

WELCOME
PRELUDE

Pastor Beth Snarr
Jennifer Miller and
Lynn Sandefur-Gardner
Doug Ray

CALL TO WORSHIP

God created, from nothing. God created from the dust of the earth.

God created in God’s own image.

God continues to create through Jesus and the Spirit.

God’s creativity knows no end.

May God’s beautiful Creation inspire our worship.

May God’s love inspire us to care for the beauty around us and create beauty to share.

HYMN UMH 529 “How Firm a Foundation”

¹ How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word! What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

² “Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God and will still give thee aid; I’ll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

³ “When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow; for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

⁴ “When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply; the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

⁵ “The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I’ll never, no, never, no, never forsake.”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that God is the great Artist, Maker, and Author of all that is good.

We believe that God made humanity in His own image, gifting us with imagination, skill, and the capacity to shape the world around us.

We affirm that creativity is not a mere luxury or an idle task, but a sacred reflection of our Maker. Through paint and pen, song and speech, building and planting, we mirror the creative heart of God.

We dedicate our works and our working to the Lord. Whether crafting justice, building community, or making music, we offer our creativity back to Him as an act of worship and a service to our neighbor.

In wonder and in work, we join the whole creation in praising the Lord, who makes all things new. 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

Jennifer Miller and
Lynn Sandefur-Gardner

CALL TO PRAYER UMH 77 (vs. 2) “How Great Thou Art”

When through the woods and forest glades I wander, and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees; when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Harold Henderson

LORD’S PRAYER UMH 895

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

WE WELCOME AND AFFIRM THOSE OF EVERY RACE, ETHNICITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION,
GENDER IDENTITY, SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITION, FAMILY STRUCTURE,
AND MENTAL OR PHYSICAL ABILITY INTO ALL ASPECTS OF THE LIFE OF THIS CONGREGATION.



HYMN

UMH 733

"Marching to Zion"

- ¹ Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known; join in a song with sweet accord, join in a song with sweet accord and thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.
We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion; we're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.
- ² Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God; but children of the heavenly King, but children of the heavenly King may speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad.
- ³ The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets before we reach the heavenly fields, before we reach the heavenly fields, or walk the golden streets, or walk the golden streets.
- ⁴ Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry; we're marching through Emmanuel's ground, we're marching through Emmanuel's ground, to fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high.

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

Jennifer Miller and
Lynn Sandefur-Gardner

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ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given by John Bevis in loving memory of his parents, Herb and Cotella Bevis.

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 - HOW GREAT THOU ART

We are starting a new sermon series today titled "How Great Thou Art" in conjunction with our art exhibit, "The Colors of Gainesville", at the end of September. Over 80 works of art will be displayed in our Fellowship Hall by artists within our congregation and throughout our community. This exhibit, as well as this sermon series, is in celebration of our creator God who invites us, as people made in God's image, to create with purpose and care for the world that's entrusted to us.



MISSION FOCUS - HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE GIFT CARDS

We are asking for donations of gift cards, or monetary donations that will be used to purchase gift cards, to help build the always-popular Gift Baskets for the Holiday Marketplace on November 6, 7, and 8! Holiday Marketplace is our yearly event that helps raise funds for various missions and ministries. Stop by the Holiday Marketplace table in the Narthex for more information. Please help us help others!



SIMPLE SUNDAY LUNCH TODAY!

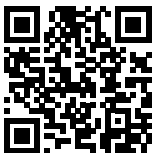
Enjoy a football tailgate-themed Simple Sunday Lunch in the Fellowship Hall after worship today! No reservations are required for this free lunch but we will gladly accept donations to offset the cost and volunteers to help serve or clean up are always welcome!

COMMUNION SERVICE AFTER WORSHIP TODAY

A brief Service of Holy Communion will be held in the Shaw Memorial Chapel (located off the Fellowship Hall) immediately after worship today. If you'd like to receive this tangible expression of God's grace, please join us. Everyone is welcome!



WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES



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

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