

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

March 17, 2024 • 9:30am

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Prelude *Go to the Dark Gethsemane* Yuyoung Jeong, piano
by Richard Redhead

Gathering Song *As We Gather* Congregation
by Coomes & Fay

As we gather may your Spirit work within us
As we gather may we glorify your name
Knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship
We'll be blessed because we came [repeat]

Welcome iucc.org/visitor Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

Gong

Introit *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* Chancel Choir
by Gilbert M. Martin

Call to Worship August Lobato

One: Our wandering hearts have brought us to this place, in this moment, with these people.

Many: Sojourners of faith, on this Lenten journey we join one another as we follow the one who follows the one.

One: Just as Peter declared, "Lord, it is good for us to be here," let us acknowledge the goodness of this moment, where heaven touches earth, and we are invited into the mystery of God's presence.

Many: Like Peter, we struggle to understand what it all means, but may we also, like Peter, be open to the light among us.

One: May we, like Peter, be transformed by the encounter with the divine empowered to bear witness to the love and grace of God in our world.

Many: May the mountaintop experiences empower us to do the hard work of facing injustice, holding heartache, and offering healing when the valleys of life bring us down.

All: Together we continue the journey, transformed by love embodied and light transfigured, with eyes to see the divine among us, hearts filled with hope, and minds set to follow.

Hymn

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

Congregation

by Carl P. Daw (New Century Hymnal #182 v. 1,2,3)

We have come at Christ's own bidding
to this high and holy place,
where we wait with hope and longing
for some token of God's grace.
Here we pray for new assurance
that our faith is not in vain,
searching like those first disciples
for a sign both clear and plain.

Light breaks in upon our darkness,
splendor bathes the flesh-joined Word,
Moses and Elijah marvel
as the heavenly voice is heard.
Eyes and hearts behold with wonder
how the Law and Prophets meet:
Christ, with garments drenched in brightness,
stands transfigured and complete.

Strengthened by this glimpse of glory,
fearful lest our faith decline,
we like Peter find it tempting
to remain and build a shrine.
But true worship gives us courage
to proclaim what we profess,
that our daily lives may prove us
people of the God we bless.

A Fresh Word

Anthem

O Vos Omnes

by Giovanni Croce

Chancel Choir

Taize

Congregation

Prayers of the Church

Rev. Dr. Jerry von Talge

(concluding with the Lord's Prayer)
Our Creator (Father, Mother, or other name as you are comfortable),
which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kin-dom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kin-dom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory Call (two offerings)

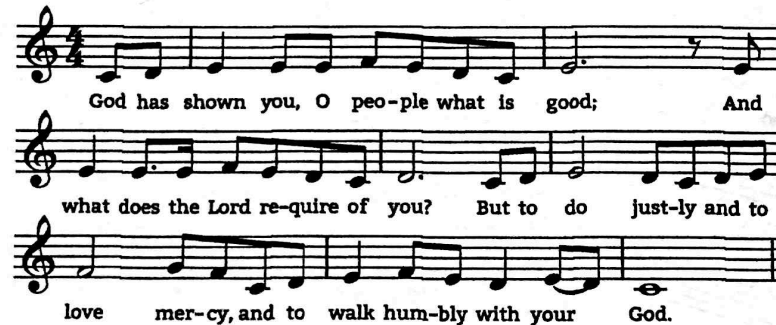
August Lobato

Offertory Music

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

IUCC Inters

Song of Thanksgiving • "Micah 6:8"



God has shown you, O peo-ple what is good; And
what does the Lord re-quire of you? But to do just-ly and to
love mer-cy, and to walk hum-bly with your God.

Prayer of Dedication

August Lobato

Scripture

Matthew 17:1-13

August Lobato

And after six days Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain apart. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Eli'jah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Eli'jah." He was still speaking, when lo, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces, and were filled with awe. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of man is raised from the dead." And the disciples asked him, "Then why do the scribes say that first Eli'jah must come?" He replied, "Eli'jah does come, and he is to restore all things; but I tell you that Eli'jah has already come, and they did not know him, but did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of man will suffer at their hands." Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them of John the Baptist.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

Response

Alleluia

Congregation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Postlude

Thou Shalt Bring Them In

Yuyoung Jeong, piano

by George Frideric Handel

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