

Solo

Ave Maria
by Franz Schubert

Lester Ricks

Scripture

Luke 1:26-38

Pastor Sarah

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Anthem

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing
arr. Patti Drennan

Chancel Choir
Kristen Norton, Flute

Scripture

Matthew 1:18, 21-23

Pastor Joe

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.... "She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us."

Scripture

Luke 2:1-5

Pastor Sarah

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended

from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

Carol *O Little Town of Bethlehem* Brian Noel, harp
by Lewis H. Redner

Scripture *Luke 2:6-7* Pastor Joe

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Carol *The First Nowell* Hymnal #139

The first Nowell, the angel did say,
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
(*Refrain*) Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell, born in a manger, Emmanuel.
They looked above and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. (*Refrain*)

And by the light of that same star three sages came from country far,
To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.
(*Refrain*)

Scripture *Luke 2:8-14* Pastor Sarah

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Carol *Angels We Have Heard on High* Hymnal #125

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echo back their joyous strains.

(*Refrain*) Glo__ria in excelsis Deo, Glo__ria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song?
(*Refrain*)

See the babe in manger laid whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.
(Refrain)

Scripture

Luke 2:15-20

Pastor Joe

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Duet

Some Children See Him Thalia Moore & Jaime Reza
by Wihla Hutson & Alfred S. Burt

Scripture

Isaiah 9:2-7

Pastor Joe

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Homily

Pastor Sarah

Anthem

Silent Night
arr. John Rutter

Chancel Choir
Brian Noel, Harp

Postlude

What Child is This?
W. Chatterton Dix

Brian Noel, harp

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*We are grateful for the talents of **Brian Noel**,
who shares his harp music with us each Christmas Eve.*

IUCC Office Hours

The Church Office will be closed 12/26/22-1/2/23

Administrative Pastor, Craig Tyrl will begin on 1/1/23
Heidi and in the New Year) Craig are in the church office M-Th (949-733-0220);
Pastor Sarah is off Fri/Sat; the rest of the week she can be reached by email or text to
714-293-0241.

Our Staff

Senior Pastor the Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano (she/her) PastorSarah@iucc.org

Director of Music Dr. Chris Peterson (he/him)

Accompanist Yuyoung Jeong (she/her)

Choral Interns:

Joy Dorko, alto (she/her), Jaime Reza, tenor (he/him), Thalia Moore, soprano (she/her)

Early Childhood Director Irma Rosales (she/her) irma@iucc.org

Bookkeeper Heidi Willcox (she/her) heidi@iucc.org

Our Administrative Pastor, Craig Tyrl (he/his) will begin on January 1, 2023.

Irvine United Congregational Church

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