



Irvine United Congregational Church

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

November 29, 2020 – 11:00 AM

First Sunday of Advent

Prelude *Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming* Joshua Chandra
ES IST EIN' ROS; harm. Michael Praetorius (1609)

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 iucc.org/visitor the Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

Call to Worship Shanthi Nataraj

One: We begin our journey to Bethlehem, in anticipation of better days ahead.

Many: We will look for signs to lead the way.

One: Amid the dark of night we squint to see a twinkling of what soon might be!

Many: We wait with anticipation and hope, amid days of doubt and worry.

One: With You, Spirit of Advent, we serve,

**Many: mindful of those for whom this season is not one of joy;
too many miss family and friends**

One: In you, God with us, we place our faith,

Many: For the mess of this world pains us and leaves us fearful.

One: Yet still we hope.

Many: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Introit *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Intern Quartet
Trad. French; arr. Thomas Helmore

Lighting the Advent Candle Blackburn-Louie Family

Candle Response *I Choose Hope* Chris Peterson, Dir. of Music
by Brownie Macintosh

A Fresh Word David Perez, MYP director

Anthem

Star Carol
by John Rutter

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

iucc.org/giving

Offertory Music

We Three Kings
KINGS OF ORIENT by J. H. Hopkins (1857)

Joshua Chandra

Prayer of Dedication

Shanthi Nataraj

Scripture

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Shanthi Nataraj

"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Sermon

There Will Be Signs

Pastor Sarah

Hymn

Star Child
by S. E. Murray & C. R. Young

Chris Peterson

Star child, earth child, go-between of God
Love child, Christ child, heaven's lightning rod
(*Refrain*) This year, this year let the day arrive
When Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive
Street child, beat child, no place left to go
Hurt child, used child, no one wants to know
(*Refrain*)

Benediction

Pastor Sarah

Response

Alleluia!

IUCC Voices

Postlude

Angels from the Realms of Glory
REGENT SQUARE by Henry T. Smart (1867)

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!](#)

Virtual Coffee Hour	on Zoom	Today at 11:45 AM
Adult Bible Study	on Zoom	Tues. at 4:00 PM
<i>Story of King David! Reading in 2 Samuel</i>		
Worship Next Sunday	on Facebook	at 11:00 AM
<u>https://www.facebook.com/irvineucc</u> or <u>www.iucc.org</u>		
Budget Forum	on Zoom	Next Sun. at 12:30 PM
<i>Budget documents will be on the church website by Thursday.</i>		
New Member Gathering	on Zoom	Next Sun. at 1:00 PM

IUCC Office Hours

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

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

CONCERN AMERICA VIRTUAL FAIR-TRADE CRAFT SALE!

For two weeks from Sunday, December 6 to Sunday, December 20, IUCC will host a Concern America Virtual Fair-Trade Craft Sale featuring unique and quality handcrafts that provide us with the opportunity to “buy gifts with a purpose.” We have long welcomed Concern America in person to sell their beautiful and life transforming handcrafts, and this year their sale will be online at marketplace.concernamerica.org.

Take advantage of Free Shipping when you spend \$75 or more by using coupon code# **IUCC2020** at checkout. Also please add the name of your church (IUCC) to the note section of checkout.

This year there are many new handcrafted textiles, ceramics and wood products from Bangladesh, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Mozambique. These beautifully made, fair trade items were selected to be reminders that when a Concern America product is purchased we are providing a source of income to materially poor families while supporting community development, protecting the environment, and ensuring fair working conditions and fair prices earned for their work.

Concern America is an international development organization based in Santa Ana that builds capacity in health care, clean water, education, and economic opportunities. You may learn more about their work, donate directly to them, and view the selection of their crafts on their web site: www.concernamerica.org.

Our Staff

<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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