

WELCOME

Pastor Beth Snarr

PRELUDE

"O Tannenbaum"
arr. Vince Guaraldi

Sunshine Brass Quintet

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Harold Henderson

We come from a world of darkness

into Christ's world of light.

We come from a world of weariness

into God's strength and hope.

We come from a slumbering world.

Strengthened by the Spirit, we come to awaken our souls and watch for the coming of Christ.

HYMN UMH 196

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

¹ Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

² Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that God has come to us; that God brought us into being, that this God gave us breath and purpose, that we have been blessed to be a blessing to others.

We believe that God is coming to us; that God is not happy to leave us alone, that God will be made known to us in flesh and bone like ours, that Jesus Christ will be born and our salvation made complete.

We believe that God will come to us; that God will have the final word and that Word will be good, that this God will give us the presence of the Spirit to continue our work, that we are called to be disciples to all the corners of the earth.

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 THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE

Dear God, on this first Sunday in Advent, let this light shine brightly as the days grow shorter, so that we will be ready for your face to shine upon us at Christmas. In the Savior's name we pray. Amen.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

RECEIVING GOD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"
Felix Mendelssohn, arr. Brandon Ridenour

Sunshine Brass Quintet

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:

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Mobile

Home

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?

CALL TO PRAYER UMH 230 (vs. 4) "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

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!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Harold Henderson

LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

HYMN FWS 2095 (vs. 1)

"Star-Child"

Star-Child, earth-Child, go-between of God, love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lightning rod,
This year, this year let the day arrive when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SERMON

Pastor Beth Snarr

"Presents from the Prophets"

Hope

Jeremiah 33:14-16

HYMN UMH 234 (vs. 1, 2, 3, 5)

"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.

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

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

⁵ Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger, we would embrace thee with love and awe. Who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?

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

"Skating"

Sunshine Brass Quintet

Vince Guaraldi, arr. Brendan Ridenour

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given by Janet & Carl Rocap, celebrating almost 50 years together.

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.

FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME GIFT CARDS

Tomorrow is the last day to turn in the Christmas gift cards for the children at the FLUMCH. Donations and cards are welcome after tomorrow and will be used throughout the year.

FAMILY PROMISE WEEK

We are hosting the Family Promise families this coming week! Due to COVID, we will not be hosting the families on-site here at First UMC, but we need to provide their meals. Please consider how you are being called to help families in need - more details and to sign up for meals is at www.familypromisevl.org or by contacting the church office.

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