



# Irvine United Congregational Church

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

October 11, 2020 – 11:00 AM

## Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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**Prelude** *I Need Thee Every Hour* Joshua Chandra  
*by Robert Lowry (1872)*

**Gathering Song** IUCC Voices

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** [www.iucc.org/visitor](http://www.iucc.org/visitor) the Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

**Call to Worship** Lester Ricks

One: We come this morning in PJs and morning coffee in hand,  
**All: On computer screens, I-pads, and propped up phones,**  
One: We come this morning exhausted from yet another week  
of unbelievable and fatiguing news,  
**All: Over-stimulated, anxious and yet alienated.**  
One: We come this morning in search of inspiration, called into  
a community of connection,  
**All: Listening for a word of hope, a prayer of peace upon our lips,**  
One: What word have you for us, Oh God, in such a time as this?  
**All: We come to listen, to answer, to serve.**

**Hymn** *Perhaps You Have Been Chosen* Chris Peterson  
*Words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette* Dir. of Music  
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"Perhaps you have been chosen for such a time as this!"  
So Mordecai told Esther to serve as she'd been blessed.  
Their people were in danger and needed someone brave —  
A queen who knew her calling to risk and act and save.

She stood up for her people and dared approach the king  
Although he might have killed her for doing such a thing.  
Inviting him to dinner — a feast to satisfy —  
She asked of him a favor: "Don't let my people die!"

The king gave what she wanted and let her people live,  
And all because Queen Esther used what she had to give.  
She faced her fear with courage, she changed the things she could,  
She chose to make a difference — to use her life for good.

O God, we look around us and see a world in need.  
There's violence and injustice, there's prejudice and greed.  
Remind us of our calling to bravely use our gifts.  
Perhaps we have been chosen for such a time as this.

## **A Fresh Word**

David Perez, MYP director

## **Anthem**

*Agnus Dei*  
from *MASS IN G (DV 167)* by Franz Schubert  
*Brianna Finnell, soprano solo*  
*Chris Peterson, baritone solo*

Intern Quartet

## **Prayers of the Church**

Pastor Sarah

Concluding with the Lord's Prayer...

**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.**

## **Offertory Invitation**

[www.iucc.org/giving](http://www.iucc.org/giving)

## **Offertory Music**

*Sweet Hour of Prayer*  
by Wm. B. Bradbury (1859)

Joshua Chandra

## **Prayer of Dedication**

## **Scripture**

*Esther 4:12-17*

Lester Ricks

When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not think that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this." Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, "Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink

for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law; and if I perish, I perish.” Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

<b>Sermon</b>	<i>For Such a Time as This</i>	Pastor Sarah
<b>Anthem</b>	<i>I'll Make the Difference</i> by Moses Hogan <i>Ayanna Delk Lewis, soprano solo</i> <i>David Melendez, guest tenor</i>	Intern Quartet
<b>Benediction</b>		Pastor Sarah
<b>Response</b>	<i>Alleluia!</i>	IUCC Voices
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>God Be with You till We Meet Again</i> by William G. Tomer (1880)	Joshua Chandra

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## This Week at IUCC

Links to join Zoom events are in the Tuesday & Friday email-updates

[Sign up on our website!](#)

<b>Virtual Coffee Hour</b>	on Zoom	Today at 11:45 AM
<b>Diversity &amp; Inclusion Task Force</b>	on Zoom	Today at 12:30 PM
<b>Ministries Board</b>	on Zoom	Monday at 7:00 PM
<b>Adult Bible Study</b>	on Zoom	Tues. at 4:00 PM
	<i>Story of King David! Reading in 1 &amp; 2 Samuel</i>	
<b>Midweek Adult Study</b>	on Zoom	Wed. at 6:30 PM
	<i>Survey of the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament)</i>	
<b>Diversity &amp; Inclusion Book Study</b>	on Zoom	Thurs. at 7:00 PM
	<i>SO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT RACE</i> by Ijeoma Oluo	
<b>Diversity &amp; Inclusion Forum</b>	on Zoom	Saturday at 10:30 AM
	<i>Tracing Racism through Black Hair – Past to Present</i>	
<b>Worship Next Sunday</b>	on Facebook	at 11:00 AM
	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/irvineucc">https://www.facebook.com/irvineucc</a> or <a href="http://www.iucc.org">www.iucc.org</a>	

## IUCC Office Hours

Pastor Steve & Heidi are in the church office (949-733-0220) M-Th;  
Steve checks messages and email on Fridays.

Pastor Sarah is off on Fridays; during the rest of the week she can  
be reached at [PastorSarah@iucc.org](mailto:PastorSarah@iucc.org) or 714-293-0241.

## Our Staff

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<i>Senior Pastor</i>	<i>the Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano</i>	<i>PastorSarah@iucc.org</i>
<i>Administrative Pastor</i>	<i>the Rev. Steve Swope</i>	<i>steve@...</i>
<i>MYP Director</i>	<i>David Perez</i>	<i>davidp@...</i>
<i>Director of Music</i>	<i>Dr. Chris Peterson</i>	<i>chris@...</i>
<i>Accompanist</i>	<i>Joshua Chandra</i>	<i>josh@...</i>
<i>Choral Interns</i>	<i>Brianna Finnell</i>	
	<i>Jacob Hall</i>	
<i>Worship Technology</i>	<i>Alyssa Wilkens</i>	<i>alyssa@...</i>
<i>Early Childhood Director</i>	<i>Irma Rosales</i>	<i>irma@...</i>
<i>Bookkeeper</i>	<i>Heidi Willcox</i>	<i>heidi@...</i>

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