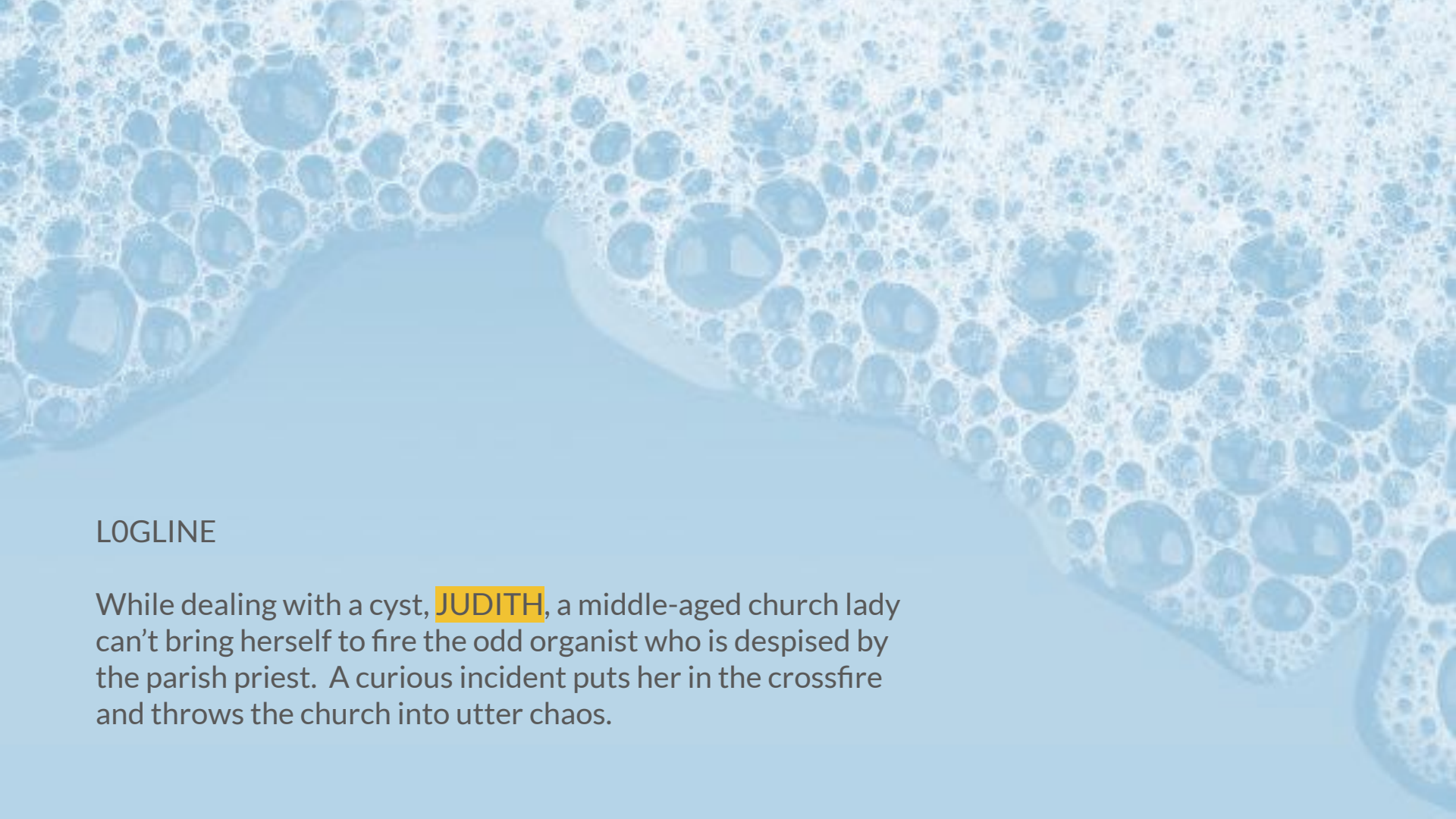


A close-up, top-down view of a person's hands washing a clear glass in a stainless steel kitchen sink. The person is using a blue sponge to scrub the inside of the glass. Water is running from a chrome faucet into the sink. The sink has a circular drain on the left and a rectangular basin on the right. The overall tone is warm and slightly desaturated.

Unlovables

A short film by
Margie Templo Parks
([link to Sundance bio](#))



LOGLINE

While dealing with a cyst, **JUDITH**, a middle-aged church lady can't bring herself to fire the odd organist who is despised by the parish priest. A curious incident puts her in the crossfire and throws the church into utter chaos.

Synopsis

As Judith, 48, hums “Happy Birthday” to herself at the kitchen sink, she discovers a peculiar bump on her wrist. Reporting to work at church the next day, she stops to pray, asking God to make the cyst go away.

Judith's worries multiply when she sees that Abe, the organist, has spent the night once again in the basement of the church, something the parish priest, Fr. Steve forbade. Judith knows the priest will be furious that Abe is still around and that she was unsuccessful at letting him go, so she resolves to maybe possibly finally fire the organist before Fr. Steve gets back from his business trip, but just after Abe plays the organ for the funeral she is arranging. Maybe then. When the priest returns a day too soon, Judith scrambles to keep Abe out of his sight, which results in the organist mysteriously getting trapped in the basement moments before the funeral service starts. Convinced that the bumbling priest locked him in, when Abe breaks free, he charges towards Fr. Steve while the service is underway, and madness ensues.

The dust settles on a new day at the church. Judith takes out a Holy Bible and smashes her cyst once and for all.



A woman with short dark hair, smiling, sitting at a desk. She is wearing a light-colored cardigan over a blue patterned blouse. Her hands are clasped in front of her. To her right is a vintage typewriter and a desk lamp. The background is slightly blurred, showing shelves with books.

Judith

Refuge of Outcasts.
Faded though barely middle-aged,
Judith is patient, Judith is kind.
However, she can be too patient.
She constantly finds herself
having to live with things
she does not want,
hindering her
from living.

Also, she overthinks.

Abe

Odd. Insufferable.
Pretty brilliant on the organ.
Yet on the edge of
homelessness.





Fr. Steve

Painfully awkward. Bullied
all his life. Defensive. Mostly
n0n-confrontational.
Dependent on
Judith.



CAST



Offer out to
GORDON CLAPP
Role: Father Steve



Committed
ELLEN D. WILLIAMS
Role: Judith



Committed
JON SKLAROFF
Role: Abe

Director's Lookbook





High angle close-up. Very brain-forward.

Composition: Introspective



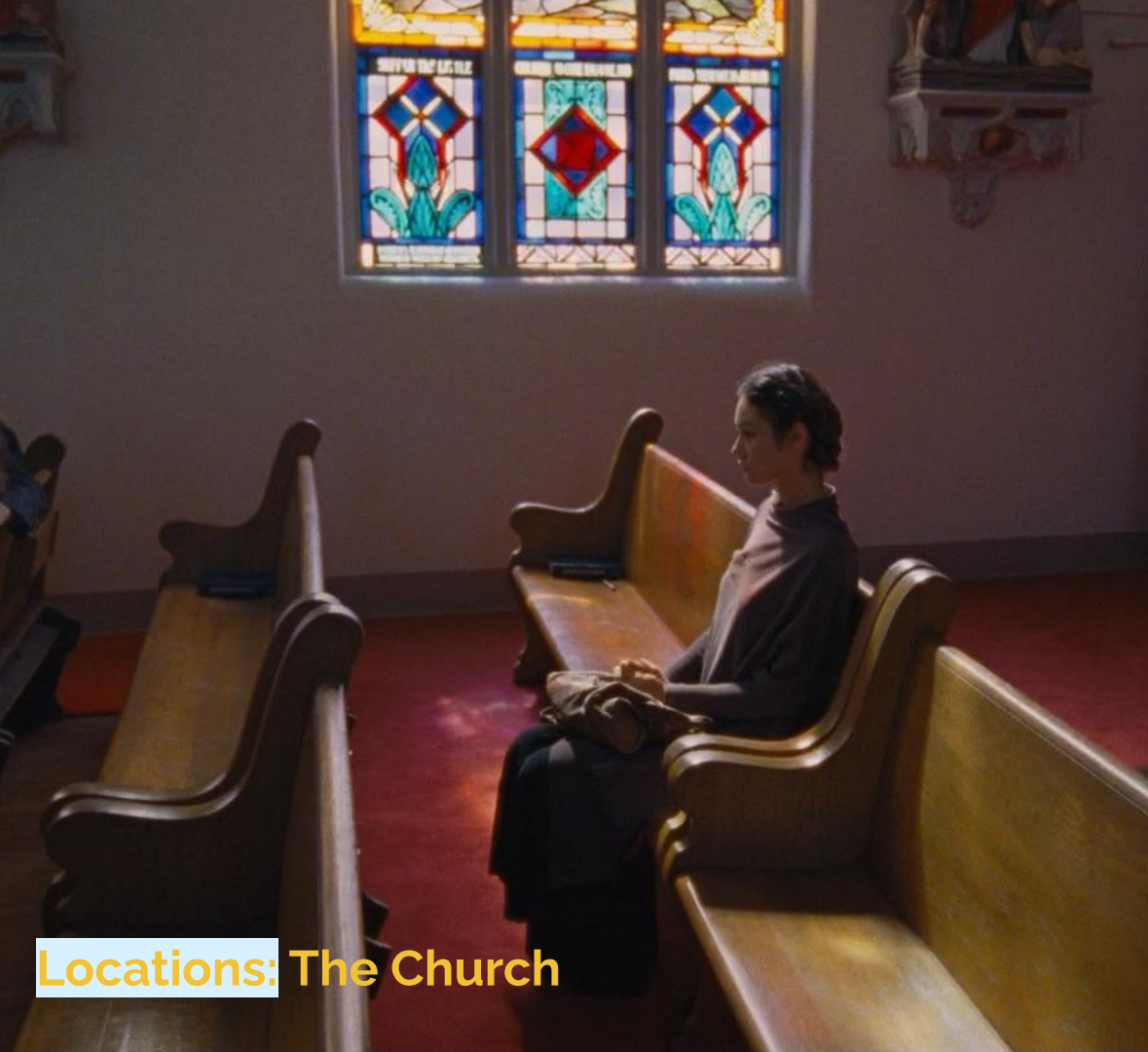
Hesitation to approach. Avoidance.
A suggestion of spying on something hidden.

Composition: Keeping distance



Non-confrontational confrontation.
Non-direct approach to a volatile character.

Conflict: Awkwardness



Locations: The Church





Locations: Maze of corridors





Locations: Dated offices



Locations: Piano room



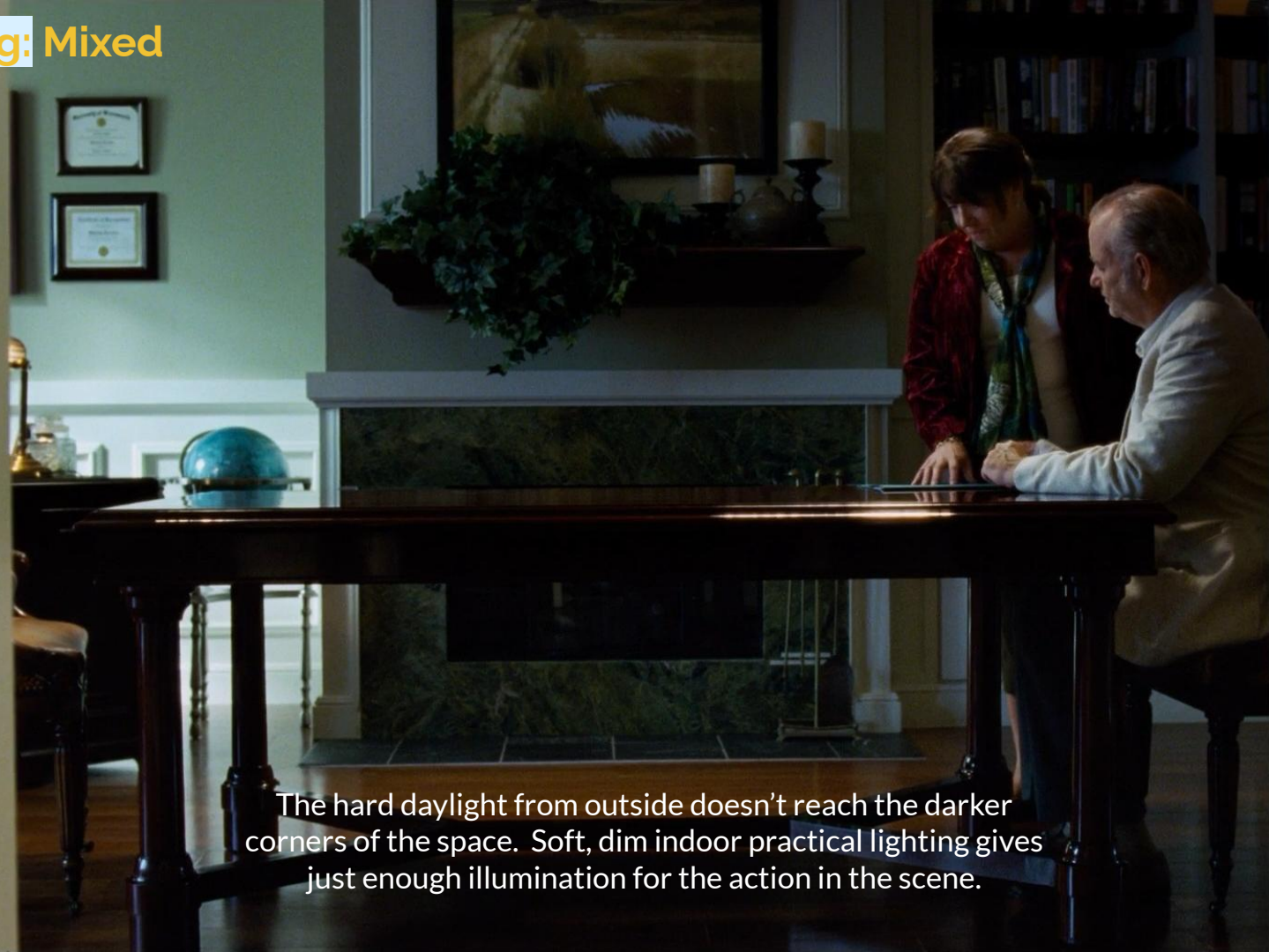
Locations: What they don't show

Camera Movement:

Meandering but stable,
with monopod or gimbal
combined with dolly

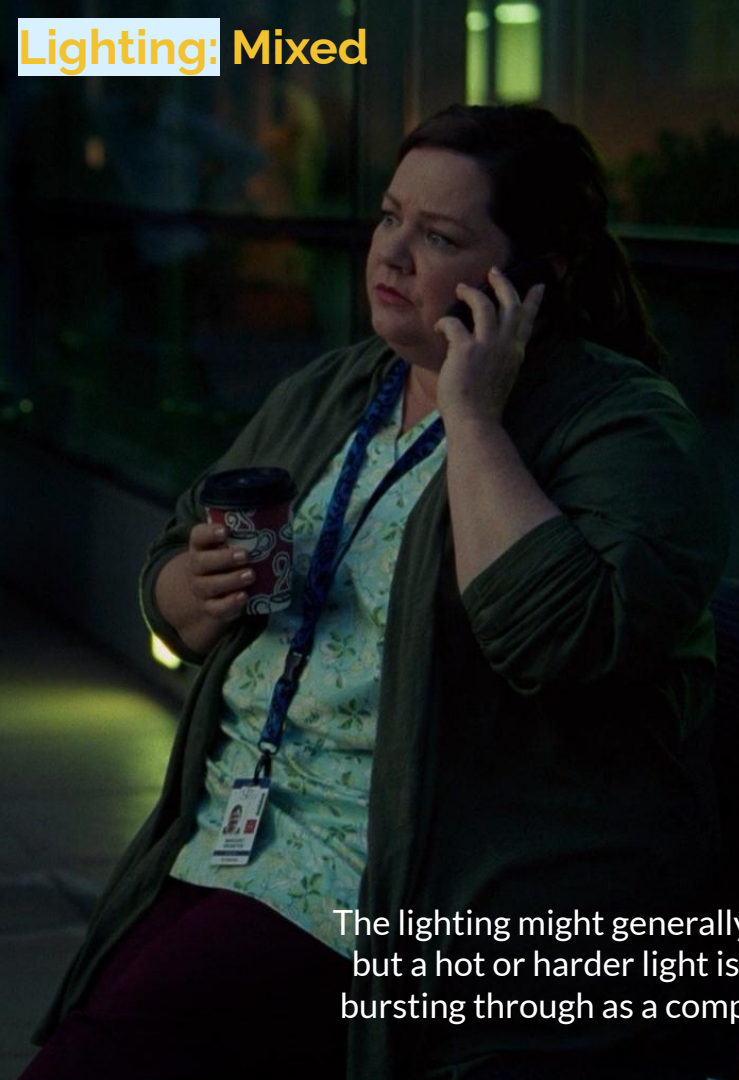


Lighting: Mixed



The hard daylight from outside doesn't reach the darker corners of the space. Soft, dim indoor practical lighting gives just enough illumination for the action in the scene.

Lighting: Mixed



The lighting might generally be soft, but a hot or harder light is always bursting through as a complement.



Lighting: Mixed



Color: Dull (but almost back in style)

In her own mind,
Judith is Maria in *The Sound Of Music*,
which she knows by heart.

Ask and it shall be given, I say.

Browns and greens that are
almost sickly.



The background of the slide features a pattern of blue bubbles of various sizes, some with internal reflections, set against a light blue background. A solid, medium-blue shape, resembling a splash or a drop, is positioned in the lower-left quadrant, partially overlapping the bubble pattern.

Now back to reality, Judith...



Lenses: Prey and predator

Short+normal lenses show
vulnerable characters keeping
distance from the tormentor seen
with a long lens





Long lenses at a distance separate
internal struggle from the outside world

Lenses: Their own bubble



Characters never quite make contact and interact from afar. Foreground separates from subject in focus that then separates from background.



This circus takes place within the walls of a church.



Lenses: Holy space



And, UNLOVABLES, believe it or not,
is inspired by real people, real cysts, and real events.

So help me God.

The background of the slide features a close-up, artistic shot of water with white foam. The foam consists of numerous bubbles of varying sizes, some appearing as bright white highlights against a deep blue background. The bubbles are concentrated in the upper half of the image, creating a textured, bubbly effect. The lower half of the image is a solid, medium-blue color, providing a clean space for the text.

Thank you!