

WELCOME

Pastor Beth Snarr

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS

PRELUDE

"Simple Gifts"
arr. John Purifo

Sunny Baik & Lynn Sandefur-Gardner

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come from all walks of life: the rich, the poor; the struggling and the secure.

And God calls us all.

We bring our hearts to this time and place – hearts holding joy and sorrow, questions and wonders.

And God knows us.

We offer what we have to give: our talents and our imperfections, our faith and our doubt, our hope and our hands.

And God loves us. Let us worship God.

HYMN FWS 2115

"Christ Has Risen"

- 1 Christ has risen while earth slumbers, Christ has risen where hope died, as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied. Let the moon embrace the blessing; let the sun sustain the cheer; let the world confirm the rumor: Christ is risen, God is here!
- 2 Christ has risen for the people whom he died to love and save; Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to grace his grave. Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room. He whose word inspired creation can't be silenced by the tomb.
- 3 Christ has risen to companion former friends who fear the night, sensing loss and limitation where their faith had once burned bright. They bemoan what is no longer, they expect no hopeful sign till Christ ends their conversation, breaking bread and sharing wine.
- 4 Christ has risen and forever lives to challenge and to change all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange. Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what he has been - evidence of transformation in which God is known and seen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, creator of the world and of all people.

We rejoice in every sign of God's Kingdom; in the upholding of human dignity and community; in every expression of love, justice, and reconciliation; in each act of self-giving on behalf of others; in the abundance of God's gifts entrusted to us that all may have enough; in the responsible use of the earth's resources.

Amen. So be it. 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

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"
arr. Paul Sjölund

Chancel Choir

CALL TO PRAYER

"This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. Let it shine. Let it shine. Let it shine.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Dean Brown

LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

GATHERING SONG FWS 2233

"Where Children Belong"

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng. Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: this is where children belong.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SERMON

Shine!
1 John 3:1-7

Pastor Beth Snarr

HYMN W&S 3122

"Christ Has Broken Down The Wall"

- 1 Christ has broken down the wall, Christ has broken down the wall. Let us join our hearts as one, Christ has broken down the wall.
- 2 We're accepted as we are, we're accepted as we are. Through God's love all is reconciled, we're accepted as we are.
- 3 Cast aside your doubts and fears, cast aside your doubts and fears. Peace and love, freely offered here; cast aside your doubts and fears.
- 4 We will tear down the walls! We will tear down every wall! God has called us, one and all; Christ has broken down the wall! Christ has broken down the wall!

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

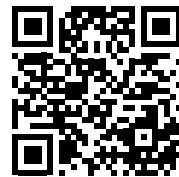
Gavan Mcvey

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.



CONNECTION CARD

Please use the Connection Card for any questions, comments, or prayer requests you may have and place in the basket on your way out of the Sanctuary today. You can also fill one out using our First UMC app or online at fumcgvn.org/ConnectionCard



online Connection Card

Name(s): _____

Please have a Pastor contact me Please have someone contact me, I am interested in

Please add me to your email list Volunteering Membership at First UMC

My contact information: Growth Groups Other Mobile

Email: _____ Phone: _____ Home

Questions, Comments, Prayer Requests

Please share only with the Pastors

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given by the Maranatha Sunday School class in honor of Jeanne Dickman-Vuille.

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@fumcgvn.org or note it on the Connection Card.

NEW SERMON SERIES

Last Sunday, we started a new sermon series today titled "Shine!" that uses the small but mighty First Letter of John to remind us of the ways Jesus' life, death, and resurrection reveal the truth that "God is love and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them." Resurrection power is found **both** on other side of this life in eternity, **and** in the right here and right now. This series will challenge us to examine how we can more fully embrace that truth.

SCOUT SUNDAY

Today we welcome representatives from our BSA Troops 84 and 21, as well as our Cub Scout Pack 127. The scouts will be helping to lead worship today.

MISSION MOMENT - HAITI RELIEF

Today's second-mile giving opportunity for missions is "New Earth Christian Ministries" in Mare-Rouge, Haiti. This ministry center was founded by a member of Pastor Beth's clergywomen's covenant group, Rev. Tammie Isidore. Pastor Tammie is originally from Haiti and is currently serving as the Senior Pastor of Faith UMC in Bradenton. She was also the first Haitian woman to be ordained an Elder in the Florida Conference in June of 2022. Pastor Tammie will be going to Haiti on April 25th and is in need of financial assistance to buy food for the children there and build three new bathrooms at a cost of \$2600 each (materials and labor). Please give if you can and pray for the people of Haiti.

WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES



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