



Irvine United Congregational Church

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

January 9, 2022 – 9:30 & 11:00 AM

Epiphany Sunday

Prelude *Jesus the Very Thought of Thee* Yuyoung Jeong
arr. Jay Rouse

Gathering Song Choral Interns

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 John Habash

One: We are still in the darkness, scanning the sea of night above us,
searching...

**Many: Our eyes squint to see it. Our hearts jump at each speck of
diamond. Our breath catches.**

One: Will we encounter the star? Will we find the light?

Many: We spot it. Sojourners on an illumined path, we follow its direction.

One: Will we find the Star-Child?

Many: What shall we do if we find him?

One: When we arrive we'll know.

**Many: We're nearly there, the bright light leads us. The wisdom of the
cradle calls us on.**

Hymn *Three Wise Ones* Choral Interns
(tune: We Three Kings)

Three wise ones from far-away are bearing gifts; they traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

(Refrain) O Star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright.

Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect Light.

Herod called upon the wise ones, come to me when your search is done.
Searching, seeking, lands far-reaching, finding the Holy Son.

(Refrain)

Kneeling down in homage that day, for a child that will light the way.
Glad rejoicing, never voicing, where this Christ-Child lays.

(Refrain)

Glorious now behold the Christ Child; Holy Infant, so tender and mild.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Christ the Savior, is born!

(Refrain)

A Fresh Word

Ministry with Young People

Anthem

Amen, Amen
African American spiritual

Choral Interns

Prayers of the Church

the Rev. Joe Dressler

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

John Habash

Offertory Music

Prayer of Dedication

Song

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

Dr. 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.

Grown child, old child, memory full of years,
sad child, lost child, story told in tears,

(Refrain)

Hope-for-peace Child, God's stupendous sign,
down-to-earth Child, Star of stars that shine,

(Refrain)

Scripture*Matthew 2:1-12*

John Habash

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Sermon

Pastor Sarah

Benediction**Response***Alleluia!*

Choral Interns

Postlude*Wonderful Words of Life*
arr. Jay Rouse

Yuyoung Jeong

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*Today's flowers are provided by Rob & Irene Thornton, who write
"We dedicate the flowers in memory of our beloved son, Patrick Shinoda Thornton.
We lost him fifteen years ago today."*

IUCC Office Hours – Steve & Heidi are in the church office (949-733-0220) M-Th;
Steve answers messages and email on Fridays. Pastor Sarah is off Fri/Sat;
the rest of the week she can be reached by email or text to 714-293-0241.

This Week at IUCC

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

[Sign up on our website!](#)

Sunday School (children & adults)	at IUCC	Today at 10:00 AM
Coffee Hour	on the Patio	Today at 10:30 & 12
Ministry with Young People	Plumer Hall	Today at 12:15 PM
Men's Breakfast Group	on Zoom	Mon. at 8:00 AM
Ministries Board	on Zoom	Mon. at 7:00 PM
Adult Bible Study	on Zoom	Tues. at 4:00 PM
	<i>Exploring the book of Genesis</i>	
Child Care Committee	on Zoom	Tues. at 6:30 PM
Women's Breakfast Group	at Paul's Pantry, MV	Thurs. at 8:00 AM
BSA 10 Commandments Hike	at IUCC	Sat. at 10:00 AM
Worship Next Sunday	at IUCC & online	9:30 & 11:00 AM

Our Staff

<i>Senior Pastor</i>	<i>the Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano (she/her)</i>	<i>PastorSarah@iucc.org</i>
<i>Administrative Pastor</i>	<i>the Rev. Steve Swope (he/him)</i>	<i>steve@...</i>
<i>Director of Music</i>	<i>Dr. Chris Peterson (he/him)</i>	<i>chris@...</i>
<i>Accompanist</i>	<i>Yuyoung Jeong (she/her)</i>	
<i>Choral Interns</i>	<i>Jocelyne Ramirez, alto (she/her)</i>	
	<i>Jaime Reza, tenor (he/him)</i>	
	<i>Wendy Wiebach, soprano (she/her)</i>	
<i>Worship Technology</i>	<i>Gemini Grace (they/them)</i>	<i>gemini@...</i>
<i>Early Childhood Director</i>	<i>Irma Rosales (she/her)</i>	<i>irma@...</i>
<i>Bookkeeper</i>	<i>Heidi Willcox (she/her)</i>	<i>heidi@...</i>

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