

The Winter Rose



December 17, 2023
The Third Sunday of Advent



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

WELCOME!

FROM THE FIRST UMC FAITH FAMILY

WELCOME

Pastor Beth Snarr

PRELUDE

"Go, Tell it on the Mountain"
arr. Stan Pethel

Instrumental Ensemble

CALL TO WORSHIP

Alex Gibson

God comes! So don't let go of all the reasons to rejoice.

We will sing a song of Advent to the One who fills our lives with joy.

God comes! So don't stop lifting your prayers with thanksgiving.

We will sing a song of Advent to the One who hears our words and silence.

God comes! So don't stop giving your hearts to God.

We will sing a song of Advent to the One who graces us with a peace we cannot begin to understand.

CAROL UMH 250 (vs 2, 3, 4) "Once In Royal David's City"
verse 1 sung by Sadie Court and Jenna Herndon

² He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all, and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall. With the poor, the scorned, the lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.

³ Jesus is our childhood's pattern; day by day, like us he grew; he was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew; and he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.

⁴ And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love; for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above; and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Marlene Udell

We believe in God who is found in mystery and miracles.

We believe in Christ who brings light into dark places.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who gives us strength to endure when we are pushed beyond our own strength.

We believe in the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer who finds us in our lostness and, with love beyond our imagining, leads us home.

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.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

Sadie Court, Alex Gibson, & Marlene Udell

SUNG RESPONSE

¹ Kindle this flame of joy. May it burn bright and true. Lighting the way that is of God, the journey we pursue.

² God's realm is our desire, where peace and justice reign. Heaven and earth combined as one, when Christ shall come again.

THE WINTER ROSE

Joseph Martin

narration written by Madison Dymont, Karin Jeter, Chuck Sanders, and Michael Ekblad

"The Winter Rose"

"When Will He Come?"

"Advent Cry"

"Every Valley"

"Carol of Remembrance"

"Lullaby to a Rose"

CAROL

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

- ¹ 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.
- ² 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.
- ³ How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given; so God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.
- ⁴ O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray, cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

arr. Steven Sharp Nelson

"Dance into the Light"

"The Rose Tree Carol"

"The Winter Rose" (reprise)

"Look to the Rose"

"Lo, How a Rose"

CAROL UMH 246

"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.
- ² 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.
- ³ 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.
- 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

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

Gavan Mcvey

Special thanks to everyone who helped and contributed long hours and hard work to making this year's service a fabulous success! Please see below for a list of the groups and musicians that made this worship experience possible. You are all greatly appreciated!

Michael Ekbladh, Director of Music Ministries and Worship Arts

	Instrumental Ensemble	Soloists
Gavan Mcvey, <i>organ</i>	Sunny Baik, <i>flute</i>	Sadie Court
Lynn Sandefur-Gardner, <i>piano</i>	John Bevis, <i>clarinet</i>	Elvis Gomez
Chancel Choir	Greg Caruso, <i>trombone</i>	Jenna Herndon
Tech Crew	George Emmanuel, <i>trombone</i>	Jennifer Miller
Narrators	Wes Emmanuel, <i>tuba</i>	Lacy Patton
Alex Gibson	Ryan Hecker, <i>percussion</i>	Martha Peyser
Marlene Udell	Drew Miller, <i>trumpet</i>	Sandy Reeves
	Jennifer Miller, <i>violin</i>	Lynn Sandefur-Gardner
	Zach Strickland, <i>cello</i>	Zach Strickland
	April Zink, <i>trumpet</i>	Jessica Van Leer
	Jahirah Williams, <i>percussion</i>	Cindy Woodruff
		Mike Woodruff

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!
We worship every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in our Sanctuary and online.

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 24 at 10:30 a.m.

Lighting of the fourth candle of Advent in preparation for the birth of Jesus Christ.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

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

Choir, Candlelight, and Communion Service at 7:00 p.m.

New Years Eve Worship Service

Sunday, December 31 at 10:30 a.m.

All of our services are available online at

Web site: fumcgv.org/watch

Facebook: facebook.com/fumcgv/live

YouTube: youtube.com/FirstUnitedMethodistChurch

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.



HELPING HANDS MATCH CHALLENGE

During this special season of giving, we celebrate the ministry of our mission partner, Helping Hands Clinic. HHC has consistently served our community's most vulnerable for over 30 years and they continue to be their patients' primary source for healthcare. We hope you'll support this life-saving work in 2024 and beyond by participating in the Helping Hands Clinic Annual Holiday Donation Match Challenge!



Once again, a volunteer donor and "Uncle Ike Family" has pledged to match all monetary donations given to the clinic through December 31st. These funds will be used by the clinic to support all aspects of program operations. Donations by check can be made to First UMC with "Helping Hands Clinic" in the memo line, directly to Helping Hands via their web site at <https://hhclinicgnv.org>, or through First UMC web site at <https://fumcgnv.org/give> and using the Helping Hands quick-link on the left.

We are so grateful for all the ways Helping Hands and First UMC have been in partnership for so many years to bring healing, not only to broken bodies, but also to broken spirits. Please also feel free pass the word to anyone who'd be interested in helping to support this life-giving work! God Bless You.



WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES



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1-888-364-GIVE (4483)



GIVE ONLINE
Visit our website
www.fumcgnv.com/give-online
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GIVE BY CHECK
Mail or bring your check
to the Church Office
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@fumcgnv.org

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