

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)

## Corpus Christi



June 1, 2008

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

718.745.0438

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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

### 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 78:23-25*

When the children of Israel were hungry in the desert,  
**God commanded the skies above,  
God opened the doors of heaven;**  
God rained down manna to eat;  
And mortals ate of the bread of angels.  
**Praise the LORD!**

### ✦OPENING HYMN no. 482

*Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

**Holy God, 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 love 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: Exodus 16:1-4a,9-16,31-35**

**ANTHEM** Pamela Antrobus, contralto

**SECOND LESSON: John 6:25-35,48-59**

**SERMON Hocus Pocus**

Rev. Speers

**+HYMN no. 304**

*Jesus Loves Me!*

**OFFERTORY** *Heaven's Gonna Be My Home*

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

Loving God, we dedicate these gifts as an expression of our trust in you. You alone know our hearts, and you more than any human being love us. May this act of giving draw us closer to you, plant your seeds of love for all who come closer to you through our sharing, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER** *God's Offering to God's People*

**PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING and INTERCESSION**

*Hymnal p. 13*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** "*debts*"

*Hymnal p. 16*

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

*Please come to the table and dip the bread in the cup*

**PRAYER OF RESOLUTION**

*an Appalachian melody*

*(the opening four lines, from Psalm 103, are sung call-and-response, Hymnal no. 597)*

*Bless the Lord, O my soul:*

***And all that is within me, bless God's holy name!***

*Bless the Lord, O my soul:*

***And forget not all God's benefits.***

God our help: we thank you for this supper shared in the Spirit with your holy child Jesus, who makes us new and strong, who brings us life eternal. We praise you for giving us all good gifts in Christ, and pledge ourselves to serve you and the world you so love, even as in Christ you have served us. **AMEN.**

**+CLOSING HYMN no. 281**

***Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah***

**+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 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!*

## Exodus 16: 1-4a,9-16,31-35 NRSV

**T**he whole congregation of the Israelites set out from Elim; and Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt.

<sup>2</sup>The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>The Israelites said to them, ‘If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.’

<sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day.

Then Moses said to Aaron, ‘Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, “Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.”’ <sup>10</sup>And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked towards the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. <sup>11</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses and said, <sup>12</sup>‘I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, “At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.”’

<sup>13</sup>In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. <sup>14</sup>When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. <sup>15</sup>When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, ‘What is it?’ For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, ‘It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. <sup>16</sup>This is what the LORD has commanded: “Gather as much of it as each of you needs, an omer to a person according to the number of persons, all providing for those in their own tents.”’

<sup>31</sup>The house of Israel called it manna; it was like coriander seed, white, and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey. <sup>32</sup>Moses said, ‘This is what the LORD has commanded: “Let an omer of it be kept throughout your generations, in order that they may see the food with which I fed you in the wilderness, when I brought you out of the land of Egypt.”’ <sup>33</sup>And Moses said to Aaron, ‘Take a jar, and put an omer of manna in it, and place it before the LORD, to be kept throughout your generations.’ <sup>34</sup>As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron placed it before the covenant, for safe-keeping. <sup>35</sup>The Israelites ate manna for forty years, until they came to a habitable land; they ate manna, until they came to the border of the land of Canaan.

## John 6: 25-35,48-59 NRSV

**W**hen they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’ <sup>26</sup>Jesus answered them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup>Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.’ <sup>28</sup>Then they said to him, ‘What must we do to perform the works of God?’ <sup>29</sup>Jesus answered them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.’ <sup>30</sup>So they said to him, ‘What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?’ <sup>31</sup>Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, “He gave them bread from heaven to eat.”’ <sup>32</sup>Then Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup>For the bread of God is that which<sup>2</sup> comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.’ <sup>34</sup>They said to him, ‘Sir, give us this bread always.’ <sup>35</sup> Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

<sup>48</sup>I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup>Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup>This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup>I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.’

<sup>52</sup> The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, ‘How can this man give us his flesh to eat?’ <sup>53</sup>So Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup>Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; <sup>55</sup>for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. <sup>56</sup>Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.’ <sup>59</sup>He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

**The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God  
By Ruth Ward, in loving memory of John Ward**

**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; the Morales family 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, 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 Sichuan Province and Myanmar; for all who are faithful even in danger, especially the Christians of Zimbabwe; 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 Vince, his family, and especially Bud, vince's father; 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; Luis, Suzanne, cancer survivors, Eleanor, Marion and David, Jenny, Barbara, Arabella, Lance, Craig and family, Lorrie and family, Steve, Cathy, James, Nick, Arthur, Sharon, Paul, Jon, Dan, Rick, and Kendra.

**This Week or Monthly**

**Taizé evensong 7pm this Tuesday, June 3:** the last before summer recess.

**This Thursday: Art and Spirituality miniseries begins:** no experience or "talent" necessary! see Lynn Penney or call her at 917.538.9752 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).

**Strawberry Fields Picnic Next Sunday, June 8, 1-4pm.** It's "potluck:" each household brings one dish, enough to serve 6, and sodas/juice for 6. Bring your own folding chairs, extras to share if you can. Plates, ice, cups, napkins provided. Where: Shore Road Park near the 79<sup>th</sup> Street playground; if it rains, we move inside to the Parish House gym. It's casual and fun and a great way to include family and friends in fellowship with our church and other local Presbyterians.

**Midweek Bible study, 11am Wednesdays at Redeemer-St John's Lutheran Church** 939 83<sup>rd</sup> Street in Dyker Heights. There are 2 more meetings before the group's June 18 year-end picnic.

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

**Newsletters** are available on our **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.

**Looking to the Future**

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

**Joe and Evan Lynch are Cyclones "bishops":** this year, for all you who have never been able to go in July, our annual outing to the ballpark will take place in August! Call **718.745.6594**