

Irvine United Congregational Church

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

December 25, 2022 • 10:00AM

CHRISTMAS DAY

Prelude

What Child is This?

Yuyoung Jeong

arr. Mark Hayes

Gathering Song

As We Gather

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

the Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

Introit

O Come, All You Faithful

hymn # 135

***O Come, all you faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come now, O come now to Bethlehem.
Come and behold, the ruler of all angels;
refrain***

***O come in adoration, O come in adoration,
O come in adoration: Christ is Lord!***

***Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all you messengers of heavenly love:
Glory to God, "all glory in the highest!"
refrain***

***Amen, Lord we greet you, born this happy morning:
Jesus to you shall all glory be given;
Word of our God...now in flesh appearing:
refrain***

Call to Worship

Rugee Gimarino

One: Merry Christmas!

Many: Merry Christmas!

One: I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. *Luke 2:10-11*

Many: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors! *Luke 2:14*

One: God has conspired to bring a baby, a light to the world, the divine among us!

Many: We, too, have conspired! We've conspired to witness the baby, to see the light, to find the divine in us!

One: Wonder of wonders, God has come to us!

Many: Emmanuel! Wonder of Wonders! God is here!

One: Merry Christmas!

Many: It is a merry Christmas, indeed!

Carol Singing

Led by Dr. Christopher Peterson

Joy to the World

NCH # 132

George Frideric Handel

*Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth its praises bring;
Let every heart prepare Christ room, And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.*

*Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, Rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*Christ rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of God's righteousness And wonders of God's love,
And wonders of God's love, And wonders, wonders of God's love.*

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

NCH #144

Charles Wesley

*Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the Christ-Child bring;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinner reconciled!"
Joyful, all you saints arise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angel host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the Christ-child bring!"*

*Hail the Bearer of God's peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness,
Light and life our Savior brings, risen with radiant healing wings.
Mildly laying glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us all from earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the Christ-child bring!"*

A Fresh Word

Songs for the Young (and Young at Heart)

led by Chris Peterson

Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer

Johnny Marks

*You know Dasher and Dancer and Prancer and Vixen
Comet and Cupid and Donner and Blitzen
But do you recall
The most famous reindeer of all?*

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer

*Had a very shiny nose
And if you ever saw it
You would even say it glows
All of the other reindeer
Used to laugh and call him names
They never let poor Rudolph
Join in any reindeer games*

*Then one foggy Christmas Eve
Santa came to say
"Rudolph, with your nose so bright
Won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"*

*Then how the reindeer loved him
As they shouted out with glee
"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
You'll go down in history"*

Frosty the Snowman

Walter "Jack" Rollins, Steve Nelson

*Frosty the Snowman, was a jolly happy soul,
With a corn cob pipe and a button nose, and two eyes made of coal.*

*Frosty the Snowman, is a fairytale, they say.
He was made of snow, but the children know he came to life one day.*

*There must have been some magic in that old silk hat they found,
For when they placed it on his head, he began to dance around!*

*Oh, Frosty, the Snowman, was alive as he could be;
and the children say he could laugh and play,
just the same as you and me.*

*Thumpety thump, thump, thumpety thump, thump,
look at Frosty go.
Thumpety thump, thump, thumpety thump, thump,
over the hills of snow.*

*Frosty the Snowman, knew the sun was hot that day,
so he said, "Let's run, and we'll have some fun now, before I melt away."*

*Down to the village, with a broomstick in his hand,
Running here and there, all around the square,
sayin', "Catch me if you can."*

*He led them down the streets of town, right to the traffic cop;
and only paused a moment, when he heard him holler, "Stop!"*

*For Frosty, the Snowman, had to hurry on his way,
But he waved goodbye, sayin' "Don't you cry, I'll be back again some day."*

Prayers of the Church

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer...

Pastor Sarah

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.

Carol Singing

It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

NCH # 131

*It came upon a midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold;
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, great news of joy we bring."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

*For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold,
when with the ever circling years comes round the age of gold.
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world send back the song which now the angels sing.*

Offertory

Offertory Music

Prayer of Dedication

Rugee Gimarino

The Sacrament of Baptism

Siavash Fallah

Pastor Sarah

Response: *We do with the help of God.*

Hymn

Away in a Manger

NCH# 124

Attributed to James R. Murray

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Love Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Love, Jesus, asleep on the hay.*

*The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes,
but little Love, Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you dear Jesus; protect me I pray,
and stay by my side until night turns to day.*

Scripture

Luke 2:1-7

Rugee Gimarino

2 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to

deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

A Christmas Story

Room for A Little One
Martin Wadell and Jason Cockcroft

Pastor Sarah

Closing Song

We Wish You A Merry Christmas

led by Chris Peterson

*We wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas!
We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year!
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin,
We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year*
(repeat)

Benediction

Pastor Sarah

Response

Go Tell it on the Mountain

NCH #154

Chorus
*Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.*

*While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a Holy Light.*
Chorus

*Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And brought us God's salvation that blessed Christmas morn!*
Chorus

Postlude

Carol Medley
arr. Mark Hayes

Yuyoung Jeong

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