

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

January 7, 2024 • 11:15am

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

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.

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.

Come, come, come!

Connecting

(opportunity to greet one another)

Singing

The Three Wise Ones

Three wise ones from far-away are,
bearing gifts they traverse afar .
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

O Star of wonder, star of night ,
Star with royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding,
Guide us to thy Perfect Light.

Herod called upon the wise ones,
come to me when your search is done.
Searching, seeking, lands far-reaching,
finding the Holy Son. (chorus)

Kneeling down in homage that day,
for a child that will light the way.
Glad rejoicing, never voicing,
where this Christ-Child lays. (chorus)

Glorious now behold the Christ Child,
Holy Infant, so tender and mild .
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Christ, the Saviour, is born. (chorus)

Centering

Jaime Reza

We are still in the darkness, scanning the sea of night above us, searching...
Our eyes squint to see it. Our hearts jump at each spec of diamond. Our breath catches.
Will we encounter the star? Will we find the light?
We spot it. Sojourners on an illumined path, we follow its direction.
Will we find the Star-Child?
What shall we do if we find him?
When we arrive we'll know.
We're nearly there, the bright light leads us.
The wisdom of the cradle calls us on.

Fresh Word
Ministry with Young People

Praying

Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

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 2:1-12

Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been

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.
(refrain)

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

Music reprinted under **CCLI License #2783305** or **OneLicense #A-709940**.

Video clips shown under **CVLI License #504399168**.

Our Staff

Senior Pastor
Administrative Pastor
Director of Music
Accompanist
Early Childhood Director
Bookkeeper

Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano
Craig Tyrl, MA, MFA
Dr. Chris Peterson
Yuyoung Jeong
Irma Rosales
Heidi Willcox

PastorSarah@iucc.org
craig@iucc.org
chris@iucc.org
yyoungjeong@gmail.com
irma@iucc.org
heidi@iucc.org



Irvine United Congregational Church

4915 Alton Parkway, Irvine CA 92604

949-733-0220