

WELCOME

Pastor Beth Snarr

PRELUDE

Maggie Tran

CALL TO WORSHIP

Carol Morris

God calls us here together - each of us, all of us, our whole selves.

We bring our questions, our longings, our hopes, our dreams, and our fears.

Jesus invites us to come and see where God is at work.

Across the street and across the globe, Jesus is present.

Within these walls and within our hearts, God is here.

Let us worship the God who reaches out in love and invites us to come and see!

HYMN UMH 529

"How Firm a Foundation"

¹ How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent word! What more can he say than to you he hath said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

² "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, for I am thy God and will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen and help thee, and cause thee to stand upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

³ "When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow; for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

⁴ "When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply; the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

⁵ "The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose, I will not, I will not desert to its foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We know our efforts alone cannot bring in God's kingdom.

But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories over evil that are possible now in the world, the church, and our individual lives. Hope gives us courage and energy to contend against all opposition, however invincible it may seem, for the new world and the new humanity that are surely coming.

Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning. He will be Lord at the end. Even now, he is Lord.

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

"Blessed Assurance"

Chancel Choir

arr. Vernon Whaley and Charles Clevenger

CALL TO PRAYER UMH 393

"Spirit of the Living God"

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Harold Henderson

LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

GATHERING SONG 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

Awakened to Grace

Pastor Beth Snarr

Scripture

2 Timothy 3:10-17

HYMN UMH 569

"We've A Story To Tell To The Nations"

¹ We've a story to tell to the nations, that shall turn their hearts to the right, a story of truth and mercy, a story of peace and light, a story of peace and light.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noonday bright; and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.

² We've a song to be sung to the nations, that shall lift their hearts to the Lord, a song that shall conquer evil and shatter the spear and sword, and shatter the spear and sword.

³ We've a message to give to the nations, that the Lord who reigneth above hath sent us his Son to save us, and show us that God is love, and show us that God is love.

⁴ We've a Savior to show to the nations, who the path of sorrow hath trod, that all of the world's great peoples might come to the truth of God, might come to the truth of God.

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

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 Tom and Carol Morris in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King and his dream of justice for all God's children.

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>.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY, JANUARY 19

The church office will be closed on Monday, January 19 in observation of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. The office will re-open under its normal schedule on Tuesday, January 20.

OUR SERMON SERIES

Last Sunday, we are starting a new sermon series titled "Awakened to Grace". This series invites us to begin the year by rediscovering the simple, transformative practices that open us to God's presence - Prayer, Scripture, Silence, Fasting, Sabbath, and Service. May these practices, made visible in ordinary life and everyday discipleship, open us to extraordinary love.



BOBBY JO VALENTINE CONCERT - THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

A free concert by Bobby Jo Valentine will be held in our Fellowship Hall on Thursday, January 22 at 7:00 p.m. Bobby Jo is an award-winning songwriter who strives to make music and poetry that is good medicine for everyone. Tickets are free, so come out and enjoy this concert!

MISSION FOCUS - HUMAN RELATIONS SUNDAY

Our mission focus for today is Human Relations Day where we can celebrate and support ministries that empower communities and nurture hope. Our second-mile giving for today will help support programs in the areas of faith-based volunteer initiatives, youth organizing, and community development. Please indicate "Human Relations Sunday" or "Special Sunday" on your second-mile gift.

LETTERS FOR OUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

As we are all aware, there's an urgent human rights emergency in Iran right now and many people are being killed during protests. This is a personal issue for many of us at First UMC because of our love for H, M, and J whose family members are living in the midst of this crisis. An earlier email summarized things we could do to help and copies of the letters to our Congress persons are on the Welcome Table this morning for you to sign, if desired. We will collect the signed letters and mail them early this week.

COMMUNION AVAILABLE AFTER WORSHIP TODAY



A brief Service of Holy Communion will be held in the Shaw Memorial Chapel (located off the Fellowship Hall) immediately after worship today. If you'd like to receive this tangible expression of God's grace, please join us. Everyone is welcome!

WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES



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

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

GIVE ONLINE

use the QR code above or visit fumcgnv.com/GiveOnline or via the First UMC app