

## **“We Are the Ones We Have Been Waiting For”**

**Script for Youth-led worship service at UCC**

**May 31, 2009**

Our poem sermon, “We Are the Ones We Have Been Waiting For” honors the title of June Jordan’s poem of the same name. Jordan was a Caribbean American poet, novelist, teacher, and committed activist. She became a passionate voice of a generation battling the constructions of race, gender, sexuality, politics, war, violence, and human rights. Her poem was dedicated to the women of South Africa; for their emotion, inspiration and transformation. Our poem speaks of similar issues and of our own hope of change.

It is the worst of times. It is the best of times.

It is time to speak our truth.

The earth is being stolen from us-by us.

Pollution, poverty

Despair

Disease, discrimination

Genocide, war

Despair

Abuse and debt

Despair

Our spirits are overwhelmed.

Our souls hunger, hunger for change.

We look to God for an answer. And our answer is revealed-

Do not look outside yourselves for the leader.

We are the ones we have been waiting for.

When insecurity and selfishness seep war and discrimination into innocent veins, we’ll offer peaceful resolution and unity.

When a child cries from a third missed meal or another from a third beating, we will insure nourishment and heal their hearts.

We are the ones we have been waiting for.

When toxins taint the atmosphere; when discarded rubbish litters river beds, oceans and streams; when the animals expire, we will become stewards for our earth and advocate for alternative.

When devastating natural disasters threaten the lives of men, women and children; when they wipe out everything, we will join our neighbors and begin to rebuild the victims and their existence.

We are the ones we have been waiting for.

When warped minds and ravaged souls yearn for stability and sustenance; we will cultivate mindfulness; the integration of mind, body and spirit.

When young girls and boys are preyed on, we will offer them the knowledge of their innocence

We are the ones we have been waiting for.

When religion interferes with God, we will encourage spiritual rejuvenation.

When families cave under financial debt; we will rebuild their self-confidence and offer them hope and security through our special offerings.

When people look to the past and dream of the future; we will remind them that the power is in now. For now is all we have. It's all we'll ever have.

We are the ones we have been waiting for.

God speaks and is on the move through us and through you.

May you also become the one you've been waiting for; the one the world's been waiting for.

Peace and Amen