

# Christmas Eve

*Choir, Candlelight, and Communion  
7:00 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.

 **FIRST**  
**UMC** *with* **OPEN HEARTS**  
**OPEN MINDS**  
**OPEN DOORS**  
united methodist church  
GAINESVILLE-FLORIDA



# WORSHIP GUIDE

## WELCOME

Pastor Beth Snarr

## PRELUDE

"Bethlehem"  
Michael Helman

Celebration Ringers

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Bill & Martha Emerson

## CAROL UMH 234 (vs. 1, 2, 3, 6) "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

<sup>1</sup> 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.*

<sup>2</sup> True God of true God, Light from Light Eternal, lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb; Son  
of the Father, begotten, not created;

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

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

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Harold Henderson

## LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

## RECEIVING OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

## SPECIAL MUSIC

"The Winter Rose"  
Joseph Martin

Chancel Choir

## THE READING OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

## CAROL UMH 230 (vs. 1, 2) "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

<sup>1</sup> O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; above thy deep and dreamless  
sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the  
hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

<sup>2</sup> For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels  
keep their watch of wondering love. O morning stars together, proclaim the holy  
birth, and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

### SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:8-14

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

<sup>1</sup> 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!"

<sup>3</sup> 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!"

### SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:15-20

## CAROL UMH 245 (vs. 1, 2) "The First Noel"

<sup>1</sup> The first Noel 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.  
*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.*

<sup>2</sup> They looked up 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.

**CHRISTMAS MEDITATION**

The Heart That Grew Three Sizes  
When Light Shines  
Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Pastor Beth Snarr

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION MEDITATION MUSIC**

"O Holy Night"  
arr. The "B" Team

"B" Team

**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"

- <sup>1</sup> 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.
- <sup>2</sup> 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!
- <sup>3</sup> 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.
- <sup>4</sup> 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

"Joy to the World"

- <sup>1</sup> 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.
- <sup>2</sup> Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- <sup>3</sup> No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
- <sup>4</sup> 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**

Gavan Mcvey

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

*Thank you for joining us tonight!*



As a community of faith that believes in  
Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors,  
we hope you can join us again for worship!  
We worship every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in our Sanctuary and online.  
<https://fumcgnv.org/watch>

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Our Sanctuary is adorned with poinsettias for the Advent and Christmas season in dedication to loved ones. Listed below are the many who have joined together to create this beautiful worship space.



### GIVEN IN MEMORY OF

**Joyce Pritt and Shirley Alford**  
*by the Alford/Clark Family*

**My grandmother, Annie Cannon Pound**  
*by Betty Alsobrook*

**Grandma Rose Dunbar**  
*by the Bruggeman family*

**Uncle Larry and Aunt Jodi Goethe**  
*by the Bruggeman family*

**B. J. Jackson**  
*by Sally Cravens*

**Mrs. Mayme E. Evans, Mr. Andrew J. Evans,  
Mrs. Teresa R. Livingston, Mr. Henry T.  
Harris, Mrs. French L. Alkire, and Mr. French  
L. Alkire**  
*by Sandy Evans, Karen Harris, Wesley Evans, and  
Sarah Evans*

**Harold's father, Jim Henderson, and Kathy's  
grandfather, Walter B. Scarvie**  
*by Harold and Kathy Henderson*

**Our parents, Barbara and Taylor Kirby,  
Pat Jones, and Ronald Jones**  
*by Evelyn and Casey Jones*

**Our wonderful parents**  
*by Larry and Donna Parrish*

**My parents**  
*by Melanie Pate*

**Our parents, Rowland and Elaine Medler**  
*by Jan, Marilee, and Sue Sharp*

**Our friend, B.J. Jackson**  
*by Phil and Beth Snarr*

**Lannie, Bess, and Tommy Thompson**  
*by Bryan, Lori, Will, and Jack Trippler*

**Richard Wilson**  
*by Ruth Ann Wilson*

**My husband, Bob Van Winkle**  
*by Joan Van Winkle*

### GIVEN IN HONOR OF

**Betty Skelton**  
*by Sally Cravens*

**The church staff and volunteers**  
*by Sally Cravens*

**Our three sons and five granddaughters**  
*by Dan and Kay Greathouse*

**Our children, Daniel, Evan, and Ryan**  
*by Evelyn and Casey Jones*

**Our son-in-law, Mike Cespedes, and our  
daughter-in-law, Jessy Deccache**  
*by Evelyn and Casey Jones*

**Fred Llana**  
*by Michelle Springer Llana*

**Our parents**  
*by Sandra and Jack Moorhead*

**Our children**  
*by Sandra and Jack Moorhead*

**My brother**  
*by Melanie Pate*

**Our daughters and their families**  
*by Larry and Cheryl Resch*

**First UMC's Growth Group leaders:**

**Flo Caldwell, Elise Caton, Adrienne Engel,  
Dan Greathouse, Betty and Steve Kee, Doug  
Kirk, Jim Nation, and Margret Steptoe**  
*by Janet Rocap*

**Our parents, Richard and Karen Snarr, and  
Tom and Carol Morris**  
*by Phil and Beth Snarr*

**Shirley Thompson**  
*by Bryan, Lori, Will, and Jack Trippler*

**Our grandchildren**  
*by Joe and Carol Ward*

**My children and grandchildren**  
*by Joan Van Winkle*

**Michael's 76th birthday**  
*by Cindy Woodruff*

**"God Bless Us Everyone"**  
*by Ann Warne*