

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)

## Trinity



## May 18, 2008

Parish House, Bay Ridge-Union Center for the Arts (BRUCA) and Office  
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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

### TRINITY

#### 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.*

**CHORAL INTROIT** *introducing* Stand Up, Friends      words: Brian Wren; music: David Haas

#### +CALL TO WORSHIP

*adapted from Psalm 8*

Creator God, in whose image we are made, help us reflect your love.

**How majestic is your name in all the earth!**

Redeemer God, reconciling all creation to yourself, draw us closer to you.

**How majestic is your name in all the earth!**

Sanctifying God, sustain us with your love; guide us in your ways of mercy and peace.

**How majestic is your name in all the earth!**

#### +OPENING HYMN no. 139

*Come, Thou Almighty King*

#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**Holy God, the whole creation proclaims your majesty. The universe is your holy temple; your creatures receive life from you; none can live apart from you. Source of all power and might, source of redeeming grace and goodness, remove from us all fear that closes our eyes to the face of Christ in our neighbor, all complacency that closes our ears to your call to change. Make us secure in your unconditional love, so that we freely turn from the wrong, and toward the right, trusting in your good will and the guidance of your Spirit, that we may live in fellowship with all your children as we follow Jesus, to whom we are pledged and 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. AMEN.**

#### +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: Genesis 1:1-2:4a**

### ANTHEM

*Where Thou Reignest*

Franz Schubert

**SECOND LESSON: Matthew 28:16-20**

### SERMON

**Trinity Sunday**

Rev. Speers

## ✚HYMN *(insert)*

***Stand Up, Friends***

### OFFERTORY

*God Is Unique and One*

Martin Shaw

## ✚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"*

## ✚CLOSING HYMN no. 138

***Holy! Holy! Holy!***

## ✚CHARGE AND BLESSING

...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 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.*

## Genesis 1:1-2:4a

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>6</sup>And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." <sup>7</sup>So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. <sup>8</sup>God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup>And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. <sup>10</sup>God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup>Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. <sup>12</sup>The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

<sup>14</sup>And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. <sup>16</sup>God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup>God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup>to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup>And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." <sup>21</sup>So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup>God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." <sup>23</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup>And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. <sup>25</sup>God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." <sup>27</sup>So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup>God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." <sup>29</sup>God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup>And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. <sup>31</sup>God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

<sup>1</sup>Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup>And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. <sup>3</sup>So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

<sup>4</sup>These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

**Matthew 28:16-20**

<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

## **Stand Up, Friends**

A new hymn for Trinity

Text: Brian Wren

Music: David Haas

**Praise the God who changes places,  
Leaves the lofty seat,  
Welcomes us with warm embraces,  
Stoops to wash our feet.**

**Refrain:**

**Stand up, friends! Hold your heads high!  
Freedom is our song! Alleluia!  
Freedom is our song! Alleluia!**

**Praise the Rabbi, speaking, doing  
All that God intends,  
Dying, rising, faith renewing,  
Calling us his friends.**

**Refrain**

**Praise the Breath of Love, whose freedom  
Spreads our waking wings,  
Lifting ev'ry blight and burden  
Till the spirit sings;**

**Refrain**

**Praise, until we join the singing  
Far beyond our sight,  
With the Ending and Beginning  
Dancing in the light.**

**Refrain**

**Today's flowers are given to the glory of God**  
**by Edward Norstrand, in loving memory of Mary Nell Norstrand**

**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, in 8½ X 11 format, along with the regular bulletins.

**Many thanks** to all leaders: Vince Peterson and the choir; the ushers; Mary Cusack for today's refreshments (and serving as 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, 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, and natural and economic disaster, especially the people of Szechuan Province and Myanmar; 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; all cancer survivors, Eleanor, Marion and David, Jenny, Barbara, Arabella, Lance, Craig and family, Lorrie and family, Steve, Cathy, James, Nick, Arthur, Sharon, Paul, Jon, Bud, Dan, Rick, and Kendra.

**This Week or Monthly**

**Today immediately following worship: Sunday School meeting in Sunday School space.**

**Spring Pops Concert this afternoon** at 4 pm, the Mel-O-Chords Sing the Beatles and Others

**Tomorrow, May 19 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

**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**

**Strawberry Fields Picnic will be June 8.** It's "potluck," meaning each household brings one dish, enough to serve 6, and sodas/juice for 6, and it all works out. Bring your own folding chairs, extras to share if you can. Plates, ice, cups, napkins will be provided. The picnic, shared with sister Bay Ridge churches, takes place in Shore Road Park near the 79<sup>th</sup> Street playground. It's casual and fun and a great way to include family and friends in church fellowship.

**Art and Spirituality, Thursdays in June:** no experience or "talent" necessary! see Lynn Penney or call her at 917.538.9752 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 (come any day or all days).

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