

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

October 15, 2023 • 9:30am

Prelude

Andante

Yuyoung Jeong, piano

from 'Three-fours' Valse Suite, Op. 71/Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

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

Dona Nobis Pacem

Chancel Choir

Traditional

Call to Worship

Scott Bollens

One: We gather together, our hearts heavy, preoccupied by the troubles of a hurting world.

Many: God, meet us in our brokenness.

One: We are weighed down by questions that have no easy answers.

Many: God, hold us in these uncertain times.

One: We come together seeking comfort from one another.

Many: God, strengthen us to face the storms shaking our world.

All: We are rooted in your love. Give us calm and courage and make us witnesses to your love and peace.

My life flows on in endless song,
above Earth's lamentation.
I hear the sweet, though far off hymn
that hails a new creation.

Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing?

What though my joys and comforts die?
Love's spirit still is living.
What though the darkness gather round?
A new song, Christ is giving.

No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Love commands both heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

When tyrants tremble, sick with fear,
and hear their death knells ringing;
When friends rejoice both far and near,
how can I keep from singing?

In prison cell and dungeon vile
our thoughts to them are winging;
When friends by shame are undefiled,
how can I keep from singing?

I lift my eyes; the cloud grow thins;
I see the blue above it;
And day by day this pathway smooths,
since first I learned to love it.

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am Christ's
How can I keep from singing?

A Fresh Word

New Member Reception

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 Members:
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 remold our lives from within.
Will you join us in this endeavor?

New Members:
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 Members:
I will. I entrust to you both our needs and our 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 upon 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.

Anthem

Requiem

Chancel Choir

by Eliza Gilkyson, arr. Craig Hella Johnson

Reflective Singing **"Holy Spirit Come to Us"**
J. Berthier



Prayers of the Church

Rev. Dr. Terry LePage

(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.

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

Scott Bollens

Scripture

Matthew 5:1-10

Scott Bollens

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Terry LePage

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

Response

Alleluia

Congregation

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

By Jerry Sinclair

Postlude

Here's a Song in the Air

Yuyoung Jeong, piano

by Oley Speaks, arr. Glenda Austin

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