



# Irvine United Congregational Church

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

December 13, 2020 – 11:00 AM

## Third Sunday of Advent

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**Prelude** *God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen* Joshua Chandra  
*Trad. English Carol*

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

**Call to Worship** Hali Cespedes-Chorin

One: A birth announcement heralds the coming of a baby

**Many: A mother weeps with joy**

One: Soon, her world will change forever

**Many: Soon, our world will change forever**

One: Will she ever be prepared to parent the baby in her womb?

**Many: Will we ever be prepared to receive him?**

One: Now is the time. Prepare yourself

**Many: We wait with expectation, our hearts overjoyed**

One: God's gift to Mary, God's gift to the world will soon be with us

**Many: O come, O come, Emmanuel, God with us**

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

**Lighting the Advent Candles** Jeannie Lee & Christian Murdy

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

**A Fresh Word** David Perez, MYP director

**Welcoming New Members** the Rev. Steve Swope  
*Lisa & Myrna Bohan, Markyce & Sarah Halverson-Cano, Pam Kamps, Nora Webb*

## Hymn

*Star Child*  
by Shirley Erena Murray

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!

Spared child, spoiled child, having, wanting more,  
wise child, faith child, knowing joy in store.

*(Refrain)*

## 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](http://iucc.org/giving)

### Offertory Music

*I Saw Three Ships*  
Trad. English carol

Joshua Chandra

### Prayer of Dedication

Hali Cespedes-Chorin

## Anthem

*How Great Our Joy*  
Trad. German carol; arr. Hugo Jurgst  
Andrew Hernandez, guest tenor

Intern Quartet

## Scripture

*Luke 1:39-56*

Hali Cespedes-Chorin

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.  
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.  
 His mercy is for those who fear him  
 from generation to generation.  
 He has shown strength with his arm;  
 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.  
 He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
 and lifted up the lowly;  
 he has filled the hungry with good things,  
 and sent the rich away empty.  
 He has helped his servant Israel,  
 in remembrance of his mercy,  
 according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
 to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

<b>Sermon</b>	<i>Bold Joy</i>	Pastor Sarah
<b>Benediction</b>		Pastor Sarah
<b>Response</b>	<i>Alleluia!</i>	IUCC Voices
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>Wake, O Wake and Sleep No Longer</i> <i>WACHET AUF by Philipp Nicolai (1599)</i>	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 12:00 PM
<b>Congregational Meeting</b>	on Zoom	Today at 12:30 PM
<b>Adult Bible Study</b>	on Zoom	Tues. at 4:00 PM
	<i>Story of King David! Reading in 2 Samuel</i>	
<b>Talking about Work</b>	on Zoom	Sat. at 10:30 AM
<b>Worship Next Sunday</b>	on Facebook	at 11:00 AM
	<u><a href="https://www.facebook.com/irvineucc">https://www.facebook.com/irvineucc</a></u> or <u><a href="http://www.iucc.org">www.iucc.org</a></u>	
<b>Advocates for Peace &amp; Justice</b>	on Zoom	Next Sun. at 12:00 PM

## CONCERN AMERICA VIRTUAL FAIR-TRADE CRAFT SALE!

From Dec. 6-20, IUCC is hosting a Virtual Fair-Trade Craft Sale featuring unique and quality handcrafts that provide us 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 the sale will be online at [marketplace.concernamerica.org](https://marketplace.concernamerica.org).

Free Shipping when you spend \$75 or more: use coupon code **IUCC2020** at checkout. Also, please add the name of our church (IUCC) to the note section at checkout.

This year there are many new handcrafted textiles, ceramics and wood products from Bangladesh, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Mozambique. When a Concern America product is purchased, it provides 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 can learn more about their work, donate directly to them, and view the selection of their crafts on their web site: [www.concernamerica.org](http://www.concernamerica.org).

### 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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