

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

January 21, 2024 • 11:15am

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**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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Now we're here to open our hearts once more,  
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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.

Come, come, come!

## Connecting

*(opportunity to greet one another)*

## Singing

### ***Wade in the Water***

African American Spiritual

Wade in the water  
Wade in the water, children  
Wade in the water  
God's a going to trouble the water. (repeat)

See those people dressed in white,  
God's a going to trouble the water;  
They look like the children of the Israelites  
God's a going to trouble the water. (chorus)

See those people dressed in red,  
God's gonna to trouble the water;  
Must be the children that Moses led  
God's a going to trouble the water. (chorus)

Look over yonder, what do I see?  
God's gonna to trouble the water;  
Holy Ghost a coming on me,  
God's a going to trouble the water. (chorus)

If you don't believe I've been redeemed,  
God's gonna to trouble the water;  
Just follow me down to Jordan's stream  
God's a going to trouble the water. (chorus)

## Centering

**Jaime Reza**

The breath of God stirred the ocean  
And the Spirit moved in deep waters.  
The River of Life flowed with a cleansing wash,  
And the Baptist cupped his hands and dipped.  
Swirling from the heavens above, the dove descended.  
And God's voice whispered, "Beloved."  
Into the waters we dive again, immersed in the love of our God

**Fresh Word**  
**Ministry with Young People**

**Joining**

**Erwin Luis Carino**

**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 Member:**

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 re-mold our lives from within.

Will you join us in this endeavor?

**New Member:**

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.

Will you join us in this mutual ministry?

**New Member:**

I will. I entrust to you both my needs and my 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 open 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**

**Craig Tyrl**

Administrative Pastor

**Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying**

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 3:13-17***

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him.  
John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"  
But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness."  
Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized,  
just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him,  
and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.  
And a voice from heaven said,  
"This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

## **Learning**

**Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano**

## **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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**Our Staff**

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