

Welcome to your spirit's home...

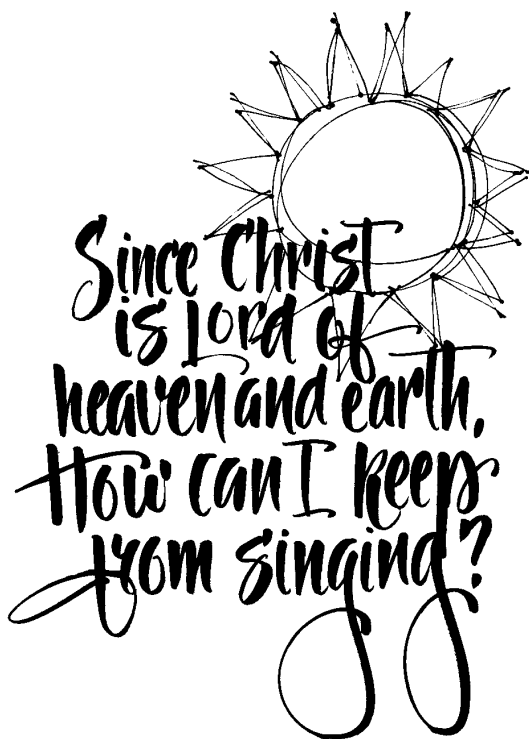
# Union Church of Bay Ridge

of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.

Eightieth Street and Ridge Boulevard, Brooklyn, New York

## Christ the King

### November 22, 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

### 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 Psalm 93*

The LORD is king, the LORD is robed in majesty:  
**The LORD is robed, the LORD is girded with strength;**  
More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters,  
More majestic than the waves of the sea,  
**Majestic on high is the LORD.**

### +HYMN no. 559

*We Gather Together*

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION *(please be seated)*

**Most loving and gracious God, for the way on which you lead us, for the abundant life you give us, and for the hope of the Resurrection promised us in Christ Jesus, we thank you. For your gifts of life and love, of labor and rest, we praise your holy name. Forgive us that too often we are ungrateful while your goodness surrounds us; that we feel pity only for ourselves while your love is for all your children; that we despair while your strength is near at hand. Tear down the walls that isolate us, make strong the ties that bind us, and help us to walk together with joy in all your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose strong name we pray...**

### SILENT PRAYER

### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

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

**SUNG RESPONSE no. 576** *a Gloria ordinarily follows the Assurance. This one is from Taizé:*  
***Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest...Alleluia, Alleluia.***

### +THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Elder Bruce MacIntyre

### 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: Daniel 7:9-10,13-14**

### ANTHEM

*His Name Is Wonderful*

Audrey Meier

**SECOND LESSON: Revelation 1:4-11**

### SERMON

**Do We Really Need a King?**

Rev. Speers

**+HYMN no. 153**

*He Is King of Kings*

### OFFERTORY

*How Can I Keep from Singing?*

Traditional Quaker hymn

**+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.**

### 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

*blue hymnal p. 16: "debts"*

**+HYMN IN RECESSION no. 423**

*Jesus Shall Reign*

**+CHARGE AND BLESSING**

...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.*

**The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God by Olive and Dan Reich,  
in loving memory of Rev. William Gray Tolley,  
pastor of this church 1968-1992**

## Daniel 7:9-10,13-14 NRSV

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**A**s I watched,  
thrones were set in place,  
and an Ancient One took his throne;  
his clothing was white as snow,  
and the hair of his head like pure wool;  
his throne was fiery flames,  
and its wheels were burning fire.

<sup>10</sup>A stream of fire issued  
and flowed out from his presence.  
A thousand thousand served him,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.  
The court sat in judgement,  
and the books were opened.

<sup>13</sup>As I watched in the night visions,  
I saw one like a human being  
coming with the clouds of heaven.  
And he came to the Ancient One  
and was presented before him.

<sup>14</sup>To him was given dominion  
and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one  
that shall never be destroyed.

## Revelation 1:1-8 NRSV

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**T**he revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place; he made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, <sup>2</sup>who testified to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. <sup>3</sup>Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of the prophecy, and blessed are those who hear and who keep what is written in it; for the time is near.

<sup>4</sup>John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup>Look! He is coming with the clouds;  
every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him;  
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.  
So it is to be. Amen.

<sup>8</sup> 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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### **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:** Vince Peterson and the choir, Jill Stoler 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.

**Food collection season is upon us, and the November theme is "Cornucopia", which means "horn of plenty." Give thanks to God by bringing canned goods to share.**

**The Book of Remembrance** is open to remember dear departed members of Union Church: today, 11/22—Dorothy May and Frances Freeman; 11/29—Beatrice Goddard; 12/6—Nancy Gatto; 12/13—Andrew Stutz; 12/20—Jean Dangman; 12/27—Josephine Coury; 1/3—Olive Buerk; 1/10—Emma Kirk Beck; 1/17—Edward Norstrand; 1/24—Leinda Mouacdie; 1/31—Virginia Villano.

**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, especially the people of San Juan, Puerto Rico; for prisoners and all who watch and pray for them, especially the Church of Gethsemane. Continue to pray for/stay in touch with: Vince Peterson, New York City Presbytery, 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**

**Today is the second Sunday of the stewardship season**, a month in which we reflect on our use of all God gives us, in preparation for making our pledges on **GIFTS SUNDAY, December 13**.

**Community Thanksgiving eve services this Wednesday, November 25:** all are invited to any of these: Christ Episcopal, 73<sup>rd</sup> and Ridge, service with choir 7:30pm; Redeemer-St John's Lutheran Church, 939 83<sup>rd</sup> St, 7:30pm; Leif Erikson Day School, 1037 72<sup>nd</sup> St., community feast 5:45pm (\$5-\$3 plus one canned good per person) and worship at 7pm.

**Advent is almost upon us!** Highlights: Next Sunday, Nov 29 (Thanksgiving Sunday) is the first Sunday in Advent. Saturday, Dec 5, 9-1 is Wreath-making. Sunday afternoon at 4pm, Dec 6, is the second string quartet concert. Sunday December 13 at 3pm, we are invited to a community Lessons and Carols service at St Andrew's Roman Catholic Church; and our Manger Service with animal blessing, our Union Church Sing-It-Yourself *Messiah* (sing along with the choir), and Manse Christmas party are all at various times on Sunday, December 20. Watch for details!

**Bible Study** meets 7-8pm every other Tuesday in the Parish House. Next date: **December 1**.

**Yoga classes meet Wednesday 6:45-8:15pm in the Parish House Chapel.**

**Next Session meeting Monday, December 7, at 7pm** in the Parish House.

**Taizé Evensong first Tuesdays**, next at 7pm **Dec 1** in our Parish House Chapel, 8101 Ridge Blvd.

Note: December 8 date in **last week's bulletin was incorrect. It's December 1!**

**Support group for parents of children with special needs: skips December; meets January 4.**