

WELCOME

Pastor Beth Snarr

PRELUDE

Jessica Van Leer

CALL TO WORSHIP
Come, all who sit by rivers of sorrow, who have hung up their hope and wondered if God still sings.
We come carrying exile in our bones, dislocation in our hearts, and longing in our prayers.
This is the table where memory is honored, where story is sacred, where strangers become siblings.
We come to taste and see that the Lord is good, to feast on grace, to believe again in belonging.
Around the world, across languages and landscapes, a holy table is set.
We come not because we are worthy, but because Christ calls us in love. Come, let us worship the One who welcomes, the One who remembers, the One who feeds the whole world with hope.

HYMN FWS 2236 “Gather Us In”
¹ Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away, see in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in - the lost and forsaken, gather us in - the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.
² We are the young - our lives are a myst’ry, we are the old - who yearn for your face, we have been sung throughout all of hist’ry, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in - the rich and the haughty, gather us in - the proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.
³ Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt of the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
⁴ Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away, but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the Kingdom, now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own; gather us in - all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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 “Abide” Jackson Parry

CALL TO PRAYER UMH 408 (vs 3) “The Gift of Love”
Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Pastor Harold Henderson
LORD’S PRAYER UMH 895

GATHERING SONG UMH 585 (vs 1) “This Little Light of Mine”
This little light of mine, I’m goin’a let it shine, this little light of mine, I’m goin’a let it shine; this little light of mine, I’m goin’a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

CHILDREN’S MOMENT Pastor Beth Snarr
SERMON “Finding Hope in Community” Norah Pancoast
John 20:19-23

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
COMMUNION MEDITATION MUSIC Maggie Tran

HYMN UMH 641

"Fill My Cup, Lord"

Fill my cup, Lord, I lift it up, Lord. Come and quench this thirsting of my soul. Bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more, fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.

Fill my cup, Lord, I lift it up, Lord. Come and quench this thirsting of my soul. Bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more, fill my cup, fill it up and make me whole.

BENEDICTION

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


"Trumpet Tune in D"

David L. Crouse

Maggie Tran

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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.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given by Kathy and Harold Henderson in loving celebration of their 7th wedding anniversary.

PRAYER CONCERNS

If you have prayers to be lifted up or wish to be part of the team who lifts up prayers, drop an email to prayer@fumcgnv.org or go to <https://fumcgnv.org/PrayerRequest>.

MINISTRY MOMENT - ZOE EMPOWERS

Our ministry focus for today is Zoe Empowers - an organization that serves the most vulnerable youth-led households and youth living in extreme poverty in Africa and India. We are prtnering with Gator Wesley to fund a peer community group and equip them with the knowledge, resources, and support needed to overcome extreme poverty and thrive. More information is available at the Welcome Table or on their web site at <https://zoeempowers.org>. Please note "Zoe Empowers" on your second-mile gift.



WELCOME GATOR WESLEY



Students from Gator Wesley are helping to lead worship today. Gator Wesley is a United Methodist campus ministry for UF and Santa Fe College. The ministry at Gator Wesley invites students into an authentic community that encourages a life with Jesus as they discover who they are becoming and how they are connecting to their community and the world. Gator Wesley has been critical to the formation of Christ-following young adults for the last 100 years and we look forward to another 100 and beyond!


EXPLORING MEMBERSHIP CLASSES START OCTOBER 19

Exploring Membership classes offer the opportunity to learn more about First UMC and who we are as United Methodist followers of Jesus. This series of three, one-hour classes start at 9:15 a.m. on October 19 - childcare will be available. For those who are ready, you can join as a member of First UMC during worship on Sunday, November 9. Questions or to sign up, please contact Janet Rocap, Director of Adult Discipleship, at janet@fumcgnv.org.


STEPHEN MINISTRY EVENT TODAY

The Stephen Ministry leaders will be holding an educational Bible study and lunch at noon today in the Fellowship Hall. This will be an opportunity to learn more about Stephen Ministry at First UMC. For information on Stephen Ministry, you can contact them at StephenMinisters@fumcgnv.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 fumcgnv.org/ways-to-serve




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



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