile, the tax collectors and the "sinners" were all gathering around Jesus to listen to his teaching, at which the pharisees and the religious scholars murmured, "This person welcomes sinners and eats with them!"

Jesus then addressed this parable to them: "A man had two sons..."

Message "Reconciliation" Rev. Jeanne Baum

## Invitation to Give

We welcome your offerings at this time and invite you to place your prayer and information cards in the plate as we sing our Church Covenant.

## 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

Rev. Jeanne Baum

Choral Blessing

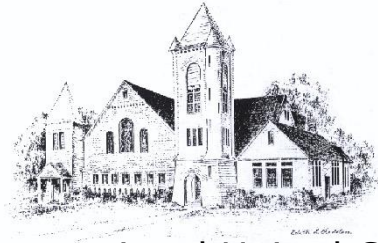
"A Closing Prayer"

Words and Music by Don Besig

Ringling of the Bell

Postlude

"aqua" by Ryuichi Sakamoto



## Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ

For more than a century and a half, Sayville 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.

Thank You, Worship Leadership!  
Rev. Jeanne Baum, Guest Preacher  
Sean Cameron, Music Director  
Liturgist – Kim Thompsen  
Ushers – Gini McLaughlin, Jerry Avolio,  
Kris Minschke and Lorraine Martin

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

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Heather Corcoran, Church Administrator  
Gail Kieser, eChimes Editor

Today's Service is being simulcast on our church channel at  
[www.echimestv.org](http://www.echimestv.org) Tune in any time!

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