

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

November 26, 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 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 before your God.
Come.

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Come just as you are to worship;
Come just as you before your God.
Come.

Come, come, come!

Singing

My Favorite Things

The Sound of Music by Rogers & Hammerstein, adapted by Craig Tyril

Raindrops on roses
And whiskers on kittens
Bright copper kettles and warm woolen mittens
Brown paper packages tied up with strings
These are a few of my favorite things

Deacons on Sunday, and nice coffee hours
Choir singing songs behind donated flowers
Adult education and all that it brings.
These are a few of my favorite things.

Donnie on microphones, Craig on the cameras
Dustin on Fresh Word, interns that impress us,
Four designations at IUCC
These are a few of my favorite things.

When the gong strikes!
And the choirs sings.
When I'm feeling sad
I simply remember my favorite things
And then I don't feel so bad.

Progressive sermons and fun winter parties,
Christians of all types, and quite a few smarties,
Who can forget the youth of MYP
These are a few of my favorite things.

Prayer shawls and seekers, a men's group on Mondays,
Mission and Service and worship on Sundays,
DEI working so all can be seen,
These are a few of my favorite things.

Alex's cookies, and Pat's decorating,
Heidi's bookkeeping, and Chuck Heath's accounting,
Connie and Cesar who keep things running,
These are a few of my favorite things.

When the gong strikes!
And the choirs sings.
When I'm feeling sad
I simply remember my favorite things
And then I don't feel so bad

Centering

CONNIE JONES

As we savor our favorite dishes and tuck away the Thanksgiving leftovers,
Let the spirit of gratitude become a favorite companion in our daily lives.

The Advent season is just around the corner,
bringing with it our favorite decorations, foods, and traditions.

As we anticipate Advent,
let's remember the joy, peace, hope, and love that make each moment a favorite.

Today, we celebrate our favorite people, places, and things!
We find joy in the diversity of our tastes, interests, and passions,
recognizing that no two favorites are exactly alike.

Together, we lift high our IUCC community, a favorite place for so many—past, present, and future!
In this shared space, we find collective favorites that bind us together.

With voices lifted in thanksgiving, through our shared worship, we open ourselves to each other and
to God. May love abound in us, through us, and with us,
giving us eyes to see, ears to hear, and mouths to speak.

Amen!

Singing

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

New Century Hymnal #286 (v. 1,3,4)

by James K. Manley

Spirit, spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness, calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing;
“Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.” [refrain]

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
and down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. [refrain]

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions your people arise. [refrain]

Playing

Fresh Word

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

Jaime Reza

Soliloquy

by John Work

Reading

Luke 18:9-14

To some of those believing in themselves that they are righteous
and despising the rest, he said this parable:

“Two people went up to the Temple to pray,
the one a Pharisee and the other, a tax collector.

The Pharisee, standing by/to himself, these (things) prayed,
‘O God, I give thanks to you that I am not like the rest of people,
greedy, unrighteous, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

I fast two times of the Sabbath each week;
I give a tenth of whatever I acquire.’

“But the tax collector, at a distance standing,
did not wish to raise the eyes to heaven, but he beat his breast, saying,

‘O god, be merciful to me, a sinner.’

“To you I say, descending to his house, this one if justified, alongside that
one. Because everyone who exalts himself will be humbled,
and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Learning

Craig Tyrl

Administrative Pastor

Sending

Rev. Dr. Sarah Halaverson-Cano

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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