

Welcome to the

# Union Church of Bay Ridge

of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Eightieth Street and Ridge Boulevard [www.ucbr.org](http://www.ucbr.org)

## September 5, 2010

*no longer as a slave*



*but as a beloved brother*

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 + Jennifer Kruger, 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 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 FOR THE LORD'S DAY**

### **FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**

#### **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, your breath, 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 67:5-6***

Let the peoples praise you, O God:

**Let all the peoples praise you!**

Truly the LORD our God has blessed us.

**May God continue to bless us: let all the ends of the earth revere the LORD.**

#### **✠HYMN** no. 563 *blue hymnal*

***Lift Every Voice and Sing***

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Caring God, we thank you, for you have served us so lovingly in Jesus. You have granted us a home within your congregation, a refuge, a shelter against the storms of life. There are no words to describe the wonder, the majesty of this gift. We sit in the company of saints. Yet we so often ignore the opportunities you place before us: for service, for prayer, for fellowship with one another. Instead, we create hierarchies. We insist on our rights, instead of kneeling to wash the feet of the saints in our midst. Forgive us, heal us, inspire us, that we may receive each other with the same grace and love which you have extended to us. These things we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, who came to serve and by whom we are saved...**

#### **SILENT PRAYER**

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

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

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

#### **✠SUNG RESPONSE** *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:            Philemon 1-16**

☒ **HYMN** no. 367 *blue hymnal*    *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love*

**SECOND LESSON:    Philemon 17-21**

**SERMON:                    A Useful Person**    Rev. Speers

☒ **HYMN** no. 407 *blue hymnal*    *Cuando el Pobre/When a Poor One*

## **THE OFFERING**

☒ **DOXOLOGY** no. 593 and **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Gracious God, we thank you for the gift of life, and for the gift of love you so freely give us. Please accept these gifts of love we give back to you. Use us and all our gifts to make our church, our community, our nation, and our world a place that reflects your love and your kingdom here on earth. AMEN.**

## **PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION**

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. 369 *blue hymnal*    *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

☒ **CHARGE AND BLESSING** ...and let the whole church say, **Alleluia! Amen.**

## **SENDING-FORTH 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, the preparers of today's refreshments; Jennifer Segna (Sunday School 'bishop'), Jane Fezell (Communion 'bishop'), and Liz LoPorto (coffee hour 'bishop').

**Coffee Hour Needs You!** There are **no people** signed up for coffee hour for September or October. Please sign up, then speak to Rev. Speers about reading a lesson in worship, since you know you will be in church on that day.

**The Book of Remembrance** is open to remember dear departed members: today, 9/5—Ruth Hassan; 9/12—Percival Buerk; 9/19—Winifred Kretschmann; 9/26—Ernest V. Skoldberg, Sr.

**Continue to pray for our planet and for peace;** for all living in the midst of war, poverty, natural and economic disaster, especially the homeless of Pakistan; for prisoners, those recently released from prison, and all who work and pray with them, especially the Church of Gethsemane. Also we pray for: the family and friends of Rev. John Gump, Tyler DiBartolo, Eddie Norstrand, the Presbytery of New York City, Carolyn Ramsay, Art Samuel, Iris Norstrand, Emile Serposs, Milford Anderson, Bill Louisa, Dolores Cleary, Helen Kretiv; Diget Day and Ginny Cummings and their family; David and Marion and their family; the family and friends of Jim Taylor, and of Whitney Smith; Jackson, Donna, Janet, Geraldine, Mary, Jane, Helen, Sally.

**Prayer requests** should come to the church office by telephone **718.745.0438** or email **uoffice@earthlink.net**. Please also notify the office to remove a name from the prayer list.

**Welcome Jennifer Kruger to the Union Church office!** Jennifer has extensive office experience and has been Jody's senior assistant in the Union Church playgroup for several years. Jennifer will have the same schedule as Jody did, with playgroup in the morning and office hours after noon until 2. Please call or stop by to introduce yourself.

**Pastor's office hours: 11am to 3pm Mon-Wed** and of course at other times by appointment. Rev. Speers is often in the office on those days throughout the afternoon and evening. Thursday is sermon day. There are unavoidable shifts in this schedule from time to time for visitation and various meetings, and she would love to see you, so please call first before dropping by.

## Upcoming and Ongoing Programs and Events

**Next Sunday, Sept 12 is Homecoming (back to 11am in Sanctuary with organ and choir)!**

Please invite your family and friends: our new Interim Executive Presbyter, **Tony De La Rosa**, will be visiting, and **Derrick McQueen** will be back with us for two Sundays, starting with Homecoming! In addition, we'll be welcoming **Justin Randolph**, our new bass/baritone section leader, to the choir. We'll have Presbytery guests and many friends of Union Church with us that day. Sign up today to provide the refreshments for this festive day; and then,

**Sunday School Opening Celebration** with commissioning of teachers and students: Sunday, **September 19 in 11am worship!** All teachers and students for the year, please be in church on time: the commissioning will begin promptly, followed by the first Sunday School lesson downstairs in the Sunday School room. Who will sign up for coffee hour on that day?

**Yoga resumes soon in the Parish House Chapel.** See Kristin Miller Lynch for the fall schedule.

**Taizé evensong resumes October 5 in the Sanctuary.** Ask Vince Peterson or Lynn Penney!