

WELCOME

Pastor Alan Taylor

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Robert Jackson

The grace of God has appeared among us. A child has been born, bringing God's salvation.

We have seen anew the light of God's love. What an amazing gift!

Sing to our God a joyous new song. Sing to God, all nations of the earth.

Great is our God and greatly to be praised. We lift our voices with gratitude.

Let the heavens be glad as the earth rejoices. Glory to God in the highest heaven!

The child of Bethlehem will help us to know God. We gather to celebrate his presence with us.

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

¹ 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.

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

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

INTRODUCTION TO OUR CHRISTMAS CAROLS

CAROL UMH 237 "Sing We Now Of Christmas"

¹ Sing we now of Christmas, Noel, sing we here! Hear our grateful praises to the babe so dear.

Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel! Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

² Angels called to shepherds, "Leave your flocks at rest, journey forth to Bethlehem, find the child so blest."

³ In Bethlehem they found him; Joseph and Mary mild, seated by the manger, watching the holy child.

⁴ From the eastern country came the kings afar, bearing gifts to Bethlehem, guided by a star.

⁵ Gold and myrrh they took there, gifts of greatest price; there was never a stable so like paradise.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 98

CAROL UMH 246 (vs. 1, 4) "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.

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.

REMEMBERING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:1-7

CAROL UMH 217 (vs. 1, 3) "Away In A Manger"

¹ Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

³ Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray; bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:8-14

CAROL UMH 218 (vs. 1, 4) "It Came Upon The Midnight Clear"

¹ It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious King." The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

⁴ For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old, when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.



CAROL UMH 240 (vs. 1, 3)

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

¹ 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!"

³ 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

Isaiah 40:1-5, 8-11

CAROL UMH 251

"Go, Tell It On The Mountain"

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.

¹ While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold throughout the heavens there shown a holy light.

² The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo! above the earth, rang out the angel chorus that hailed the Savior's birth.

³ Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

BENEDICTION

Pastor Alan Taylor

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

CONNECTION CARD

You can also fill this out online using our First UMC app or at fumcgnv.org/ConnectionCard

Name(s): _____

Member First-Time Guest Regular Attendee

Prayer Requests Please share with the Prayer Team Please share only with the Pastor

Please add/update my contact information:

Mobile
 Home

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

- Please add me to your email list
- Please have the Pastor contact me
- I would like to volunteer, please have someone contact me

Questions or Comments?

CONNECTION CARDS

First-time guests, 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.

Regular attenders 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. Thanks to all, we're glad you're here!

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.

WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES



TEXT TO GIVE

Text FUMCGNV to 1-888-364-GIVE (4483)



GIVE ONLINE

Visit our website www.fumcgnv.com/give-online or via the First UMC app



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