

WELCOME

PRELUDE

"Feast of the Blessed Virgin"

Malcolm McKenvey

Pastor Beth Snarr

Anait Piloyan

CALL TO WORSHIP

Tony Witts

From north and south, from east and west, we come:
People called to the Table where simple grace nourishes us.
From down the street to across town, from single households to apartment dwellers:
God's people are called to community, where we live and serve one another.
From every class, every race, every status; from little ones with sippy cups to elders with overflowing hearts:
As God's people we seek to increase our faith, to offer peace to a shattered world, to feast together at one table of love.

HYMN

"All the Colors of the Rainbow"

1

All the colors of the rainbow live unseen in daily light, but their splendors find expression when released to human sight; so the church reveals most beauty where diversity is real: breadth of race and class and gender, room for doubt, and space to heal.

2

All the body's parts are wanted, nor can one despise the rest: head and hand must work together, as must eye, ear, throat, and chest; so the church needs all its members for a range of ministries: varied gifts with one great mission, "Do this for the least of these."

3

Every language gains more music when the words for peace appear: Pax, Salaam, Eirġni, Heiwa, Pace, Santi, Frieden, Mir. Though our tongues make sounds that vary all bespeak a common home: longing for the end of conflict and new life in God's Shalom.

4

Teach us, God, our need of others; through them help us fully live. Wean us from our selfish habits; let us listen, learn, forgive. May we see your longed-for image in each human heart and face, and behold how those around us can be channels of your grace.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

UMH 881

Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

UMH 70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

RECEIVING GOD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Many Gifts, One Spirit"

Chancel Choir

Allen Pote

CALL TO PRAYER

UMH 496 (vs 1)

"Sweet Hour Of Prayer"

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care, and bids me at my Father's throne make all my wants and wishes known. In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found relief, and oft escaped the tempter's snare by thy return, sweet hour of prayer!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

UMH 895

Pastor Harold Henderson

GATHERING SONG

FWS 2233

"Where Children Belong"

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshiping throng. Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: this is where children belong.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SERMON

Triple Citizenship

Citizens of the World

Pastor Beth Snarr

Matthew 5:13-16

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION MEDITATION MUSIC

Lynn Sandefur-Gardner



HYMN FWS 2170

"God Made From One Blood"

¹ God made from one blood all the families of earth, the circles of nurture that raised us from birth, companions who join us to walk through each stage of childhood and youth and adulthood and age.

² We turn to you, God, with our thanks and our tears for all of the families we've known through the years, the intimate networks on whom we depend of parent and partner and roommate and friend.

³ We learn through our families how closeness and trust increase when our actions are loving and just. Yet families have also distorted their roles, mistreating their members and bruising their souls.

⁴ Give, Lord, to each family in conflict and storm a sense of your wisdom and grace that transform sharp anger to insight which strengthens the heart and makes clear the place where rebuilding can start.

⁵ Then widen that wisdom and grace to include the races and viewpoints our families exclude till peace in each home bears and nurtures the bud of peace shared by all you have made from one blood.

BENEDICTION

Pastor Beth Snarr

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE W&S 3154 "Draw the Circle Wide"

Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still. Let this be our song: no one stands alone. Standing side by side. Draw the circle. Draw the circle wide.

POSTLUDE

"Christ Triumphant"

Anait Piloyan

John Marsh

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ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given by

Kathy and Harold Henderson in loving celebration of 8 years of marriage,

and by

the Monday Meal Team in honor of and appreciation for Charlene O'Byrne Smith's excellent leadership.

PRAYER CONCERNS

If you have prayers to be lifted up, drop an email to our Prayer Team at prayer@fumcgvn.org or go to <https://fumcgvn.org/PrayerRequest>.

NEW SERMON SERIES - TRIPLE CITIZENSHIP

We are starting a new sermon series today titled "Triple Citizenship". As followers of Jesus who live in the US, most of us claim three overlapping identities: citizens of the world, citizens of the United States, and citizens of God's Kingdom. Each citizenship carries responsibilities and sometimes tensions. This series explores Jesus' teachings from the Sermon on the Mount that give us direction on how to hold them together faithfully. However, when our citizenships collide, which one gets the final word? Jesus' answer throughout Matthew 5-7 is the Kingdom of God.

MISSION FOCUS - ZOE EMPOWERS

Our ministry focus today is on Zoe Empowers - an organization that serves the most vulnerable youth-led households and youth living in extreme poverty in Africa and India. We have partnered with Gator Wesley to fund a peer community group in Kenya and equip them with the knowledge, resources, and support needed to overcome extreme poverty and thrive. Please note "Zoe Empowers" on your gift. Thank you!

EXPLORING MEMBERSHIP CLASS STARTING OCTOBER 18

Exploring Membership classes are conversational and informative sessions for anyone who desires to learn more about First UMC and Methodism, and are a great way to get to know some new people and to answer any questions you might have. This series of three, one-hour sessions will be held in Bell Hall (room to be determined) and the classes will start at 9:15 a.m. - childcare and coffee will be available! Attending the sessions are not a commitment to join the church, but for those who are ready, you will have the opportunity to join as a member of First UMC during worship in November. Questions or to sign up, please contact Janet Rocap, our Director of Adult Discipleship, at janet@fumcgvn.org.



The light of Jesus shines most brightly when our God-given time and talents are shared in service to others. Learn where you can volunteer by using the QR code above or visit fumcgvn.org/ways-to-serve

WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES

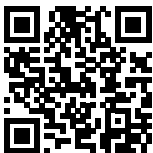


GIVE BY CHECK

Place in a black offering box, or mail or bring to the Church Office at 419 NE 1st Street Gainesville, FL 32601



Have you considered long-term support of our church ministries through our Legacy Endowment Fund? For more details, contact legacy@fumcgvn.org



GIVE ONLINE

use the QR code above or visit fumcgvn.com/GiveOnline or via the First UMC app