

# Irvine United Congregational Church

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

*July 24, 2022 • 9:30 & 11 AM*

*SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST*

## **Prelude**

### ***God Save the People***

by Steven Schwartz

Yuyoung Jeong

## **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**

Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

## **Introit**

### ***Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord***

by Steven Schwartz

Congregation will sing along after the first verse:

Kiana Hamzehi

Prepare ye, the way of the Lord (repeat)

## **Call to Worship**

Cesar Sangalang

ONE: We find ourselves on this thrilling roller coaster of life. It's ups! It's downs!

It's unexpected turns: the screams of danger and delight.

**MANY: God-SPELL us!**

ONE: We build friends, family, and relationships which challenge us, nurture us, and sustain us.

**MANY: God-SPELL us!**

ONE: We share in the power of all creation through the use of our creativity, imagination, and sense of play. We give birth to something out of nothing.

**MANY: God-SPELL us!**

ONE: We are searching for ways to express love for ourselves and for others, grounded in our faith experience of a man named Jesus.

**MANY: God-SPELL us!**

ONE: We find our bliss in loving acts of compassion, generosity, kindness, understanding.

**MANY: God-SPELL us!**

ONE: Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord!

**MANY: God-SPELL us!**

**Song**

***God's Way on Broadway***

Wendy Wiebach

by Barry Mann

Lyrics by Halverson-Cano

They say the Bible's black 'n white  
That's God's way (That's God's way)  
They say God wrote the book and that's all  
But God's not only black and white  
And I don't mean to start a fight  
But God's still speaking to and through us all.

They say it's just a show for fun  
On Broadway (On Broadway)  
But there is truth and light for all who hear.  
Because if you just look for God  
You're gonna find that you'll be awed  
The Spirit sings in song for those with ears.

They say that I won't fit in church  
That's God's way (That's God's way)  
But they don't know God's circle's deep and wide  
They say that only some belong  
Truth is Jesus proves 'em wrong  
'Cause God is present in this song  
Truth is Jesus proves 'em wrong  
'Cause God is present in this song  
That's God's Way On Broadway  
That's God's Way On Broadway...

**A Fresh Word**

## **Affirmation of Church Leaders**

Pastor: You have been called to Leadership in this church. Do you accept the responsibility to serve and lead God's people?

**Leaders: We do.**

Pastor: Relying on God's grace, and together with the people of this congregation, will you exercise your ministry diligently and faithfully, seeking justice, loving mercy, walking humbly with God?

**Leaders: We will.**

## **Prayer of Dedication**

**God we pray that you will guide and sustain these church leaders in your love. Give them wisdom and courage for the choices they will make. Give us generous minds and hearts to empower their leadership that it may strengthen all our ministry. Together, help us identify and do the things which most need to be done, allowing the rest to find its right place, that each of us may take our part and none be overburdened. We pray this as followers of Jesus, trusting in his way. Amen.**

## **Song**

### ***Day by Day***

Jenna McCarty

by Stephen Schwartz

Congregation will sing along after the first verse:

Day by Day, Day by Day. Oh, Dear Lord, three things I pray!  
To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly,  
follow thee more nearly, day by day!

## **Prayers for 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.**

## **Song**

### ***Oh Bless the Lord My Soul***

Kiana Hamzehi

by Stephen Schwartz

## **Offertory**

Cesar Sangalang

**Offertory Music** Yuyoung Jeong  
**Prayer of Dedication** Cesar Sangalang

**Solo** *Beautiful City* Wendy Wiebach  
by Stephen Schwartz

**Scripture** **Matthew 13: 45-46** Cesar Sangalang

“The kingdom of heaven is like a man, a merchant, seeking fine pearls; on finding one pearl of extremely great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.”

**Sermon** **Godspell and the Pearl of Great Price** Craig Tyrl

**Benediction** Pastor Sarah

**Response** *Alleluia*  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (Repeat)

**Postlude** *Oh Bless the Lord My Soul* Yuyoung Jeong  
Stephen Schwartz

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This week's flowers were donated by Donna Picard for her father Mr. W. W. Jeffries.