# **PUCC** Irvine United Congregational Church

An Open & Affirming, Just Peace, Global Mission, Creation Justice,
Congregation of the United Church of Christ
December 31. 2023 • 9:30am

#### New Year's Eve

**Prelude** Will the Circle Be Unbroken Yuyoung Jeong, piano arr. Alan F. Moore **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 Jerri Davenport M.Div Gong Introit The Twelve Days of Christmas **Music Ministry** English Christmas Carol On the first day of Christmas, my true love gave to me A partridge in a pear tree. On the \_\_\_\_\_\_of Christmas, my true love gave to me..... Two turtle doves, Three French hens, Four calling birds, Five golden rings, Six geese a-laying, Seven swans a-swimming, Eight maids a-milking,

Nine ladies dancing Ten lords a-leaping, Eleven pipers piping,

Twelve drummers drumming,

Call to Worship Rugee Gimarino

One: During the season of advent, we symbolically waited for the Christ light to appear by first lighting the hope, peace, joy, and love candles encircling the advent wreath.

Many: Until finally it was time to light the Christ candle on Christmas eve.

One: And now we can carry that Christmas light into a brand new year since the earth is completing its circle around the sun once again.

Many: As we look back to reflect on this past year, we can notice any circles in our lives that may have been completed, and those that are still in process.

One: God of Light and Love, encircle us with your light as we navigate our lives in this New Year.

All: Help us become more aware of how the experiences in our lives teach us to strengthen our hope, witness more peace, feel more joy, and share more love. But, most of all, help us reflect the light of Christ to all we meet.

Hymn Draw the Circle Wide Congregation

by 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.

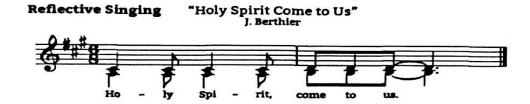
### A Fresh Word

Anthem

I Know Where I've Been

Lester Ricks

by Marc Shaimna and Scott Wittman



### **Prayers of the Church**

Craig Tyrl

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 Rugee Gimarino



**Prayer of Dedication** 

Rugee Gimarino

Scripture *Matthew 22:34-40* 

**Rugee Gimarino** 

The Voice

Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, a group of Pharisees met to consider new questions that might trip up Jesus. A legal expert thought of one that would certainly stump Him.

Pharisees: Teacher, of all the laws, which commandment is the greatest?

**Jesus (quoting Scripture):** "Love the Eternal One your God with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is nearly as important, "Love your neighbor as yourself." The rest of the law, and all the teachings of the prophets, are but variations on these themes.

Sermon Jerri Davenport, M.Div.

Benediction Jerri Davenport, M.Div.

Response Auld Lang Syne Congregation

Should auld acquaintance be forgot, And never brought to mind? Should auld acquaintance be forgot, And auld lang syne?

For auld lang syne, my dear For auld lang syne We'll drink a cup of kindness yet For the sake of auld lang syne. by Marc Shaimna and Scott Wittman

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## iucc

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