

iucc Irvine United Congregational Church

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

October 15, 2023 • 11:15am

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

Come, come, come!

Singing

Blue Boat Home

by Peter Mayer

Though below me, I feel no motion
Standing on these mountains and plains
Far away from the rolling ocean
Still my dry land heart can say
I've been sailing all my life now
Never harbor or port have I known
The wide universe is the ocean I travel
And the earth is my blue boat home

Sun, my sail, and moon my rudder
As I ply the starry sea
Leaning over the edge in wonder
Casting questions into the deep
Drifting here with my ship's companions
All we kindred pilgrim souls
Making our way by the lights of the heavens
In our beautiful blue boat home

I give thanks to the waves upholding me
Hail the great winds urging me on
Greet the infinite sea before me
Sing the sky my sailor's song
I was born upon the fathoms
Never harbor or port have I known
The wide universe is the ocean I travel
And the earth is my blue boat home

Centering

Joy Dorko

We gather together, our hearts heavy, preoccupied by the troubles of a hurting world.

God, meet us in our brokenness.

We are weighed down by questions that have no easy answers.

God, hold us in these uncertain times.

We come together seeking comfort from one another.

God, strengthen us to face the storms shaking our world.

We are rooted in your love.

Give us calm and courage and make us witnesses to your love and peace.

Amen!

Playing

Fresh Word

Joining

New Members

Congregation:

We recognize the spirit of Jesus of Nazareth as a real and important force in the universe.

Will you join us in this faith?

New Members:

I now join with you to trust and celebrate God's love.

Congregation:

We are committed to a daily endeavor to let God's spirit remold our lives from within.

Will you join us in this endeavor?

New Members:

I commit to grow with you.

Congregation:

We believe ourselves to be one family, bound together by God's love. Therefore, we seek in every way we can to make that love believable for each other. W

Will you join us in this mutual ministry?

New Members:

I will. I entrust to you both our needs and our gifts.

Congregation:

Will you now unite with us in our covenant?

ALL:

We join together with God and with each other to provide an environment upon for all to worship God, to develop Christian values, to share life's experiences, to strive for truth, justice and peace, and to respond with compassion to the needs of others. We do this in the love of Jesus and in our desire to do the will of God.

Praying

Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

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.

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 5:1-10

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Learning

Rev. Dr. Terry LePage

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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