



The Sixth Sunday of Easter
Sayville Congregational United Church of Christ
May 25, 2025

Welcome

Ringling the Bell

Prelude "Le Dauphin" by W.C.E. Seeboeck

Please rise or remain seated, as you wish.

Call to Worship from Psalm 67

With powerful deeds of justice
You answer us, God, our Deliverer,
In whom all the ends of the earth
And the farthest seas put their trust.

You set the mountains in place by your power,
Having armed yourself with might.
You still the roaring of the seas,
The roaring of the waves and the tumult of the peoples.

Still in us, Gracious God, that which we fear.
Grow in us, that which we seek to be.
Guide us in all the ways of compassion and justice,
Mercy and love. Fill us with courage – not of self –
But of you in this and these selves of ours.

With powerful deeds of justice
You answer us, God, our Deliverer.
To all the ends of the earth,
We place our trust in you.

Hymn “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” New Century Hymnal #43

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven on earth be found.
Fix in us a humble dwelling, all your faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, you are all compassion; pure unbounded love impart.
Visit us with your salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe your loving Spirit into every troubled breast.
Let us all in you inherit, let us find your promised rest;
Take away our love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty

Come, almighty, to deliver, let us all your life receive;
Suddenly return and never, nevermore your temples leave.
You we would be always blessing, love you as your angels love,
Pray and praise for your unfailing, wounded arms outstretched above.

Finish then, your new creation; pure and spotless may we prove;
Let us see your great salvation perfectly restored in you;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
Crowned as saints, we ever shall be lost in wonder, love and praise.

Please be seated and join us in reading this morning's:

Unison Prayer (Adapted from John 3:8)

On the wings of Love
"... blows the wind where it chooses.
We hear its sound, mostly,
but we don't know from where it comes
or to where it goes..."

It is in this wind, the coming and going,
here and everywhere
that we meet our present and forever
and mysterious God together.
On the wings of Love.
Our wings. All our wings.

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 "I Love the Lord"
Words and Music by Hank Beebe

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 "Shall We Gather at the River" NCH #597

Shall we gather at the river,
where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever
flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain:

*Yes, we'll gather at the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God.*

On the margin of the river,
washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever,
all the happy golden day.

Refrain

As we reach the shining river,
lay we every burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver,
and provide a robe and crown.

Refrain

Soon we'll reach the shining river,
soon our pilgrimage will cease;
soon our happy hearts will quiver
with the melody of peace.

Refrain

First Reading: Revelation 21:1-8

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne say, "Look! God's dwelling is here with humankind. God will dwell with them and they will be his people. God's own self will be with them as their God. God will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more. There will be no mourning, crying, or pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." Then the one seated on the throne said, "Look! I'm making all things new." God also said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then God said to me, "All is done. I am the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will freely give water from the life-giving spring."

The Chancel Choir "Walk Along Beside Me, O My Lord"
Words and Music by Don Besig

Gospel Reading: John 14:23-29

Jesus answered, 'whoever loves me will keep my word. My Abba will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever doesn't love me doesn't keep my words. The word that you hear isn't mine. It is the word of Abba who sent me.

I have spoken these things to you while I am with you. The Companion, the Holy Spirit, whom Abba will send in my name, will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I told you.

"Peace I leave with you. My peace I give you. I give to you not as the world gives. Don't be troubled or afraid. You have heard me tell you "I'm going away and return to you. If you love me, you would be happy that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than me. I have told you before it happens so that when it happens, you will believe.

Message 'On the Wings of Love' Rev. Becky West

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, Women's Conference, Japan

Rev. Becky West

Go into the world
With a daring and tender love.
The world is waiting,
Go in peace.
And all that you do,
Do it for love.
And by the Spirit of Jesus
Who is God.
Amen.

Choral Blessing

"Go Now in Peace"

Words and Music by Don Besig

Ringling of the Bell

Postlude

"Lost In The Stars"

by Kurt Weill



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. Becky West, Guest Preacher
James Higgins, Guest Music Director
Liturgist – Kim Thompsen
Ushers – Gini McLaughlin, Jerry Avolio,
Linda Brookshire and Marion MacGowan

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

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Today's Service is being simulcast on our church channel at
www.echimestv.org Tune in any time!

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