

Welcome to the

Union Church of Bay Ridge

of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Eightieth Street and Ridge Boulevard www.ucbr.org

September 19, 2010

HANDS to WORK



HEARTS to GOD

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 + 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 SIXTEENTH 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. Today, as part of our gathering music, Vince Peterson will teach us some of the new service music he has been composing for Union Church!

✠CALL TO WORSHIP

read by four voices and a leader

✠HYMN no. 291

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *written by a child for use in worship*

**Jesus Christ: we confess to you now
the wrong things we have done,
the wrong things we have said,
the wrong in our hearts.**

Please forgive us and help us to live as you want us to. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Friends, God knows our needs before we ask. God loves us more than our hearts and minds can imagine. Believe the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

This is God's house: a place of peace, a place where we befriend one another in the name of Christ.

We enter as strangers, we leave as friends.

✠THE PEACE OF CHRIST

please turn and share the Peace of Christ with your neighbors

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

composed for Union Church by Vince Peterson

***Speak, O Lord, and I will hear you: let your will be done indeed.
May I undisturbed draw near you, while you do your people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows: here is balm for all our woes.***

FIRST LESSON: Job 28:20-28

Derrick McQueen

ANTHEM

Teach Me the Songs of Your Truth

David Haas

SECOND LESSON: James 3:13-18

READING *the four voices continue...*

SHARING THE WORD OF GOD *(in pairs, with a person sitting near you)*

Answer these questions:

Who has been your favorite teacher?

What has been the most difficult thing you have learned in life?

How do you describe a wise person?

Write down your answers to the last question...

DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH SCHOOL

Church School teachers and students are invited to come forward at this time.

The worship leader, using the words from the congregation on wisdom, creates a litany with the response: "May God grant you wisdom," praying for teachers, students, and the support of the whole congregation in the educational ministry of the church. The children leave singing...

☒HYMN no. 338

Kum ba Yah

INTERPRETING THE WORD OF GOD

Derrick McQueen and Mary Speers

"Who Is a Wise Person?"

☒HYMN no. 339

Be Thou My Vision

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...

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(debts)*

Hymnal p. 16

OFFERTORY *Will You Come and Follow Me?* verses 1-3 John Bell, for the Iona community

☒DOXOLOGY no. 593 and PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty God, everything we have comes from you. Whatever we do we owe to your Spirit, the life you have placed within us. Follow then these gifts with your blessing, and accept our hearts and our lives as offerings returned to you, that your kingdom come, for we pray in the strong name of Jesus. AMEN.

☒HYMN *(insert)* last two verses

Will You Come and Follow 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: Derrick McQueen, Vince Peterson and the choir, Liz LoPorto and the preparers of today's refreshments; Jane Fezell (communion 'bishop'), Jennifer Segna (Sunday School 'bishop'), and Liz LoPorto (coffee hour 'bishop').

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, Lorrie Green, 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; David and Marion and their family, the family and friends of Jim Taylor and Whitney Smith, Jackson, Donna, Janet, Geraldine, Mary, Jane, Helen, Sally.

The Book of Remembrance is open to remember dear departed members of the Union Church family: Today, 9/ 19—Winnifred Kretschmann; 9/26—Ernest V. Skoldberg, Sr.; 10/3—Nancy Gatto; 10/10—Bernice Reid; 10/17—Thomas J. Ferretti; 10/24—May Crawford; 10/31—Dorothy May and Frances Freeman; 11/7—William Reppke; 11/14—Rev. William Gray Tolley; 11/21—Ernest Skoldberg, Jr.; 11/28—Beatrice Goddard.

Prayer requests should come to the church office by telephone **718.745.0438** or email **ucoffice@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 1:30. She will also be in on Friday mornings. 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

Bible Study resumes this Wednesday in the pastor's study in the Parish House: after September, the group meets on second and fourth Wednesdays at 7pm.

Yoga resumes on Wednesdays 6:45-8:15. No experience necessary for this gentle, restorative class. \$15/session, pay as you go; bring a mat and a towel, and wear comfortable clothes.

Taizé evensong resumes Wednesday, October 6 at 7pm in the Sanctuary, and continues every first Wednesday through the year.

Celebrate Banned Books Week by reading a book that was once banned! What is it? The Bible in English! Read your Bible September 25-October 2!, and then keep on reading...

World Communion Sunday is Sunday, October 3. This is the day of the **Peacemaking Offering** in the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.: "If you want peace, work for justice."

Congregations get to keep 25 percent of their offering for local mission.

World Communion Sunday is also our **ninth anniversary** together here at Union Church!