

# **iucc** Irvine United Congregational Church

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

February 14, 2024 – 7:00 PM

## **Ash Wednesday**

---

**Prelude**

***The Light Within You***

(original work)

**Malila Hollow**

**Welcome**

**Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano**

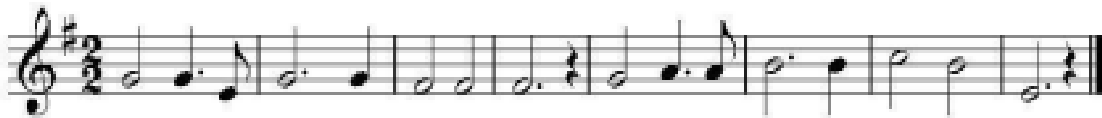
**Lighting of Individual Candles**

**Song**

***Wait for the Lord***

by Jacques Berthier

**Congregation**



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

**Response**

**Lester Ricks**

One: Out of nothingness we came through birth into life:

**Many: With the Spirit of God within us.**

One: From the life of God the universe unfolded into being

**Many: With the Spirit of God within it.**

One: From the heart of God creation goes on till the end of time

**Many: With the Spirit of God within it and with our spirit within it.**

One: Let us embrace the God who enfolds us

**Many: We delight in God.**

*from Pitt St. Uniting Church*

**Congregational Singing    *Sing Out! We're Made of Common Dust*    Congregation**

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

**Sing out! We're made of common dust;  
One day, to dust we shall return!  
Yet, God, you've placed your mark on us  
And so for you our spirits yearn.**

**This gift of ashes we receive  
Reminds us we belong to you.  
You call us to repent, believe,  
and seek your Way in all we do.**

**The dust and dirt of children's play,  
of youthful times, of working years  
Are part of life — and life's decay;  
We wash the dust with sorrow's tears.**

**We sing, O God, of what you give:  
This ash reminds us we are yours.  
In life we're claimed, in death we live!  
In Christ our life, your love endures.**

**Scripture**

***Psalm 51:1-4, 6-7a, 8-12***

**Lester Ricks**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean....

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

**Anthem**

***Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God***

**Chancel Choir**

Healey Willan

**Homily**

**Pastor Sarah**

**Imposition of Ashes**

**Pastors Sarah & Craig**

**Closing Song**

**Ashes**  
Tom Conry

**Congregation**

**We rise again from ashes, from the good we've failed to do.  
We rise again from ashes, to create ourselves anew.  
If all our world is ashes, then must our lives be true,  
an offering of ashes, an offering to you.**

**We offer you our failures, we offer you attempts,  
the gifts not fully given, the dreams not fully dreamt.  
Give our stumblings direction, give our visions wider view,  
an offering of ashes, an offering to you.**

**Then rise again from ashes, let healing come to pain,  
though spring has turned to winter, and sunshine turned to rain.  
The rain we'll use for growing, and create the world anew  
from an offering of ashes, an offering to you.**

**Benediction**

**Pastor Sarah**

**Postlude**

**Romance Opus 28 No 2**  
Robert Schumann

**Malila Hollow**

*Permission to print and stream music obtained under  
CCLI License #2783305 or OneLicense #A-709940.  
Permission to show video clips obtained under CVLI License #504283063.*

**Our Staff**

Senior Pastor	Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano	<a href="mailto:PastorSarah@iucc.org">PastorSarah@iucc.org</a>
Administrative Pastor	Craig Tyrl, MA, MFA	<a href="mailto:craig@iucc.org">craig@iucc.org</a>
Director of Music	Dr. Chris Peterson	<a href="mailto:chris@iucc.org">chris@iucc.org</a>
Accompanist	Yuyoung Jeong	<a href="mailto:yyoungjeong@gmail.com">yyoungjeong@gmail.com</a>
Early Childhood Director	Irma Rosales	<a href="mailto:irma@iucc.org">irma@iucc.org</a>
MYP Director	Tristen Reineccius	<a href="mailto:tristen@iucc.org">tristen@iucc.org</a>
Youth Coordinator	Jackie Logwood	<a href="mailto:jackie@iucc.org">jackie@iucc.org</a>
Young Adult Coordinator	Dustin Nguyen	<a href="mailto:dustin@iucc.org">dustin@iucc.org</a>
Bookkeeper	Heidi Willcox	<a href="mailto:heidi@iucc.org">heidi@iucc.org</a>



Irvine United Congregational Church  
4915 Alton Parkway, Irvine CA 92604      949-733-0220