

Irvine United Congregational Church

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

May 8, 2022 • 9:30 & 11 AM

Mother's Day Sunday

Prelude *Dreaming* Yuyoung Jeong
SCENES FROM CHILDHOOD, OP. 15 by R. Schumann

Gathering Song *As We Gather* by Coomes & Fay

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 Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

Introit *O Grant Us Light* Chancel Choir
by L. Tuttielt & H. W. Baker

Call to Worship Olivia Sirchio

One: On this Day we celebrate women and motherhood,
we welcome you.

Many: Into the sanctuary of God's mothering arms we gather.

One: To those who gave birth this year to their first child,

Many: We celebrate with you.

One: To those who lost a child,

Many: We mourn with you,

One: To those who are in the trenches with little ones every day
and wear the badge of food stains,

Many: We appreciate you.

One: To those who experienced loss this year through miscarriage,
failed adoptions, or running away,

Many: We mourn with you.

One: To those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes,
prods, tears, and disappointment,

**Many: We walk with you. Forgive us when we say foolish things.
We don't mean to make this harder than it is.**

One: To those who are not mothers and feel like outsiders
unappreciated on a day like today.

**Many: We do not separate you. Being a woman is not contingent
on making babies.**

One: To those who are foster moms, mentor moms, and spiritual moms,

Many: We need you.

One: To those who have warm and close relationships with your
children,

Many: We celebrate with you.

One: To those who have disappointment, heart ache, and distance
with your children,

Many: We sit with you.

One: To those who lost their mothers this year,

Many: We grieve with you.

One: To those who experienced abuse at the hands of your own mother,

**Many: We acknowledge your experience, and are pained by it.
We offer you comfort.**

One: To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests, and the
overall testing of motherhood,

Many: We are better for having you in our midst.

One: To those who will have emptier nests in the upcoming year,

Many: We grieve and rejoice with you.

One: And to those who are pregnant with new life, both expected
and surprising,

Many: We anticipate with you.

One: To those who fear, or rage, or cry out, as your rights are
threatened to be taken from you,

Many: We stand with you.

**All: This Mother's Day, we walk with you. To be a woman is not
for the faint of heart and we have real warriors in our midst.**

We remember you and we honor you and are filled with gratitude to and for you!

(adapted from Rev. Canon Lloyd Casson)

Hymn *The Care the Eagle Gives Her Young* Hymnal #468

The care the eagle gives her young, safe in her lofty nest,
Is like the tender love of God for us made manifest.

As when the time to venture comes, she stirs them out to flight,
So we are pressed to boldly try, to strive for daring height.

And if we flutter helplessly, as fledgling eagles fall,
Beneath us lift God's mighty wings to bear us, one and all.

A Fresh Word

Anthem *A Mother's Hands* Chancel Choir
 by Ruth Elaine Schram

Prayers of the Church Rev. Dr. Terry LePage

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 Olivia Sirchio

Offertory Music

Prayer of Dedication

Solo *Take Care of Her* Jaime Reza
 by Jaime Javier Reza

Scripture *Isaiah 41:10, 13* Olivia Sirchio

Do not fear, for I am with you;
do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you; I will help you;
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

For I, the Lord you God,
hold your right hand;
it is I who say to you, "Do not fear,
I will help you."

Sermon Pastor Sarah

Benediction

Response *Alleluia* by Jerry Sinclair

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
(Repeat)

Postlude *Midsummer* Yuyoung Jeong

NEW ENGLAND IDYLLS, OP. 62, II by E. MacDowell

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*Today's flowers are given by Nancy Parker
in memory of Annamarie Parker.*