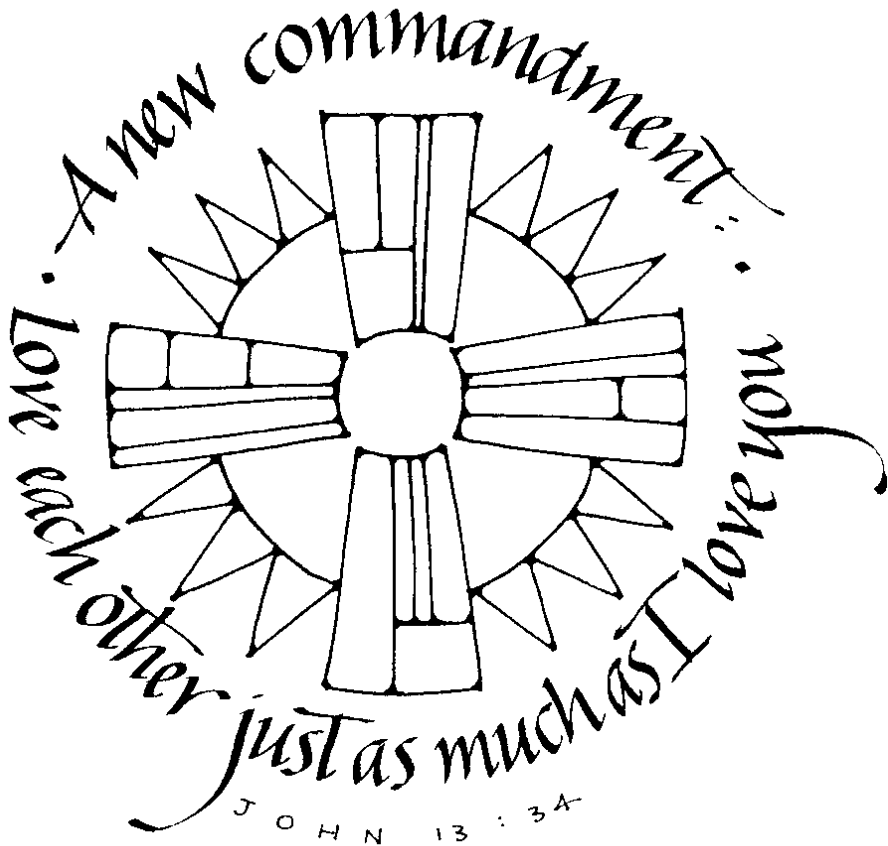


Welcome to the

# Union Church of Bay Ridge

of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.  
Eightieth Street and Ridge Boulevard, Brooklyn, New York

## March 22, 2009



Parish House, Bay Ridge-Union Center for the Arts (BRUCA) and Office

8101 Ridge Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY 11209

718.745.0438 [www.ucbr.org](http://www.ucbr.org) [www.bruca.org](http://www.bruca.org) [unionchurch@earthlink.net](mailto:unionchurch@earthlink.net)

The Reverend Mary Barrett Speers, Pastor ✧ Vince Peterson, Minister of Music  
Ed Huml, BRUCA Program Director ✧ Jody Levine, Administrator and Playgroup Director

You will always be welcome here. This is God's house and a happy church home.  
Let us be your church family, for we are all beloved children of God. Join us regularly  
for Christian worship, nurture, and the doing of God's work in the world—  
*that you may have life,, and that more abundantly.*

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

#### GATHERING MUSIC

*We use this time to make the transition between “getting here” and “being here”. Take these few minutes to find the still, deep places within you, where God's Spirit dwells. Relax the body; quiet the mind. Focus on breathing, feeling, being. Be receptive to your center—your reservoir of inner peace, strength, love. Be aware of being together in silence with others. Feel the spirit of the community.*

#### +CALL TO WORSHIP

*adapted from Psalm 107: 19-22*

They cried to God in their trouble,

**And God saved them from their distress:**

God's word went out among them, and healed them,

**And delivered them from destruction.**

Let them offer thanks for God's love,

**And tell of God's deeds with songs of joy.**

#### +HYMN no. 309 *(Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, Spain 348-413)*

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*

#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**O Lord, you are Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. Your goodness never fails, no matter how many times, and in what ways, we have broken your covenant with us. Bring us back, Loving God. Help us to see our lives as you see them, and not as we imagine them to be. Take us beyond the sins we think too much about, and direct our attention to the sins we never notice because we are used to them. In your mercy, lead us through repentance and restitution to resurrection, the abundant life of the Way of the Cross of Jesus Christ our Lord...**

#### SILENT PRAYER

**KYRIE no. 395** *first verse: from El Himnario, 1964*

*Piedad/Take Pity, Lord*

#### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

...Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

+**SUNG RESPONSE** *please sing the chorus only of no. 341...* from **Blessed Assurance**

*This is my story, this is my song, praising my savior all the day long...*

+**THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*please offer the Peace of Christ to these elders and your neighbors*

## GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LENTEN PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION** *Draw Me Close to You* Kelly Carpenter

*Draw me close to you, never let me go:*

*I lay it all down again to hear you say that I'm your friend.*

*You are my desire, no one else will do:*

*'Cause nothing else could take your place, to feel the warmth of your embrace*

*Help me find the way: bring me back to you.*

*You're all I want; you're all I've ever needed:*

*You're all I want, help me know you are near.*

**FIRST TWO LESSONS** **Deuteronomy 4:5-8; Ephesians 2:1-10**

**ANTHEM** *Jesu Dulcis Memoria* music: 16 or 17c. Spanish; attr. Thomás Luis de Victoria

**THIRD LESSON** **John 3:14-21**

**SERMON** **God, the Goalie** Elder John Gingrich

+**HYMN** no. 510 *based on Jesu Dulcis Memoria, 12c. hymn* ***Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts***

**OFFERTORY** *For God So Loved the World* anthem based on John 3:16-17

+**DOXOLOGY** no. 592

+**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** a prayer of Ignatius Loyola, 16c. Spanish

**Take, Lord, all our freedom. Receive our memory, our understanding, and our will. Whatever we possess, you have given to us: to you we restore it wholly. We give ourselves to your direction. If you but give us the grace to love you, we are rich enough. We ask this in Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

**GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS** and **PASTORAL PRAYER**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord...**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** *Hymnal p. 16: "debts"*

+**HYMN** no. 157 ***Jesús Es Mi Rey Soberano/Our King and Our Sovereign***

+**CHARGE AND BLESSING** no "Alleluias" in Lent ...let the church say simply, **AMEN.**

**MUSIC FOR GOING FORTH**

*please keep silence out of kindness to those who wish to listen or pray. Some of us like to applaud but this is not required; the musicians offer their music to the glory of God.*

+all who would like to may stand; **Unison prayers are in bold.**

## **LENT: UNION CHURCH & BAY RIDGE CHURCHES**

Beyond the recent TV commercial, the Biblical Hebrew word SHALOM (which shares with Arabic the Semitic root SLM) has many meanings. It means peace, but it also means wholeness, health, well-being, prosperity, all the beautiful things that can happen...

*...when everyone has enough, and everyone who has enough  
is satisfied with what they have.*

Our lectionary for Lent in Year B explores the sequence of covenants that God makes with human beings in the Bible. This year, we explore some of those meanings in our worship, special events, and Thursday evening “loaves and fishes” supper programs (bring a bag supper for yourself plus something to share), exploring God’s covenants of peace in “Peace Is...”

**Wednesday, February 25: Ash Wednesday** the first day of Lent: we give up “alleluias”

7:30 pm at Bay Ridge United Church, 636 BR Pkwy 11209 718.836.4978

**Saturday, February 28: Peace Is...Healing**

9am-12:30pm in the Sanctuary, massage, yoga, healing prayer: come share with others what heals you!

**Sunday, March 1: Peace Is...Justice for All**

11am Presbyterian Welcome Celebration, Communion

**Thursday, March 5: Peace Is...a Full Heart**

6:30pm “loaves and fishes” supper and Taizé evensong

**Thursday, March 12: Peace Is...Understanding**

6:30pm “loaves and fishes” supper: Come hear about the 4<sup>th</sup> Ave Church Christian-Muslim Sunday School!

**Sunday, March 15: Peace Is...Eternal Life**

4pm Lenten Concert “The Soul...Rising”: Fauré *Requiem* and works from 16-20c.

**Thursday, March 19: Peace Is...Understanding**

6:30pm “loaves and fishes” supper: Bruce MacIntyre talks about the Brooklyn College choir at the Peking Olympics!

**Thursday, March 26: Peace Is...Justice for All**

6:30pm “loaves and fishes” supper: come hear what’s been happening at the Church of Gethsemane!

**Monday, March 30: Peace Is...All Have Enough**

6pm soup at Our Saviour’s, 80<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, joint hunger awareness supper with St Andrew the Apostle and other Bay Ridge churches.

**Thursday, April 2: Peace Is...a Full Heart**

6:30pm “loaves and fishes” supper and Taizé evensong

**Sunday, April 5: Palm/Passion Sunday** 11 am worship with communion

**Thursday, April 9: Maundy Thursday Supper**

6:30pm intergenerational model seder with storytelling, singing, and a meal, culminating in the Lord’s Supper

**Friday, April 10: Good Friday Tenebrae**

7:30pm traditional Tenebrae with the Lord’s Supper, Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church, 6753 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue 11220 718.836.0681

**Saturday, April 11: Easter Vigil**

8pm Redeemer-St John’s Lutheran Church, 939 83<sup>rd</sup> St 11228 718.883.7700

**Sunday, April 12: Easter Day!**

11am festival worship with communion, special music, and...alleluias!

**Deuteronomy 4:5-8 NRSV** *(Moses concludes his farewell speech after 40 years in the wilderness)*

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**S**ee, just as the Lord my God has charged me, I now teach you statutes and ordinances for you to observe in the land that you are about to enter and occupy. <sup>6</sup>You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!’ <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?”

**Ephesians 2:1-10 NRSV** *(The Apostle Paul writes to the young church at Ephesus)*

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**Y**ou were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness towards us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

**John 3:14-21 NRSV** *(Jesus replies to Nicodemus, a religious leader)*

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**A**nd just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.’

**Announcements**

**Visitors, welcome!** Please join us after worship for refreshments and conversation, and please sign the guest book in the back of the Sanctuary so that we may get to know you better.

**Many thanks to all worship leaders:** John Gingrich, our COM liaison, for preaching; Vince Peterson and the choir for music (and for a splendid day last Sunday!); Sophia Rissler for today's refreshments; Isabel Morales for teaching Sunday School, Maryellen Van Royen (Communion 'bishop'), Kristin Miller (coffee hour 'bishop') and Michele DiBartolo (Sunday school 'bishop').

**The Book of Remembrance** is open to remember: today, 3/22—Janet Louisa; 3/29—Helene Ogurek; 4/5—Dorothy Simmons; 4/12—Mildred Anderson; 4/19—Laurel Cogan; 4/26—Mary Nell Norstrand; 5/3—Mildred (Sue) Watson; 5/10—Clara Yagian; 5/17—Edith Jensen; 5/24—Charles Masterson; 5/31—Laura Cramer.

**Prayer List** requests should come to the church office by telephone **718.745.0438**.

**We are sad to announce the death of Elder Malcolm Tannahill** Sunday, March 8. Condolences may be sent to his widow, Eva Tannahill, 107 Battery Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11209.

**Continue to pray for peace;** for all living in the midst of war, poverty, natural and economic disaster; for prisoners and all who watch and pray for them, especially the Church of Gethsemane. Continue to pray for/stay in touch with: the family and friends of Malcolm Tannahill, the Boll-Gamaliy family, Art Samuel and Mary Chamberlain, Iris Norstrand, Emile Serposs, Milford Anderson, Nazik David, Amanda Silverman, Bill Louisa, Helen Kretiv; also Libeth and Hughes and the Vandermarcq family, the Johnson family, Donald (Jr.) and Grace Zarou, Bob and Louise, Helen and Paul, Ed, Mark and Audrey, Helen, Wendy, Sally.

**Easter Lily Order Forms are on the back table. Please order extras for the garden!**

**One Great Hour of Sharing** is the annual Lenten offering of the World Council of Churches; Union Church joins with the rest of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in this worldwide mission effort. Session will announce our Union Church total on **Easter Sunday, April 12**.

**Lenten Suppers are on Thursdays this year**, with "loaves and fishes" supper (bring a bag supper for yourself plus something to share) at 6:30pm, followed by program at 7pm. The full schedule for **Covenants of Peace: "Peace Is..."** is on the back table, or visit [www.ucbr.org](http://www.ucbr.org).

### ***This Week, Ongoing, and Future Happenings***

**THIS Thursday, March 26: Peace Is...Justice for All** 6:30pm "loaves and fishes" supper: Come hear about what has been happening at the Church of Gethsemane!

**GARDEN CLEANUP NEXT SUNDAY March 29!** Wear jeans to church, stay to spruce up the garden for Palm Sunday (April 5) and Easter (April 12)! Many hands make light work, have fun with your Union Church family, and meet the neighbors. (Rain date Saturday April 4.)

**NEXT Thursday, April 2: Peace Is...A Full Heart** 6:30pm "loaves and fishes" supper; 7pm Taizé evensong

**Maundy Thursday, April 9 @ 6:30 pm** is an intergenerational "model seder" re-enactment of the Last Supper Passover meal, with supper and communion, here at Union Church.

**Fortnightly Tuesday Bible Study meets every other Tuesday at 7pm in the Parish House.**

The group continues with the letters of Paul in the New Testament **this Tuesday, March 24**.

**Wednesday midweek Bible Study**, 11am at Redeemer-St John's Lutheran church, 939 83<sup>rd</sup> St.

**Support group for parents of children with special needs first Mondays, 11-1:** call Isabel Morales 800.405.8818 if you or a friend would be interested: **April 6** is the next meeting.

**Yoga continues on Mondays and Wednesdays**, 6:45-8:15 in the Sanctuary. Each class is \$15, pay as you go; wear comfortable clothes and bring a towel and a yoga mat if you have one.