

Welcome to your spirit's home...

# Union Church of Bay Ridge

of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Eightieth Street and Ridge Boulevard, Brooklyn, New York

## World Communion October 4, 2009



Chapel, Parish House and Office

8101 Ridge Boulevard at Eighty-First Street, Brooklyn, NY 11209

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

*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**

### **WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**

#### **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**

*from a tenth-century African hymn*

The cross is the way of the lost,  
The cross is the staff of the lame.  
The cross is the strength of the weak,  
**The cross is the hope of the hopeless.**  
The cross is the freedom of the slave,  
The cross is the water of the seeds.  
The cross is the spring for those who seek water,  
**The cross is the cloth of the naked.**

#### **✚HYMN no. 465** *(from Japan)*

***Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather***

#### **PRAYER OF PREPARATION** *a prayer of a Nigerian Christian (The Oxford Book of Prayer)*

**God in heaven, you have helped my life to grow like a tree. Now something has happened. A bird called Satan has carried in one twig at a time. Before I knew it, Satan had built a dwelling place and was living in it. Today, loving God, I am throwing out both the bird and the nest...**

#### **SILENT PRAYER**

#### **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE**

...Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

#### **SUNG RESPONSE no. 595** *Heleluyan means Hallelujah/Alleluia, which means Praise the Lord. This is a round from the Muscogee tribe of North America; the round parts start on the stars.*

*Let's sing it twice in unison, then twice in a round*

***\*Heleluyan, \*Heleluyan; \*Hele, Hele-lu-yan: Heleluyan, Heleluyan; Hele, Hele-lu-yan!***

#### **✚THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*please exchange the Peace of Christ with your neighbors.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Hymnal #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: Job 1:1-3,2:1-13

PSALM/ANTHEM no. 163

*Lord, Our Lord, Thy Glorious Name (Psalm 8)*

SECOND LESSON: Mark 10:13-16

SERMON

When Life Overwhelms Us

Rev. Speers

✚HYMN no. 293

*This Is My Father's World*

### OFFERTORY

✚DOXOLOGY no. 592 and PRAYER OF DEDICATION

You call to us to seek you, O Christ, and to find new ways to share our joy with 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.

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

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING and INTERCESSION

*Hymnal p. 13*

THE LORD'S PRAYER "debts"

*Hymnal p. 16*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*Please come to the table and dip the bread in the cup*

THANKSGIVING AFTER THE COMMUNION no. 597 *sung portion from Appalachia*

*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.*

Let us pray:

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 good 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 IN RECESSION no. 432 *(from Argentina)*

*Canto de Esperanza/Song of Hope*

✚CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

...and let the whole church say, Alleluia! Amen.

CLOSING 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; the artists offer their work to the glory of God.*

## Job 1:1-3, 2:1-13 NRSV

**T**here was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. <sup>2</sup>There were born to him seven sons and three daughters. <sup>3</sup>He had seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred donkeys, and very many servants; so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the east.

<sup>2:1</sup>One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. <sup>2</sup>The Lord said to Satan, 'Where have you come from?' Satan answered the Lord, 'From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.' <sup>3</sup>The Lord said to Satan, 'Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason.' <sup>4</sup>Then Satan answered the Lord, 'Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. <sup>5</sup>But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face.' <sup>6</sup>The Lord said to Satan, 'Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life.'

<sup>7</sup>So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. <sup>8</sup>Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes.

<sup>9</sup>Then his wife said to him, 'Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die.' <sup>10</sup>But he said to her, 'You speak as a fool would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?' In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

<sup>11</sup>Now when Job's three friends heard of all these troubles that had come upon him, each of them set out from his home—Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. They met together to go and console and comfort him. <sup>12</sup>When they saw him from a distance, they did not recognize him, and they raised their voices and wept aloud; they tore their robes and threw dust in the air upon their heads. <sup>13</sup>They sat with him on the ground for seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his suffering was very great.

## Mark 10:13-16 NRSV

**P**eople were bringing little children to Jesus in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. <sup>14</sup>But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.’ <sup>16</sup>And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.



### 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 worship leaders:** our guest organist, the DiBartolo family for today's refreshments; Maryellen Van Royen (Communion bishop) and Kristin Miller (coffee hour bishop).

**All of us enjoy the Coffee Hour** at the close of worship. Most of us do a lot for the church (we're a small church). No matter how much else you are doing, **you too can sign up for at least one coffee hour per season**, and make the Program and Mission committee really happy.

**Thanks to Jennifer Segna** for assuming the role of Sunday School bishop for the next month or so, until Jack's sister is born! We also thank her for the **new, revitalized food collection box**, and its great monthly themes! **September is Back to School**, and the theme is...peanut butter and jelly (plastic jars, please).

**The Book of Remembrance** is open to remember dear departed members of Union Church: today, 9/27—Ernest V. Skoldberg, Sr. ; 10/4—Nancy Gatto; 10/11—Bernice Reid; 10/18—Thomas J. Ferretti; 1-/25—May Crawford; 11/1—Rev. William Gray Tolley; 11/8—Ernest Skoldberg, Jr.; 11/15—William Reppke; 11/22—Dorothy May and Frances Freeman; 11/29—Beatrice Goddard.

**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: Vince on the anniversary of the death of his father, Bud Peterson; Elizan and Areliz Morales as they begin their married life together; Edmundo and Edith Quinones; Ruby Moy and her family; Arabella Meadows-Rogers, Art Samuel, Iris Norstrand, Emile Serposs, Milford Anderson, Amanda Silverman, Bill Louisa, Helen Kretiv; also Donna, Janet, Geraldine, John and the Vandermarcq family, Mary, Jane, Helen, Sally.

### This Week and Ongoing

**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 (the next one is **tomorrow, Oct 5**).

**Yoga classes meet Monday and Wednesday evenings 6:45-8:15pm in the Parish House Chapel.** No experience necessary! Please speak to Kristin Miller.

**Don't know much about the Bible?** Teaching Sunday School is the best way we know to learn more *and* make new friends at Union Church. See Jennifer Segna today!

**“Just Strings” new Sunday quartet series opens in our Sanctuary 4pm today Oct 4:**

Miami String Quartet, in residence at Kent State and the Hart School of Music. Admission \$20

Program: Haydn “Emperor” Quartet, Op. 76 #3

Ginastera Quartet #1

Dvorak “American” Quartet, Op. 96 *contact: John Gingrich: gingarts@erols.com*

**Tonight at 7pm Vince Peterson conducts in Jazz at Lincoln Center, with Choral Chameleon and choir members from Brooklyn College! See Bruce MacIntyre or Mary Speers.**

**Support Group for Parents of Children with Special Needs** meets first Mondays at 11am in the Sanctuary, except for holidays: next meeting Monday, October 5.

**Taizé Evensong moves back to the first Tuesday of every month**, beginning 7pm **October 6**.

This year Taizé moves to our new renovated Parish House Chapel, 8101 Ridge Boulevard.

**Rescheduled session meeting tomorrow, October 5, at 7pm** in the Parish House.

**Sunday, Nov 1: “Marathon of Prayer and Praise”** Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 4<sup>th</sup> Ave/Ovington