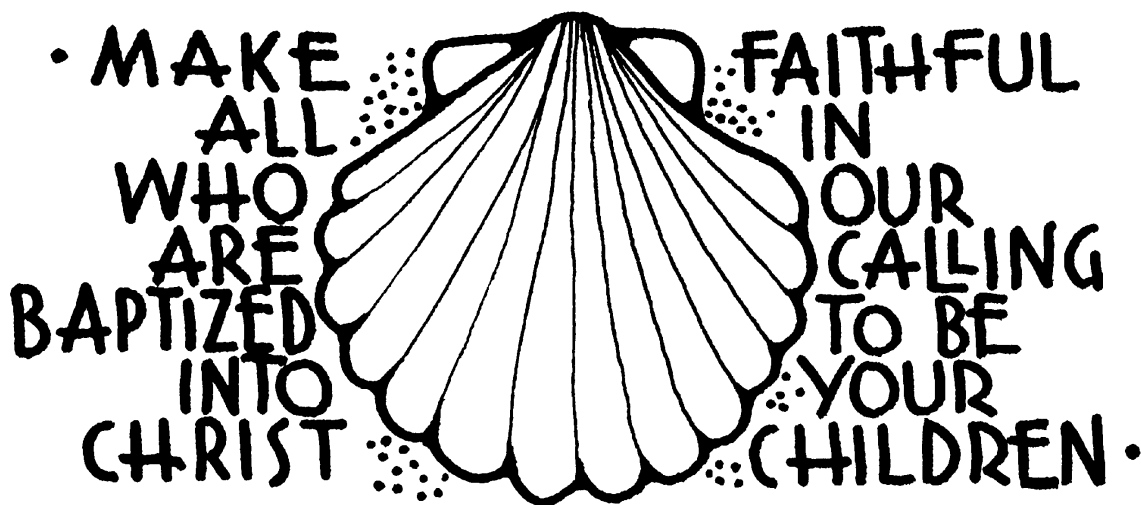


Welcome to the
Union Church of Bay Ridge

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

VI Easter



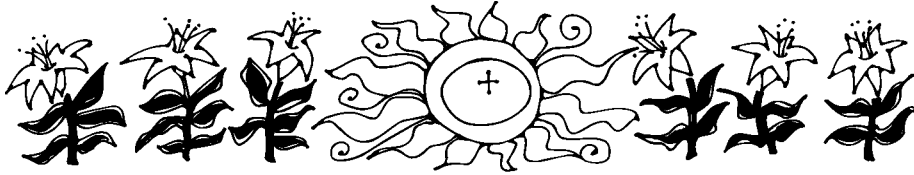
May 17, 2009

Parish House, Bay Ridge-Union Center for the Arts (BRUCA) and Office
8101 Ridge Boulevard, Brooklyn, NY 11209

718.745.0438

unionchurch@earthlink.net

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



Sixth Sunday Of Easter

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

GATHERING MUSIC: *This Easter season, welcome to the joy and hope of the Resurrection! 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. Be aware of being together in silence with others. Feel the spirit of the community.*

✦CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Psalm 98

We gather together to sing to the Lord a new song.

For the God we know has done marvelous things.

God's steadfast love and faithfulness is remembered unto us.

Let us sing the melodies of praise unto our God.

Come sing out, clap hands as the walls cry out,

The presence of the Lord is here! So come let us worship.

✦HYMN no. 494

Out of Deep, Unordered Water

PRAYER OF ADORATION and CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(please be seated)*

"I am thirsty" has been the cry of the world for ages. How is it that we have the Living Water and have kept it to ourselves. As we look at our actions it is clear that we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves, as we love you. We have let the thirsty ones cry as we clasp our full cups. We have held onto our extra bounty in case we need it for a rainy day, while others have gone without. We have taken a rest from your call to serve, simply because we are tired. These things we see in ourselves we give over to you in hope that Your grace will once again cover us, for we pray in the strong name of Jesus...

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Come beneath the flowing waters...as we know and say with grateful joy,
We are forgiven, we are forgiven: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

SUNG RESPONSE: *chorus of no. 119:*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

✦THE PEACE OF CHRIST

please turn and share 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: John 15:1-8

ANTHEM

If Ye Love Me

Thomas Tallis

SECOND LESSON: Acts 8:26-40

SERMON:

Water Will Flow

Derrick McQueen

✦**HYMN** no. 350

Fill My Cup

OFFERTORY

Love Bade Me Welcome (George Herbert, 1593-1633) R. Vaughan Williams

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

God who gave us birth, we thank you that in Jesus you raise us to new life. May we awaken, this new day, to new ways to love and serve you, pouring forth our selves in Christ. Use us, and these offerings, to your glory, and follow them with your blessing, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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. 369

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

✦**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

...and let the whole church say, **Alleluia! Amen.**

MUSIC FOR GOING FORTH

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 musicians offer their music to the glory of God.

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

John 15:9-17 NRSV *Jesus continues speaking to the disciples at the Last Supper*

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

Acts 10:44-48 *Luke continues his narrative of the early Church*

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Love Bade Me Welcome

Rev^d George Herbert, 1593-1632

Love bade me welcome, yet my soul drew back,
Guilty of dust and sin.
But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack
From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning
If I lack'd anything.

"A guest," I answer'd, "worthy to be here;"
Love said, "You shall be he."
"I, the unkind, the ungrateful? ah my dear,
I cannot look on thee."
Love took my hand and smiling did reply,
"Who made the eyes but I?"

"Truth, Lord, but I have marr'd them; let my shame
Go where it doth deserve."
"And know you not," says Love, "who bore the blame?"
"My dear, then I will serve."
"You must sit down," says Love, "and taste my meat."
So I did sit and eat.

Announcements

Visitors, welcome! Please join us after worship for refreshments and conversation, and please sign the guest book in the back of the Sanctuary so that we may get to know you better.

Many thanks to all worship leaders: Derrick McQueen; Vince Peterson and the choir; the preparers of today's refreshments; Maryellen Van Royen (Communion 'bishop'), Kristin Miller (coffee hour 'bishop') and Michele DiBartolo (Sunday school 'bishop').

The Book of Remembrance is open to remember: today, 5/17—Edith Jensen; 5/24—Charles Masterson; 5/31—Laura Cramer.

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

We note with sadness the death of Ruby Moy's mother on May 4. Condolences may be sent to Ruby at 255 79th Street, Apt. D7, Brooklyn, NY 11209.

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: Ruby Moy and her family, the family and friends of the Parente family (formerly of Bay Ridge), Arabella Meadows-Rogers, Art Samuel, Iris Norstrand, Emile Serposs, Milford Anderson, Nazik David, Amanda Silverman, Bill Louisa, Helen Kretiv; also the family and friends of Jaye and Violet, the Vandermarcq family, Bob and Louise, Ed, Mark and Audrey, Helen, Wendy, Sally.

Session meets June 1 (the fourth Monday, May 25, is Memorial Day) at 7pm in the Parish House.

Upcoming Happenings and Opportunities

Please welcome Derrick McQueen to our pulpit. Derrick brings greetings from **St James Presbyterian Church in Harlem, Presbyterian Welcome,** and **Rev. Jo Tolley**. He is also a gifted musician and a great preacher! Rev Speers is in London for a week, returning next Sunday.

Today at 4 pm: Spring Pops Concert: last concert of the 2008-2009 season!

Fortnightly Tuesday Bible Study meets every other Tuesday at 7pm. The group will be in recess May 18, and will have its year-end dinner and birthday celebration June 2.

Wednesday midweek Bible Study, 11am at Redeemer-St John's Lutheran church, 939 83rd St.

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: **June 1** is the next meeting.

Yoga continues on Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:45-8:15 in the Sanctuary. Each class is \$15, pay as you go; wear comfortable clothes and bring a towel and a yoga mat if you have one.

Want to learn more about the Bible and enrich your own worship experience? Consider taking one morning of Sunday school, one Sunday between now and the second week of June.

Sunday, May 31 Pentecost: WEAR SOMETHING RED IN HONOR OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!!!

May 31 at 4pm: Presbyterian Welcome service at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church...

Sunday, June 14: Strawberry Fields Picnic in the park at 79th St and Shore Road: Jane Feazell, picnic "bishop". Bring a picnic dish and juice or soft drinks to serve 6 (8 if you have a big family), *bring your own folding chairs*, outdoor games if you have them. Ice, plates, cups, forks, spoons and knives provided. Strawberry-themed items, and anything red, including Union Church T-shirts, are particularly appropriate.

Sunday, June 21: Fathers' Day and Last Day in Sanctuary until Homecoming, September 13
Stay tuned for another big surprise event on Fathers' Day or thereabouts....

Sunday, June 28: Summer Worship Hours begin in our air-conditioned—and completely renovated—chapel, 10am June 28-September 6.