

Christmas Eve

*Candlelight and Children's Nativity
4:00 p.m. Worship Service*

We welcome and affirm those of every age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, socio-economic condition, family structure, and physical or mental ability into all aspects of the life of this congregation.



OPEN HEARTS
OPEN MINDS
OPEN DOORS

419 NE 1st Street, Gainesville, Florida 32601
(352) 372-8523 | contact@fumcgv.org



WORSHIP

WELCOME

Pastor Alan Taylor

PRELUDE

Lynn Sandefur-Gardner

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Brad, Brittany, and Lillian Bruggeman

Dear God, it's now our turn to accept the Light, share it with others, and carry it forth from this place. Amen. So be it. Amen.

CAROL UMH 234 (vs. 1, 3, 6) "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

¹ O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

³ Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

⁶ Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning, Jesus, to thee be all glory given. Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

"And It Came To Pass"

Pastor Alan Taylor

RECEIVING OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE READING OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Pastor Alan Taylor and Carl Rocap

The children will present the characters of the story as the carols are sung.

MARY AND JOSEPH

CAROL UMH 217 (vs. 1, 2) "Away in a Manger"

¹ Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

² The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes; I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky and stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh.

ANGELS

CAROL UMH 240 (vs. 1, 3) "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

¹ Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies; with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

³ Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

SHEPHERDS

CAROL UMH 238 (vs. 1, 2) "Angels We Have Heard on High"

¹ Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

² Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?

THE WISE PERSONS AND THE STAR

CAROL UMH 254 (vs. 1, 5) "We Three Kings"

¹ We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar, field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

⁵ Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice: Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies.

THE NATIVITY

CAROL UMH 219 (vs. 1, 3) "What Child Is This?"

¹ What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

³ So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF CHRISTMAS

(To light your candle, please turn your unlit candle into the lit one to avoid spilling melted wax.)

CAROL UMH 239 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

¹ Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

² Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia! Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

³ Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light; radiant beams from thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

⁴ Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING

CAROL UMH 246 (vs. 1, 4) "Joy to the World"

¹ Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

⁴ He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, and wonders of his love.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Lynn Sandefur-Gardner

(Please extinguish and deposit your candles in the baskets in the Narthex as you leave. Thank you.)

TODAY'S MUSICIAN

Lynn Sandefur-Gardner, piano





WELCOME!

FROM THE FIRST UMC FAITH FAMILY

**Our Mission is to Connect our Church with our Community
and our Community with Christ.**

As a community of faith that believes in
Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors,
we're so glad you're here and we hope you can join us again for worship!

Christmas Plus One

Sunday, December 26 at 10:30 a.m.

A special worship experience of sharing scripture, telling the stories
behind some of your favorite Christmas Carols, and then singing them!
(both on-campus and online)

Our regular worship services resume on Sunday, January 2, 2022.

Worship (both on-campus and online) begins at 10:30 a.m.
with the Sacrament of Holy Communion the first Sunday of every month.

Join us online at

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