

Welcome to the
Union Church of Bay Ridge

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

VII Easter



ACTS 1:24

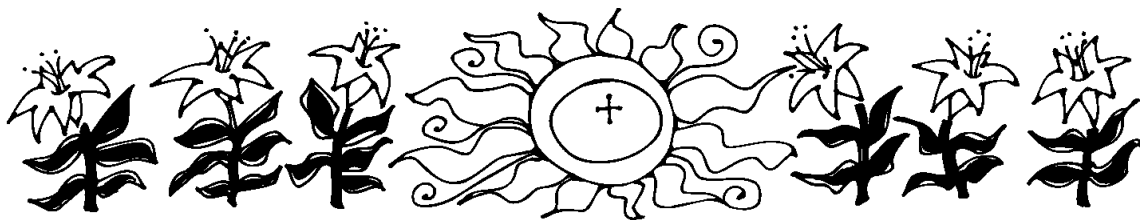
May 24, 2009

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



Seventh 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 97

The LORD reigns! Let the earth rejoice!

For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth.

Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart:

Rejoice in the LORD! Give thanks to God's holy name!

+HYMN no. 273

O God the Creator

(restored to its original tune, ONE IN THE SPIRIT, Worshipbook no. 619)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(please be seated)*

As far back as we can remember, gracious God, we have heard that you are love. We are grateful to receive your love, but our actions tell a very different story. We confess that in passing your love along, we have rationed it. We have been generous to those most like us. We have failed to act in love toward the unlovely: the unkind, the ungrateful, the poor, the stranger; toward those we deem our personal enemies, or our nation's foes; toward those who have nothing to give in return; toward those who we think are beyond help. Forgive our lack of love, and our lack of faith. Help us, through the change of heart and life that is true repentance, to grow in knowledge and love of you; through the One who is Love Himself, Jesus Christ our Lord...

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

...Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

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: Ex 28:1–4, 9–10, 29–30

ANTHEM

Christus Factus Est

Felice Anerio 1560-1614

SECOND LESSON: Acts 1:15–26

SERMON:

Chosen

✚HYMN no. 313

Come Down, O Love Divine

OFFERTORY

Many Waters Cannot Quench Love

John Bell

✚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 (*insert*)

God Is Working in History

✚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.

Then bring near to you your brother Aaron, and his sons with him, from among the Israelites, to serve me as priests—Aaron and Aaron’s sons, Nadab and Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar. ²You shall make sacred vestments for the glorious adornment of your brother Aaron. ³And you shall speak to all who have ability, whom I have endowed with skill, that they make Aaron’s vestments to consecrate him for my priesthood. ⁴These are the vestments that they shall make: a breastpiece, an ephod, a robe, a chequered tunic, a turban, and a sash. When they make these sacred vestments for your brother Aaron and his sons to serve me as priests, ⁵they shall use gold, blue, purple, and crimson yarns, and fine linen.

⁹You shall take two onyx stones, and engrave on them the names of the sons of Israel, ¹⁰six of their names on one stone, and the names of the remaining six on the other stone, in the order of their birth.

²⁹So Aaron shall bear the names of the sons of Israel in the breastpiece of judgement on his heart when he goes into the holy place, for a continual remembrance before the Lord. ³⁰In the breastpiece of judgement you shall put the Urim and the Thummim, and they shall be on Aaron’s heart when he goes in before the Lord; thus Aaron shall bear the judgement of the Israelites on his heart before the Lord continually.

Acts 1:15-17,20-26*Luke tells the story of the early Church*

In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred and twenty people) and said, ¹⁶‘Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus— ¹⁷for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.

²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us throughout the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection.’

²³So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴Then they prayed and said, ‘Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.’ ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

God Is Working in History

Words: Arthur Campbell Ainger, 1894

Tune: Martin Shaw, 1931 *Worshipbook* no. 389

God is working in history as year succeeds to year;
God is working in history, and the time is drawing near;
Nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be:
When the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

From utmost east to utmost west, where human foot hath trod,
By the mouth of many a messenger goes forth the voice of God:
“Give ear to Me, ye continents; ye isles, give ear to Me!”
That the earth may be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

Go we forth in the strength of God with the banner of Christ unfurled,
That the light of the glorious gospel of truth may shine throughout the world:
Take up the cross 'mid sorrow and sin, to set the captives free,
That the earth may be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

All we can do is nothing worth unless God blesses the deed:
Vainly we hope for the harvest-tide, till God gives life to the seed;
Yet nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be:
When the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.

**The rosebud on the chancel Communion table blooms to the glory of God
and welcomes Dylan Quinn LoPorto to the world**

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: Vince Peterson and the choir; Mary Chamberlain for 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, 5/24—Charles Masterson; 5/31—John Ward; 6/7—Laura Cramer; 6/14—Ruth Cranstoun; 6/21—Madeline Stutz; 6/28—Estelle McKay; 7/5—Alice Johnston; 7/12—Jennie Thompson; 7/19—Warren Dean; 7/26—David Alekel.

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, 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@7pm in the Parish House (tomorrow, the fourth Monday, is Memorial Day).

Upcoming Happenings and Opportunities

Fortnightly Tuesday Bible Study meets every other Tuesday at 7pm. The group 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.

Next Sunday, May 31 is Pentecost: WEAR RED IN HONOR OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!!! (Your Union Church T-shirt is appropriate attire for any occasion....)

May 31 at 4pm: Presbyterian Welcome service at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church; Union Church is invited to bring the Pentecost-themed coffee hour. See Rev. Speers.

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

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