

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 23, 2008

Union Church Chapel, Parish House and Office  
8101 Ridge Boulevard at Eighty-First Street, Brooklyn, NY 11209  
[www.ucbr.org](http://www.ucbr.org) ❖ [unionchurch@earthlink.net](mailto:unionchurch@earthlink.net) ❖ 718.745.0438

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

*adapted from Psalm 99:1-5*

The LORD is King: let the peoples tremble!

**The LORD is great in Zion, and is exalted over all!**

Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is the LORD.

**Extol the LORD our God; worship at God's footstool. Holy is the LORD.**

### ✦HYMN no. 153

*He Is King of Kings*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY *(please be seated)*

**O Christ, you are King of the Ages, King of All Creation, reigning in majesty and glory, enthroned in human hearts where you rule in gentleness and love. We confess that we have not lived the ways of your kingdom, nor have we announced your gracious rule. We have been overawed by the kingdoms of this world and allowed them to reign over us. Forgive us, O Christ: set our feet on the paths of humility and righteousness, and lead us henceforth in the ways of justice and peace, for in our hearts we would receive you: are King of Kings and Lord of Lords, all in all...**

### 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 sung Glory to God follows the Assurance. This one is from Taizé:*

*Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest...Alleluia, Alleluia.*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Jill Stoler

## 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:** Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

**PSALM ANTHEM** *The Lord Is My Light* Scott Morwitz, tenor J.S. Bach

**SECOND LESSON:** Matthew 25:31-46

**SERMON** **Goats in Sheeps' Clothing** Rev. Speers

✚**HYMN** no. 374 *Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace*

**RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS** Liz and Nick LoPorto

✚**THE PEACE OF CHRIST** *please extend the Peace of Christ to Liz and Nick and your neighbors*

**OFFERTORY** *God, My Shepherd, Walks Beside Me* Erika Lloyd, soprano J.S. Bach

✚**DOXOLOGY** no. 592 and **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Blessing and honor and glory and power are yours, O God. Grant that we may praise and serve you with the songs of our lips, the service of our lives, and the gifts of our treasure, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

### 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

*Hymnal p. 16: "debts"*

✚**HYMN** no. 157 *Jesús Es Mi Rey Soberano/Our King and our Sovereign*

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

✚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: the Sunday School teachers; Vince Peterson and the choir; Bruce MacIntyre for today's refreshments; Malcolm Tannahill and the ushers; 'bishops' Mary Cusack (Communion) Kristin Miller-Lynch (coffee hour), and Michele Di Bartolo (Sunday School).

**The Book of Remembrance** is open to remember: 11/16—Rev. William Gray Tolley; 11/23—Dorothy May and Frances Freeman; 11/30—Beatrice Goddard.

**Prayer List** requests should come to the church office by telephone **718.745.0438**.

**Continue to pray for peace;** 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: Theresa and the Attara family, Vince and the Peterson family, the Cleary family, Art Samuel and Mary Chamberlain, Iris Norstrand, Emile Serposs, Milford Anderson, Nazik David, Barbara Briggs, Amanda Silverman, Bill Louisa, Helen Kretiv; also Audrey, Helen, Wendy, Sally, Michelle, Kevin. Please call the office to make changes to the prayer list.

**Warren Gatto is engaged!** Letters of congratulation may be sent to him and Shin Oh Kang, his fiancée, at 6614 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11204 or wgatto@aol.com.

**Give food for free on line:** [www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com) and [www.thehungersite.com](http://www.thehungersite.com) are fun, interactive sites where you can take a vocabulary quiz and donate rice for each correct answer (no charge), or just keep clicking repeatedly, not even a quiz, and give food for free that way. Any other sites like that please email [unionchurch@earthlink.net](mailto:unionchurch@earthlink.net) and if we can we'll publish them!

**Holiday Food Bank:** canned goods, especially tuna fish and plastic-jar peanut butter, are most welcome. Think portable, easy to store, not requiring pots and pans (or even can openers). The food collection box is on the table in the Sanctuary vestibule.

### This Week and Ongoing

**Session meets fourth Mondays: next is TOMORROW, Nov 24, at 7pm in the Parish House.**

**Bible study at Redeemer-St. John's Lutheran Church, 939 83<sup>rd</sup> St,** every Wednesday at 11am.

**Tuesday evening fortnightly Bible study** next meeting 7pm Tuesday, December 2, in Rev. Speers's study, Union Church Parish House, one block south at 8101 Ridge Boulevard. The group is concentrating on Advent readings.

**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 December 1).

**Yoga continues on Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:45-8:15 in the Sanctuary.** No experience or advance registration is needed for this gentle, restorative class. Each evening is \$15, pay as you go; wear comfortable clothes and bring a towel and a yoga mat if you have one.

### Looking to the Future

**Advent is just around the corner!** The first Sunday in Advent is Thanksgiving weekend, Nov 30. Advent plans include wreathmaking Sat, Dec 6, Gifts Sunday with Stewardship Dedication Dec 14, Conrad Susa's chancel opera *The Wise Women* 4pm Dec 14, the Union Church Manger Service 11am Sunday, Dec 21, the Manse Christmas Party and carolling after worship Dec 21, and our "midnight" Christmas Eve Communion service with carols, candles, and choir, 10:30pm Wed, Dec 24.