

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)



Pentecost, by Tana Cadena-Vuignier

## Pentecost: May 11, 2008

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The Reverend Mary Barrett Speers, Pastor ❖ Vince Peterson, Minister of Music  
Ed Huml, BRUCA Program Director ❖ Jody Levine, 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 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**

### **THE DAY OF PENTECOST**

**GATHERING MUSIC:** *This Pentecost, welcome to new life together in the power of the Holy Spirit! 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.*

**CHORAL INTROIT** *Hymnal no. 125 v. 1 Come, Holy Spirit Plainsong Mode VIII arr. H. Willan*

#### **+CALL TO WORSHIP**

adapted from **Psalm 104:24** and **30**

○ LORD, how manifold are your works!

**In wisdom you have made them all: the earth is full of your creatures.**

When you send forth your Spirit, they are created;

**In the breath of your Spirit you renew the face of the ground.**

#### **+HYMN no. 323**

*Loving Spirit*

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

**God who gave us birth, you know us and love us as only a mother can. You feed our bodies with your body. Your Spirit gives each one of us a song to sing that the world has never heard before. Lead us into joyful company with those who at all times, and in all places, have praised your name. Forgive the ways in which our lives are out of tune. Reassure us that our flaws are no worse, and no better, than those of our forbears, who, like us, were always a little sharp or flat. Remind us of our true voices. Tune our wills to your will, that we may ring out all the changes of your abundant life, pouring forth in all the world the radiant harmonies of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, whose love is the only tuning fork we need...**

#### **SILENT PRAYER**

#### **ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE**

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

**+RESPONSE no. 576: *Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest...Alleluia!***  
*sung as a canon, once in unison, then twice more: soprano, tenor, alto, bass: total of 3 times.*

#### **+THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*please exchange 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:** Acts 2:1-4,14-21

**ANTHEM** *I Will Not Leave You Comfortless*

Everett Titcomb

**SECOND LESSON:** I Corinthians 12:4-13

**SERMON** One Voice at a Time

Rev. Speers

**SONG** no. 319 (*a church camp song from the '70s, sing refrain every two verses*)

*Spirit*

**OFFERTORY** *Peter, Go Ring-a Dem Bells*

African American Spiritual

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

**Almighty God, you who have come with the Holy Spirit and with power, and who with the eternal life of Jesus have given us all things: help us, we pray, with all our gifts to yield ourselves unto you, so that with our whole selves we may truly serve you, and in your service find our deepest joy, through Christ Jesus, our Risen Lord, whose spirit is alive in us, his body. AMEN.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: 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 IN RECESSION** no. 315 *and here's a third verse... Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

Verse 3: *Oh I have sorrows, and I have woe, and I have heartaches here below;*

*But my God leads me, I'm in God's care, and I can feel God everywhere!*

*Oh, every time I feel the Spirit...*

**✚CHARGE AND BEDICTION**

...and let the whole church say,

**Alleluia! Amen.**

**✚CHORAL RESPONSE** Hymnal no. 125 v. 4 *Come, Holy Spirit* Plainsong Mode VIII arr. H. Willan

**MUSIC FOR GOING FORTH**

*please keep silence out of kindness to those who wish to listen or pray. Some of us like to applaud in gratitude to God; please bear in mind that the musicians are also offering their music in gratitude to God. What's the best way to let church musicians know you appreciate them? Sit up front and sing out in all the hymns!*

**✚ all who would like to may stand; Unison prayers are in bold.**

## Acts 2:1-4,14-21 NRSV

**W**hen the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>'In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord  
shall be saved.'"

## 1 Corinthians 12:4-13 NRSV

**N**ow there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup>and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup>and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup>To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup>To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup>to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup>to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup>All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.



*Today's flowers bloom in the garden and are given by God,  
who is Mother to us all...visit the garden today and give thanks to God who gave us life.  
Happy Mothers' Day!*

**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.

**Large print bulletins** are now available, thanks to our updated computer capabilities!

**This is the last Sunday of the Easter season**, and so the last Sunday of color bulletins for awhile.

Several members of the Union Church family have contributed art; there are more of you out there! If you would like to offer a drawing or painting for a particular Sunday, ask Rev. Speers.

**Many thanks** to all leaders: Vince Peterson and the choir; the ushers; Tana Cadena-Vuignier for this week's Pentecost art; Jill Stoler for today's refreshments; Mary Cusack (Communion 'bishop'), Isabel Morales (Sunday School 'bishop') and Kristin Miller-Lynch (coffee hour 'bishop').

**The Book of Remembrance** is open to remember dear departed members of Union Church: today, May 11—Clara Yagian; 5/18—Edith Jensen; 5/25—Charles Masterson; 6/1—John Ward; 6/8—Laura Cramer; 6/15—Ruth Cranstoun; 6/22—Madeline Stutz; 6/29—Estelle McKay; 7/6—Alice Johnston; 7/13—Jennie Thompson; 7/20—Warren Dean; 7/27—David Alekel.

**Continue to pray for our planet and for peace;** for all living in the midst of war, poverty, natural and economic disaster; for prisoners, those recently released from prison, and all who work and pray with them, especially the Church of Gethsemane. Also we pray for and stay in touch with: Rachel, Bill and Dolores Cleary; Milford Anderson, Bill Louisa, Iris Norstrand, Evelyn Riccio, Carolyn Ramsay, Emile Serposs, Nazik David, Barbara Briggs, Amanda Silverman, Helen Kretiv; Eleanor, Marion and David, Jenny, Barbara, Arabella, Lance, Craig and family, Lorrie, Steve, Cathy, James, Nick, Arthur, Sharon, Paul, Jon, Bud, Jane, Rick, and Kendra.

**Session Members, The rescheduled session meeting is Monday, May 20, at 7pm.**

**This Week or Monthly**

**Tomorrow, May 12: Program/Mission 6:30pm, also deadline for June-July newsletter.**

**Spring Pops Concert next Sunday, May 18, 4 pm, the Mel-O-Chords Sing the Beatles and Others Monday, May 20 at 7pm: rescheduled session meeting, replaces 4/28 AND 6/2.**

**Midweek Bible study, 11am Wednesdays at Redeemer-St John's Lutheran Church** 939 83<sup>rd</sup> Street in Dyker Heights. The group is exploring different characters from the Bible, using *Peculiar Treasures* by Frederick Buechner as a springboard. To join the carpool ask Rev. Speers.

**Yoga** meets two days a week: **Monday and Wednesday 6:45-8:15.** Call Kristin Miller 745.6594

**As of this month, our newsletters** are available on our brand new **website, [www.ucbr.org](http://www.ucbr.org).**

**The Union Church 2008 Directory** is in production. You will be receiving a printout of your information as it will appear in the directory. Please add/change/delete anything you want to.

**Please indicate on this printout if you would like to have your newsletter come by email,** even if you have already told the office so, just to make sure.

**Looking to the Future**

**Shall the Picnic be on June 1 or June 8? Let's take a straw poll in worship today.**

**Art and Spirituality, Thursdays in June:** no experience or "talent" necessary! see Lynn Penney to register for this four-week evening miniseries, \$15 materials fee per week, pay as you go, 6:30-8:00 pm June 5, 12, 19, and 26.

**Sunday, June 15: Fathers' Day and Last Day in Sanctuary until Homecoming September 14!**