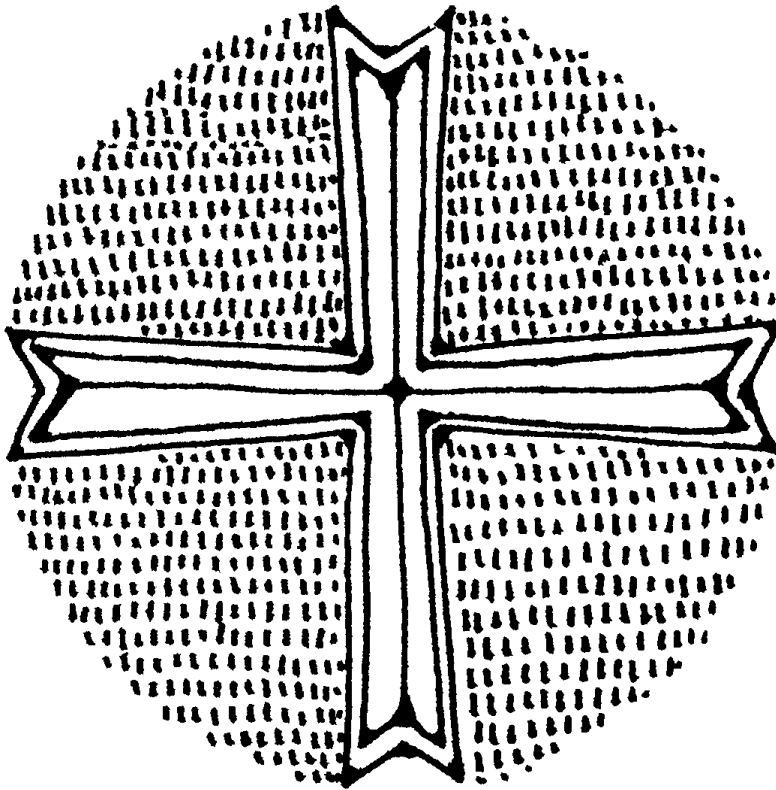


welcome to the

Union Church of Bay Ridge

of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Eightieth Street and Ridge Boulevard

MARCH 13, 2011



I LENT

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 may have life, and that more abundantly.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

I LENT

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 Jeremiah 1:4-10

The word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, saying:

**"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you,
and before you were born, I consecrated you.**

Do not say, 'I am only a child,' for you shall go out to all to whom I send you.

"Do not be afraid, for I am with you to deliver you," says the LORD.

"See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,

To pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

✠HYMN no. 377 *C. Gabaráin, chaplain to Pope Paul VI* **Tú Has Venido /Lord, You Have Come**

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Mysterious God, we give you thanks for your constancy no matter how many times, and in what ways, we have broken your covenant with us. We are grateful for life and love and all the many blessings you shower down upon the just and the unjust alike. In these days of Lent, bind us closer to you and to all your children. Take away the power over us of the sins we think too much about, and direct our attention to the sins we never notice because we are used to them. In your mercy, lead us through repentance and restitution to resurrection, the abundant life of the Way of the Cross of Jesus Christ our Lord...

SILENT PRAYER

LENTEN KYRIE no. 573 *(call and response):*

Lord, have mercy (2); Christ, have mercy (2); Lord, have mercy (2).

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

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

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Bruce MacIntyre will introduce Lenten Mystery Pals)*

SUNG PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *composed for Union Church by Vince Peterson*
Speak, O Lord, and we will hear you: let your will be done indeed.
May we undisturbed draw near you, with your Word your people feed.
Here of life the fountain flows: here is balm for all our woes.

FIRST LESSON Numbers 11:23-30

ANTHEM

SECOND LESSON James 5:7-11, 13-18

SERMON Elder Vision Rev. Speers

✠HYMN no. 398 *by Doris Akers* *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

Class of 2014: Michelle Gibbens and Jill Stoler

✠THE PEACE OF CHRIST *please exchange the Peace of Christ with the new elders*

OFFERTORY

✠DOXOLOGY no. 592 and PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Merciful God, we dedicate all our gifts as an expression of our trust in you. You alone know our hearts, and you more than any human being love us. May our offerings draw us closer to you, and spread a table of bounty before all who come closer to you through our giving, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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. 129 *by Janie Alford: in verse 2, please sing "hosannas" for "alleluias"* *Come, O Spirit*

✠CHARGE AND BLESSING

...and let the whole church say simply: Amen.

MUSIC FOR GOING FORTH *please keep silence; the musicians offer their music to the glory of God.*

✠please rise in body or in spirit; 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.

Today we ordain and install Michelle Gibbens and Jill Stoler to the class of 2014 of the Union Church session. Please thank these new elders, and **Michele DiBartolo, Class of 2011**, who has served three years as **Clerk of Session** and property “**bishop**,” for their service.

March is Women’s History Month and Latin American History Month. Look for contributions from women and the Spanish-speaking world in our worship services, and invite all your family and friends to our Spanish-themed choir concert, 4pm on Sunday, April 3!

Many thanks to all leaders: Vince Peterson and the choir, the preparers of today’s refreshments, Jennifer Segna (Sunday School ‘bishop’), Jane Feazell (Communion ‘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; for the people of the Middle East and Africa; for the people of Arizona and Wisconsin; for prisoners, those recently released from prison, and all who work and pray with them, especially Rev. Diane Lacey and the Church of Gethsemane. Also we pray for: Carmelo diBartolo (knee surgery this week), the Miller/Morgan family, the Morales/Torres family, Eddie Norstrand, the Presbytery of New York City and Tony de la Rosa, Carolyn Ramsay, Iris Norstrand, Emile Serposs, Milford Anderson, Bill Louisa, Dolores Cleary; the family and friends of David Blackshear, Leida Luz and her donor’s family, Tim, Molly, Jessica, Norman, Diane, Jackson, Donna, Janet, Jane, Helen, Sally.

The Book of Remembrance is open to remember dear departed members of the Union Church family: today, 3/13—June Aram; 3/20—Janet Louisa; 3/27—Helene Ogourek.

Union Church office hours: 12-1:30 M-W and 9-11 Fri. Jennifer is in playgroup 9-12 M-Th

Pastor’s office hours: 11am to 3pm Mon-Wed. Sometimes this schedule changes 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

Today is the day to pick up your **Lenten Mystery Pal’s** name slip. Remember, in order to *have* a Mystery Pal, you must **BE** a Mystery Pal. Blank slips and The Box are on the back table. Many thanks to Bruce MacIntyre for introducing this Union Church tradition!

This afternoon: *She Sings!* Vince Peterson’s chamber choir **Choral Chameleon** in a concert of music composed by women at Fourth Universalist Church, Central Park West at 76th St, 5-7pm.

Adult Bible Study with Bay Ridge United and Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church at Redeemer-St John’s Lutheran Church, 83rd St between 7th and 10th Aves in Dyker Heights, Tuesday 6-8pm.

Joint Session Meeting (outgoing and incoming elders together) 7pm March 28 in the Parish House.

Lenten Concert is Sunday, April 3 at 4pm including *Missa Criolla* of Argentine composer Ariel Ramirez, with music of five centuries from the Spanish-speaking world.

Next Taizé Evensong Wednesday, April 6 at 7pm in the Sanctuary (first Wednesdays).

Holy Week begins with Palm/Passion Sunday on April 17.

Maundy Thursday is April 21: Union Church Passover Seder reenactment of the first Lord’s Supper, with dinner and communion, 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

Mark your calendars: Easter is April 24.