

# **iucc** Irvine United Congregational Church

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

February 22, 2023 – 7:00 PM

## **Ash Wednesday**

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**Prelude**

Yuyoung Jeong

**Welcome**

Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

**Lighting of the Community Candle**

**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!

**Lighting of Individual Candles**

Craig Tyrl MTh

**Response**

Myrna Bohan

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*

**Solo**

***Untitled Hymn***  
by Chris Rice

Joy Dorko

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

Myrna Bohan

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.

**Offering/Solo*****The Poet and His Song***

Thalia Moore

By Florence Price

**Homily**

Pastor Sarah

**Imposition of Ashes**

Pastors Sarah &amp; Craig

**Closing Song*****Ashes***

Congregation

By Tom Conry

We rise again from ashes, from the good we've failed to do.  
We rise again from ashes, redeemed, O Lord, by you.  
Our penance, Lord, our sorrow, our grieving hearts renew,  
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.  
Our stumblings, give direction, our vision wider view,  
an offering of ashes, an offering to you.

Then raise us up from ashes, your healing ease our pain.  
Though spring has turned to winter, and sunshine turned to rain,  
your rain will nurture growing, and create our world anew,  
an offering of ashes, an offering to you.

**Benediction**

Pastor Sarah

**Postlude**

Yuyoung Jeong

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### **Our Staff**

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