



## Did you know Isabella Beecher Hooker...

Another member of the famous Beecher family was Isabella Beecher Hooker (February 22, 1822 – January 25, 1907). Before the Civil War she was an ardent abolitionist, but after emancipation, she became an activist in the American Suffragist movement and for women's rights in general. She repeatedly submitted her petition to provide married women with property rights to the state assembly of Connecticut until that body finally enacted it into law in 1877.

She traveled frequently to speak in conventions and to present her view that there was no need for an amendment to the U.S. Constitution for women's suffrage. She believed the right for women to vote was inherent in that document already. Later in life she traveled and spoke less, but continued her advocacy in writing.

She revealed her knowledge of the Bible and principles of interpretation in this quote from her address before the International Council of Women, Washington, D. C., March 30, 1888:

"You tell me that I must submit to conditions before I can vote; I, who am a free-born citizen of the United States; while yet you admit this ignorant foreigner, if he is a man, to the full privileges and responsibilities of citizenship. I defy this assumption of power on the part of the men of this country! I declare to you as did the Apostle Paul: 'I am free-born.' 'With a great price obtained I this freedom,' said the Roman centurion to this patriotic old apostle; but he replied: 'I am free-born.' Ah, friends, there is music in these words to my ear."

### ...was a Congregationalist?

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### Call To Worship

L: Pilgrims are we, O Lord God we come

**C: 400-year-old travelers with Your Son**

L: When we have been weary, You have restored our souls

**C: And set us on the path again, of redemption**

L: We come to this hour seeking refreshment, courage, and the will

**C: To continue this journey toward the community of heaven**

### Invocation (in unison)

We remember this day our Pilgrim forebears, whose constant prayers and unshakable courage brought them to this land we now call home. They brought their sins, their cares, their temptations, too, and found their help and strength from you. We approach You with the same needs and the hope that this hour may be for us a time of grace and empowerment to live with courage as Christ's new pilgrims. Amen

Historical story by: Rev. Garry Fisher

Liturgy by: Rev. Tom Richard