

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

February 11, 2024 • 11:15am

FAT SUNDAY

Gathering

Come, Now is the Time to Worship

By Brian Doerksen (adapted Gary Barmore)

Come, now is the time to worship;
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come just as you are to worship;
Come just as you are before your God.

Come.

Ev'ry day we live in the light of God's love,
Ev'ry day we walk by faith.

Now we're here to open our hearts once more,
Now we give thanks for grace.

Come, now is the time to worship;
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
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Come just as you are before your God.

Come.

Come, come, come!

Connecting

(opportunity to greet one another)

Singing

When the Saints Go Marching In

Oh When the Saints Go Marchin' in,
Oh When the Saints Go Marchin' in,
Oh Lord I want to be in the number,
When the Saints Go Marchin' in,

Oh when the Light begins to shine,
Oh when the Light begins to shine,
Oh Lord I want to be in the number,
When the Light begins to shine,

Oh when the Love begins to flow,
Oh when the Love begins to flow,
Oh Lord I want to be in the number,
When the Love begins to flow,

Oh when we celebrate our Light,
Oh when we celebrate our Light,
Oh Lord we want to be in the number,
Oh when we celebrate our Light!

Centering

Joy Dorko

March on in, you Saints, one and all!

With exuberance we joyfully embrace the colors of green, gold, and purple alive in our
Fat Sunday celebration!

In the color green, we find the symbol of justice –

a call to cultivate a world where righteousness and equality flow like a river.

In justice, we find our purpose; in green, we see the promise of a world transformed.

The color gold speaks to the essence of our faith – a comfort and a challenge, a practice and a
steady companion: the light that illuminates our way.

As we bask in the golden glow of this day, let our faith be a beacon, guiding us through the challenges
and illuminating the path towards a more compassionate and inclusive world.

The regal color purple represents the power that resides within us –

not the power that dominates, but the power that empowers, uplifts, and transforms.

Let us embrace this royal hue with humility, recognizing that true power is found in service and love.

In power, we discover our potential; in purple, we see the royalty of our shared humanity.

Together, in the dance of green, gold, and purple, let us celebrate with joy, and in our celebration,
may justice, faith, and power weave together,
creating a tapestry of love that transcends all boundaries.

Fresh Word

Ministry with Young People

Praying

Craig Tyrl MFA, MA

Administrative Pastor

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Ken Medema

Lord, Listen to your children praying, Lord, Send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Offering

We Are an Offering

By Dwight Liles

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to you, we are an offering.
God, use our voices, God, use our hands,
God, use your lives, they are yours,
We are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you;
we are an offering, we are an offering.

Reading

Luke 14:12-24

Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

One of the dinner guests, on hearing this, said to him, "Blessed is anyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!" Then Jesus said to him, "Someone gave a great dinner and invited many. At the time for the dinner he sent his slave to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for everything is ready now.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of land, and I must go out and see it; please accept my regrets.' Another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I am going to try them out; please accept my regrets.' Another said, 'I have just been married, and therefore I cannot come.' So the slave returned and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and said to his slave, 'Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.' And the slave said, 'Sir, what you ordered has been done, and there is still room.' Then the master said to the slave, 'Go out into

the roads and lanes, and compel people to come in, so that my house may be filled.
For I tell you, none of those who were invited will taste my dinner.”

Learning

Rev. Dr. Sarah Halverson-Cano

Sending

Carry the Light

By Debby Moylan

We have all witnessed your presence,
We have received your grace.
We give you honor and glory,
For moving in this place.

Now we go out to share the good news.
Now we go out to share your love.
Now we go out to share the good news.
Now we go out to share your love:

Carry the light! Carry the light!
Carry the light to all the Earth!
Carry the light! Carry the light!
Carry the light of Jesus Christ!

Departing

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