

iucc Irvine United Congregational Church

*An Open & Affirming, Just Peace, Global Mission, Creation Justice
Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

March 03, 2024 • 11:15am

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Gathering

Come, Now is the Time to Worship

By Brian Doerksen (adapted Gary Barmore)

Come, now is the time to worship;
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come just as you are to worship;
Come just as you are before your God.
Come.

Ev'ry day we live in the light of God's love,
Ev'ry day we walk by faith.
Now we're here to open our hearts once more,
Now we give thanks for grace.

Come, now is the time to worship;
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come just as you are to worship;
Come just as you are before your God.
Come.

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Come just as you are before your God.
Come.

Come, come, come!

Singing

A Wilderness Wandering People

by Jim Strathdee

We are a wilderness wandering people on a journey of the soul.
May we find our destination in our longing to be whole.
Our Holy God is calling to us. With Jesus by our side,
may compassion be our compass; may the Spirit be our guide.

May we cherish all our children; let us heal our family's pain.
Help us cure our city's madness; let love and justice reign.
Reconciled with one another, in prayer and praise and song,
we're the body of Christ together, and we know that we belong.
We belong, we belong, we belong.

Centering

Jaime Reza

Sojourners of faith, wandering hearts,
the Lenten road has led us here to pause along our way,
Here we come with our questions, our doubts;
our faith expanding, deepening, growing, as our journey continues.
We follow the one who followed the one.
In the footsteps of Peter, we follow Jesus, finding ourselves in him as we walk his path.
A rock, a stumbling block.
He is the essence of our faith, the everyman, the chosen man.
Like Peter, we seek to answer the questions that surround us, the questions in our own minds.
Who is Jesus? And who are we to him?
Holy One, guide our wandering hearts, inspired by Peter's authentic journey:
to step out even as we stumble to follow the way of Jesus
embracing the transformative power of love, compassion, and justice.

Playing

Fresh Word

Praying

Craig Tyrl

Administrative Pastor IUCC

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

By Ken Medema

Lord, Listen to your children praying, Lord, Send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.
[repeat]

Offering

We Are an Offering

By Dwight Liles

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to you, we are an offering.
God, use our voices, God, use our hands,
God, use your lives, they are yours,
We are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you;
we are an offering, we are an offering.

Reading

Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Learning

Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

Communing

Draw the Circle Wide

Mark Miller

Draw the circle wide.
Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song,
no one stand alone,
standing side by side,
Draw the circle wide.
(repeat)

Sending

Carry the Light

By Debby Moylan

We have all witnessed your presence,
We have received your grace.
We give you honor and glory,
For moving in this place.

Now we go out to share the good news.
Now we go out to share your love.
Now we go out to share the good news.
Now we go out to share your love:

Carry the light! Carry the light!
Carry the light to all the Earth!
Carry the light! Carry the light!
Carry the light of Jesus Christ!

Departing

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