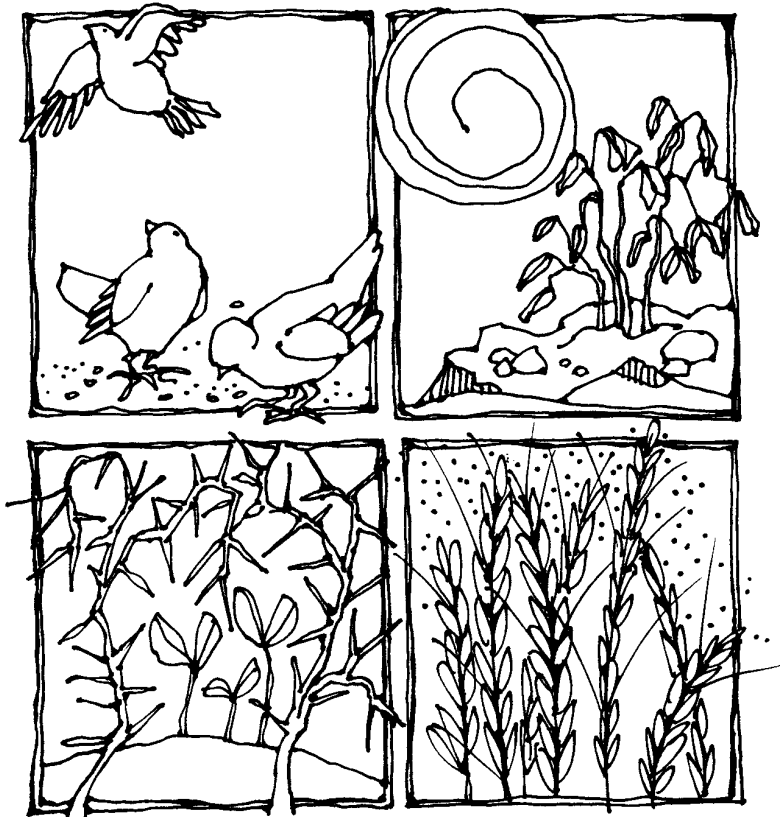


Welcome to the

Union Church of Bay Ridge

of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Summer Worship in the Chapel



July 13, 2008

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 Psalm 68

Sing to God, sing praises to God's name:

Praise God, and rejoice before God your Maker!

God is mother and father to orphans, a protector of widows,

God sets the solitary in families,

God leads forth the prisoners with a song,

But those who turn away from God will live in a sun-scorched land.

Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad,

In your goodness you provided for the needy.

+HYMN no. 473 *new (blue) hymnal*

For the Beauty of the Earth

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. 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 continuously 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

+RESPONSE no. 576 *new (blue) hymnal*

¹Glory to God, glory to God, ²glory to God in the highest...Alleluia!

Left and right sides: once in unison, then twice more as a two-part round: total of 3 times.

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

FIRST LESSON: **Genesis 25:19-34**

✚**HYMN** no. 419 *old (green) hymnal*

O God of Earth and Altar

SECOND LESSON: **Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

SERMON: **The Eighty-Two Rule**

Rev. Speers

✚**HYMN** no. 343 *old (green) hymnal*

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

THE OFFERING

✚**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 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. 393 *old (green) Hymnal*

Son of God, Eternal Savior

✚**CHARGE AND BLESSING** ...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 in gratitude to God; please bear in mind that the musicians are also offering their music in gratitude to God. What's the best way to let church musicians know you appreciate them? Sit up front and sing out in all the hymns!

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

Announcements

Visitors, welcome! Please join with us again in Sunday worship, and please sign the Union Church guest book (at the back) so that we may get to know you better.

Many thanks to our guest pianist, Brad Whiteley, and to Maryellen and Aidan Vanroyen for today's refreshments. Thanks every week to Kristin Miller (coffee hour bishop) and Mary Cusack (communion elders' bishop). Sign up for summer refreshments please!

The Book of Remembrance is open to remember dear departed members of Union Church: today, 7/13—Jennie Thompson; 7/20—Warren Dean; 7/27—David Alekel.

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

Continue to pray for our planet and for peace; for all living in the midst of war, poverty, sickness, hunger, and natural and economic disaster, and for the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. We pray for all who are recovering from surgery, or are making difficult medical decisions. We pray for a cure for cancer. We pray for those known to us who have asked for our prayers: Rachel, Bill and Dolores Cleary; Milford Anderson, Bill Louisa, Iris Norstrand, Evelyn Riccio, Carolyn Ramsay, Emile Serposs, Nazik David, Barbara Briggs, Amanda Silverman, Helen Kretiv; for Arthur, Jaye, Bud, Luis, Suzanne, Eleanor, Marion and David, Jenny, Barbara, Arabella, Lance, Craig and family, Lorrie and family, Steve, Cathy, James, Nick, Sharon, Paul, Jon, Dan, Rick, and Kendra.

Looking to the Future

Don't forget Program and Mission and Session meetings, back to back tomorrow night!

Midsummer worship in Owls Head Park: Next Sunday, July 20 at 10:30am. Redeemer-St John's Lutheran Church will provide music; Rev. Harriet Wieber will preside; Rev. Speers will preach; Elizabeth Gorgas, a new member of our Union Church family, will dance. You bring folding chairs and a picnic lunch; ice and beverages provided. **This will be our worship for that day.**

Summer Day Camp June 30 through August 8, 9-4: Redeemer-St John's Lutheran Church, 939 83rd Street in Dyker Heights. There are weekly and daily rates, and discounts available for extra siblings of weekly campers. Call **718.833.7700** forms and brochures on our back table.

Cyclones game at Keyspan Park, Sunday, August 17 at 5 pm! Carl Erskine, a former **Brooklyn Dodger,** will throw the first pitch after playing the National Anthem himself on the harmonica. Tickets are \$13 from Joe or Evan Lynch—call **718.745.6594. Wear your Union Church T-shirt!**

10am Summer worship in the air-conditioned Parish House Chapel continues through Sept 7.

Choir Retreat August 30—September 1, for choir members *and* inquirers, if you have any questions in July, ask Rev. Speers or email vincepeterson@gmail.com.

Homecoming Sunday September 14, 2008 at 11am in the Sanctuary, with communion.

