

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 with us regularly for Christian worship, nurture, and the doing of God's work in the world—
that you might have life, and that more abundantly.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

EASTER DAY

GATHERING MUSIC

This Easter day, welcome to the joy and hope of the Resurrection!

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 : THE BEGINNING OF THE EASTER STORY **Matthew 28:1-10**

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.

And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it.

His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him, the guards shook and became like dead men.

But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.”

So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him.

Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

✦HYMN IN PROCESSION no. 119

Alleluia! The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Jesus, in Easter you have brought us new life and new hope. We come to you in grateful prayer and joyful song, because Easter changes lives. We have been frightened people, but because you live, we have courage. We have been lonely people, but because you live, we can love ourselves, and others, in your name. We have been scattered and divided people, but because you live, we come together in worship and service. We are weak people, but because you live, together as your body we are strong to do God's work in the world. May we live our lives as you showed us how to live, asking forgiveness for our mistakes, and trusting your promise of peace, abundant life, life everlasting. Christ is risen, praise the Lord! Alleluia!

✚ **SUNG RESPONSE** *chorus of Hymnal no. 119:* **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

✚ **EASTER GREETING** *please turn and exchange the Easter Greeting with your neighbors:*
Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION no.322 *Spirit of the Living God*
Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me...melt me, mold me, fill me, use me...

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 25:6-9

ANTHEM *Love Bade Me Welcome* Paul Wyatt, tenor Ralph Vaughan Williams

SECOND LESSON: Acts 10:34-43

SERMON: O Taste and See! Rev. Speers

✚ **HYMN** no. 514 *"Communion Calypso"/Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

OFFERTORY *Easter Chorale* Samuel Barber

One Great Hour of Sharing *is the annual Easter offering of the World Council of Churches; Union Church joins with the whole Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in this worldwide mission effort.*

✚ **DOXOLOGY** no. 592 and **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Almighty God, you who have raised Jesus from the dead, and who with everlasting life have given us everything: help us, we beseech you, with all our gifts to yield ourselves unto you; that with body, soul and spirit devoted to you and your world, we may truly live your abundant life, and in so living find our deepest joy, through Christ Jesus, our companion, our healer, our teacher, and our Risen Lord. AMEN.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE *God's Offering to God's People*

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING with responses as in the *Hymnal* p. 13

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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION “On the night when he was arrested, our Lord took bread...”

+THE COMMUNION *please come to the table and dip your bread in the cup*

+ THANKSGIVING AFTER THE COMMUNION sung and spoken, *Hymnal no. 597*

Bless the Lord, O my soul:

And all that is within me, bless God’s holy name!

Bless the Lord, O my soul:

And forget not all God’s benefits.

God our help: we thank you for this supper shared in the Spirit with your holy child Jesus, who makes us new and strong, who brings us life eternal. We praise you for giving us all gifts in Christ, and pledge ourselves to serve you and the world you so love, even as in Christ you have served us. AMEN.

+HYMN no. 123

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today!

+CHARGE AND BENEDICTION ...and let the whole church say, **Alleluia! Amen.**

CLOSING MUSIC

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

Announcements

Visitors, welcome! Please join us after worship for refreshments and conversation, and please sign the Union Church guest book (at the back) so that we may get to know you better.

Many thanks to all leaders: Vince Peterson and the choir; the ushers; the lectors; the communion elders; the Miller-Lynch family and Lorrie Green for the Easter feast; Mary Cusack (Communion ‘bishop’), Isabel Morales (Sunday School ‘bishop’) and Kristin Miller-Lynch (coffee hour ‘bishop’).

The Book of Remembrance is open to remember dear departed members of Union Church: today, 3/23—Janet Louisa; 3/30—Helene Ogurek; 4/6—Dorothy Simmons; 4/13—Mildred Anderson; 4/20—Laurel Cogan; April 27—Mary Nell Norstrand; 5/4—Mildred (Sue) Watson; May 11—Clara Yagian; 5/18—Edith Jensen; 5/25—Charles Masterson.

Continue to pray for our planet and for peace; for all living in the midst of war, poverty, natural and economic disaster; for prisoners, those recently released from prison, and all who work and pray with them, especially the Church of Gethsemane. Also we pray for and stay in touch with: Milford Anderson, Bill Louisa, Iris Norstrand, Dolores Cleary, Evelyn Riccio, Carolyn Ramsay, Emile Serposs, Nazik David, Barbara Briggs, Amanda Silverman, Helen Kretiv; Barbara, Dale’s family, Arabella, Eleanor, Craig, Lorrie, Steve, Rachel, Cathy, James, Jenny, Nick, Andrea, Arthur, Sharon, Dale, Dana, Paul, Jon, Bud, Jane, Rick, and Kendra.

Community-Supported Agriculture: see Elder Michele DiBartolo about this new program.

Session Members, The next stated session meeting is tomorrow, **March 24, at 7pm.**

Looking to the Future

The Bay Ridge Festival of the Arts, which began over 40 years ago at Union Church, opens next Sunday, March 30, through Sunday, April 6, at Good Shepherd Church, 4th Ave at 75th Street,

BRUCA Open House is Saturday, April 5, 10am to 2pm. Classes begin April 7 www.bruca.org

Sunday, March 30, 1-4 pm: Choir rehearsal for Vivaldi’s *Gloria*

Sunday, April 6, 5 pm: Union Church Concert: Elena Antimova, piano, in recital

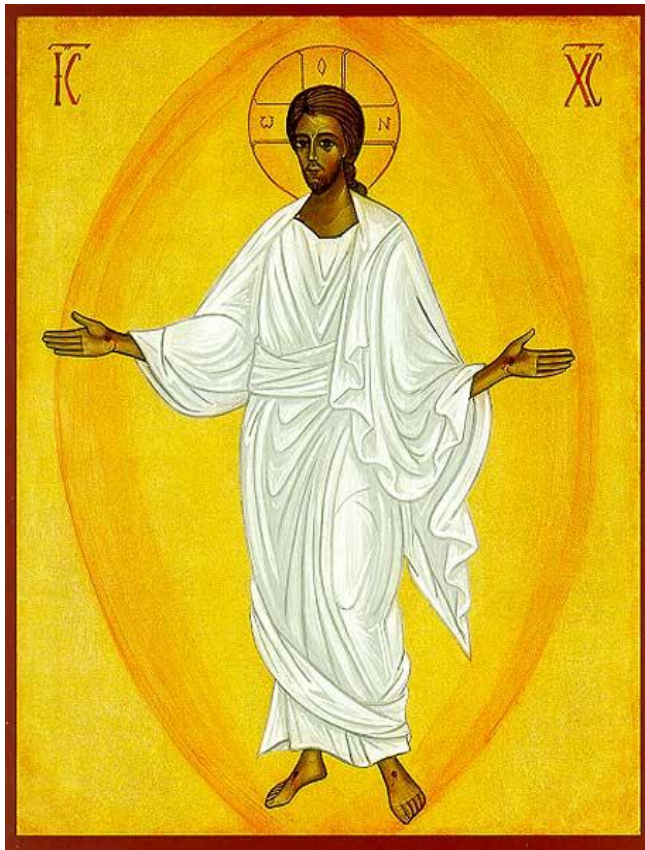
Sunday, April 27 at 11am: Vivaldi’s *Gloria* in worship with choir, soloists and chamber orchestra

Welcome to the
Union Church of Bay Ridge

of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
Eightieth Street and Ridge Boulevard www.ucbr.org

March 23, 2008

The Resurrection of the Lord



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

8101 Ridge Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY 11209

718.745.0438 www.ucbr.org www.bruca.org 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

Easter Readings

from the link on the Worship page of www.ucbr.org

Isaiah 25:6-9 NRSV

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. ⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Acts 10:34-43 NRSV

³⁴Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to God. ³⁶You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the

dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Today's anthem poems

Love Bade Me Welcome the Rev. George Herbert, 1593-1632

Love bade me welcome, yet my soul drew back,
Guilty of dust and sin.
But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack
From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning
If I lack'd anything.

"A guest," I answer'd, "worthy to be here;"
Love said, "You shall be he."

"I, the unkind, the ungrateful? ah my dear,
I cannot look on thee."

Love took my hand and smiling did reply,
"Who made the eyes but I?"

"Truth, Lord, but I have marr'd them; let my shame
Go where it doth deserve."

"And know you not," says Love, "who bore the blame?"
"My dear, then I will serve."

"You must sit down," says Love, "and taste my meat."
So I did sit and eat.

The Morning Light Renews the Sky Pack Browning: Samuel Barber Easter Chorale, 1965

The morning light renews the sky
Across the air the birds ignite
Like sparks, to take this blaze of day
Through all the precincts of the night.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The fires of dawn refresh our eyes,
We watch the world grow wide and bright
And praise our newly risen Light.

The winter land receives the year.
Her smallest creatures rouse and cling
To swelling roots and buds that stir
The restless air to reel and ring!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

The sounds of waking fill our ears.
We listen to the live earth sing
And praise our loving Source and Spring.

Today's sermon poems

The World Is Too Much With Us

William Wordsworth, 1770-1850

The world is too much with us; late and soon,
Getting and spending, we lay waste our powers;
Little we see in Nature that is ours;
We have given our hearts away, a sordid boon!
This Sea that bares her bosom to the moon,
The winds that will be howling at all hours,
And are up-gathered now like sleeping flowers,
For this, for everything, we are out of tune;
It moves us not. -Great God! I'd rather be
A Pagan suckled in a creed outworn;
So might I, standing on this pleasant lea,
Have glimpses that would make me less forlorn;
Have sight of Proteus rising from the sea;
Or hear old Triton blow his wreathed horn.

○ Taste and See

Denise Levertov, 1923-1997

The world is
not with us enough.

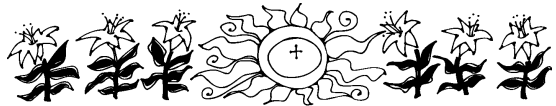
○ taste and see

the subway Bible poster said,
meaning **the Lord**, meaning
if anything all that lives
to the imagination's tongue,

grief, mercy, language,
tangerine, weather, to
breathe them, bite,
savor, chew, swallow, transform

into our flesh our
deaths, crossing the street, plum, quince,
living in the orchard and being

hungry, and plucking
the fruit.



i thank you God for most this amazing

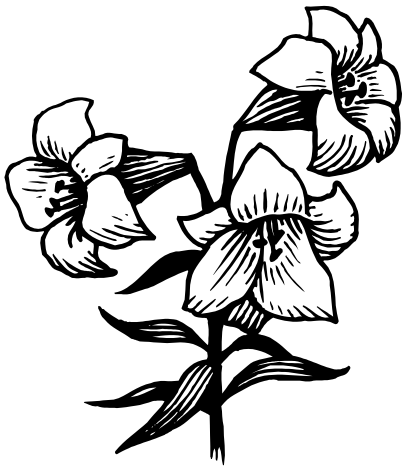
e.e. cummings, 1894-1962

i thank You God for most this amazing
day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes

(i who have died am alive again today,
and this is the sun's birthday; this is the birth
day of life and love and wings: and of the gay
great happening illimitably earth)

how should tasting touching hearing seeing
breathing any-lifted from the no
of all nothing-human merely being
doubt unimaginable You?

(now the ears of my ears awake and
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)



Easter Lilies

Given by

Mary Chamberlain
The Lynch Family
Morales Family

Morag Mossawir

Marie Nelson
Tom and Iris Norstrand

David and Carolyn Ramsay
Arthur and Elizabeth Samuel
Rev. Mary Speers
Alan and Joyce Smith
Ruth Ward
Lillian Adamski Warren
The Session of Union Church

In loving memory~in honor of

Louise Chamberlain O'Connor
Loved Ones
Dominga Cruz
Esther & Carol
Albert Mossawir
Dylan
Loved Ones
Severin Norstrand
Virginia Villano
Edward Norstrand Sr.
Our Loved Ones
Our Loved Ones
Eleanor Speers
Our Loved Ones
John Ward
Edward Adamski
the Saints of Union Church