

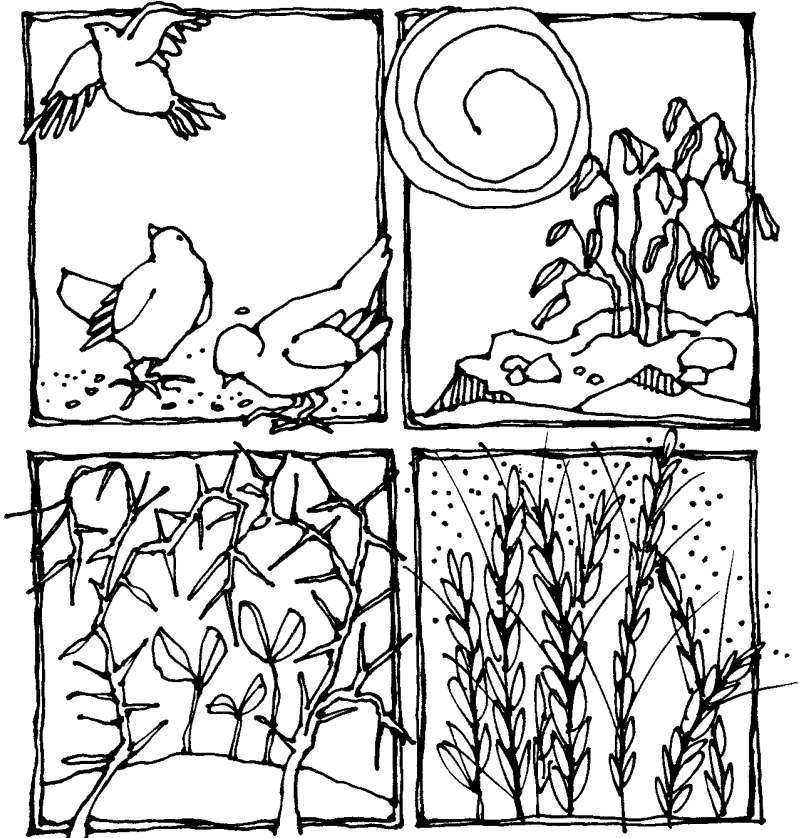
Welcome to the

Union Church of Bay Ridge

of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Summer Worship in the Chapel

June 28, 2009



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

8101 Ridge Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY 11209

718.745.0438

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 might have life, and that more abundantly.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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 Lamentations 3:22-24

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases.

The mercies of the LORD never end:

They are new every morning.

The LORD is my portion, says my soul,

Therefore will I hope in the LORD.

+HYMN no. 335 *blue hymnal*

Though I May Speak

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

God of Love, we thank you for the many blessings you provide us. We thank you for the pleasures of summer: for family, re-creation, time to reflect and regenerate. We thank you for the gardens and fields that will feed us all for another year. We thank you for hope, and for healing of heart or mind, body or spirit, for love shown and love received. We thank you also for reconciliation, and for your gift of conscience, which calls us back to your word and your ways: for you know, loving God, how far we fall short of your glory. We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us. We do not listen for your word of grace, speak the good news of your love, or live as a people made one in Christ. Search our hearts that we may understand and amend our faults. Direct our attention to your will for us. Strengthen our community of faith, give wings to our hopes and feet to our promises, that we may forever praise you with joy as we care for all your household, for we pray in the name of Jesus, our brother and our Lord...

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

+GLORY TO GOD *a new one, from the Iona Community:*

Glory and gratitude and praise Now let earth to heaven raise.

Glory and gratitude and praise: These we offer to God.

✚**THE PEACE OF CHRIST** *please turn and share the Peace of Christ with your neighbors*

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: **II Samuel 1:1,17,19,21,24-27**

SONG IN RESPONSE *please join in the refrain of this traditional folk-mass tune:*
You fill the day with your glory and your power.
You fill the night with your quiet and your deep love.

SECOND LESSON: **II Corinthians 8:1-2,7-15 or Mark 5:21-43**

SERMON **The Greatest Gift** Rev. Speers

✚**HYMN** no. 400 *blue hymnal* *Pues Si Vivimos/While We Are Living*

THE OFFERING *The Greatest Gift* *traditional folk-mass setting of 1 Corinthians 13*

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

You call to us to follow you, O Christ, and to find new ways to convey our joy to people everywhere. We offer our selves and our substance to do your work in the world, asking that you follow our offerings with your blessing, and keep us always in the guidance of your Holy Spirit. AMEN.

GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS and PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord...

*After each section of this prayer, please join in the refrain: **You fill the day...**
in this informal worship setting, there will be invitations to say names and concerns aloud*

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

✚**HYMN** (*insert*) *We Limit Not the Truth of God* ("the More Light hymn")

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

SENDING-FORTH MUSIC

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; please bear in mind that the musicians are offering their music in gratitude to God. What's the best way to let church musicians know you appreciate them?

*"Sing out, Louise!"...in **all** the hymns!*

✚all who would like to may stand; **unison prayers are in bold.**

II Samuel 1:1,17,19,21,24-27

After the death of Saul, when David had returned from defeating the Amalekites, David remained two days in Ziklag. ¹⁷David intoned this lamentation over Saul and his son Jonathan:

¹⁹Your glory, O Israel, lies slain upon your high places!
How the mighty have fallen!

²¹You mountains of Gilboa,
let there be no dew or rain upon you,
nor bounteous fields!
For there the shield of the mighty was defiled,
the shield of Saul, anointed with oil no more.

²⁴O daughters of Israel, weep over Saul,
who clothed you with crimson, in luxury,
who put ornaments of gold on your apparel.

²⁵How the mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle!

Jonathan lies slain upon your high places.
²⁶I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan;
greatly beloved were you to me;
your love to me was wonderful,
passing the love of women.

²⁷How the mighty have fallen,
and the weapons of war perished!

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: Vince Peterson and the choir; the Lynches for today's refreshments. The signup sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the hall for the summer...

The Book of Remembrance is open to remember: today, 6/28—Estelle McKay; 7/5—Alice Johnston; 7/12—Jennie Thompson; 7/19—Warren Dean; 7/26—David Alekel.

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

Continue to pray for the restoration of creation; 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: Edmundo and Edith Quinones, Ruby Moy and her family, Arabella Meadows-Rogers, Art Samuel, Iris Norstrand, Emile Serpos, Milford Anderson, Nazik David, Amanda Silverman, Bill Louisa, Helen Kretiv; also Lynn, Geraldine, the family and friends of Jaye and Violet, the Vandermarcq family, Bob and Louise, Ed, Mark and Audrey, Helen, Wendy, Sally.

Upcoming Happenings and Opportunities

After worship today: Union Church friends and family join Presbyterian Welcome in the **40th Anniversary of Stonewall LGBT Pride** parade. See this week's bulletin insert, or follow the lavender link on www.ucbr.org.

Today is the first day of summer scheduling until the week after Labor Day. Special thanks to all who made this year such a good one, and to those of you who keep on truckin' even in the summer!

Next Sunday please welcome the Rev. Dana Fenton back to our pulpit. Dana teaches sociology at CUNY and is an old friend of Rev. Speers from Union Seminary. Her area of expertise is evangelicalism in modern culture. Ask her about her current research!

Erol Gurol will be our minister of music next Sunday while Vince Peterson goes to help his mother after a knee replacement. Thanks Erol! Vince will be back July 12.

Thanks to Jennifer Segna for the **new, revitalized food collection box**, and for the great "gimmick" of monthly themes! **July: All American:** mac'n'cheese, baked beans, canned chili...

Yoga Summer schedule begins **this Tuesday, June 30**, running **Tuesdays 6:45-8:15 in July and August** right here in the air-conditioned chapel of the Parish House.

Ecumenical Worship in Owl's Head Park July 26 with other Bay Ridge Protestant churches.

Looking to the Future

Union Church T-shirts are ready today (wear them to the Pride march with Presbyterian Welcome, also for Cyclones in August...) Cost? 7 dollars!

BRUCA adult clay classes will run ten weeks for the price of eight (2 free weeks to accommodate vacations); **Clay Camp**, and **Clay Play Extravaganza** for toddlers, are forming for the summer.

Cyclones Bay Ridge Day, Wednesday, July 8: *not* our annual Sunday church outing, but another midweek opportunity we have learned about. Some of that night's proceeds will **help hunger programs in Bay Ridge**. Check out their website www.brooklyncyclones.com/tickets/promo. Sounds like a good thing to do!

Wedding shower for Elizan Morales and Areliz Perez two weeks from today, **3pm Sunday, July 12** at the Morales home, 6722 Ridge Boulevard. Watch your bulletin for details...

Brooklyn Cyclones Union Church outing in August, ask Evan and Joe Lynch, Cyclones 'bishops'.