WORSHIP GUIDE

February 26, 2023 1st Sunday in Lent

WELCOME PRELUDE

Pastor Beth Snarr Gavan Mcvey Joe Savastano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Welcome all on the way to the cross.

We are learning to follow Jesus.

For those who feel Christ near,

may we not turn away from the discomfort of the journey ahead.

For those who feel as far from Christ as the desert is from the ocean,

may we find Christ in the wilderness with us.

For all of us who stumble and fall in our silence, indifference, and lack of generosity,

may we reach for the hand of Christ, who raises us up to continue on the journey.

We are on the way, come let us worship God!

We come to worship God as we learn to live inside out! Amen.

HYMN FWS 2138

"Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes"

- ¹ Sunday's palms are Wednesday's ashes as another Lent begins; thus we kneel before our Maker in contrition for our sins. We have marred baptismal pledges, in rebellion gone astray; now, returning, seek forgiveness; grant us pardon, God, this day!
- ² We have failed to love our neighbors, their offences to forgive, have not listened to their troubles, nor have cared just how they live, we are jealous, proud, impatient, loving overmuch our things; may the yielding of our failings be our Lenten offerings.
- ³ We are hasty to judge others, blind to proof of human need; and our lack of understanding demonstrates our inner greed; we have wasted earth's resources; want and suffering we've ignored; come and cleanse us, then restore us; make new hearts within us, Lord!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs.

We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted.

We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a parent yearns for their child.

We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and is with us in every circumstance.

We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road of faith, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us.

This we believe and are humbled to profess. 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.

RECEIVING GOD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Shall We Gather at the River" arr. John Purifoy Jessica Van Leer & Lynn Sandefur-Gardner

CALL TO PRAYER UMH 405

"Seek Ye First"

- ¹ Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!
- ² Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and ye shall find; knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Harold Henderson

LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

HYMN 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

SERMON Living Inside Out Pastor Beth Snarr

Clear

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

HYMN UMH 451

"Be Thou My Vision"

- ¹ Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art. Thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- ² Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou and thou only, first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure though art.
- ³ Great God of heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

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 Gavan Mcvey

CONNECTION CARD Please place the Connection Card in the basket on your way out of the Sanctuary today. You can also fill this out online using our First UMC app or at fumcgnv.org/ConnectionCard		
Name(s): Guest Regular Attendee Please add/update my contact information:		
Email:	Phone:	
Address:		
Please add me to your email list	Please have someone con	tact me, I am interested in
Please have a Pastor contact me	Volunteering	Membership at First UMC
Questions, Comments, Prayer Requests Please share only with the Pastors	Growth Groups	Other

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given by Tim Vinson in loving memory of Betsy.

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*.

CONNECTION CARDS

We're glad you're worshiping with us today!

<u>First-time guests</u>, we hope you'll fill out a Connection Card that includes your contact information so we can share a special welcome with you this week.

<u>Regular attenders</u> who checked in at the Welcome Table, you don't need to fill out a Connection Card unless you have a prayer request or change of contact information.

BIBLE 365

Every Sunday at 10:15 a.m., we will show the *Bible Year* video for the next week's readings in the Epworth Parlor. Everyone is invited to join us.

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