

How Great Thou Art



FIRST
UMC *with*
united methodist church
GAINESVILLE-FLORIDA

OPEN HEARTS
OPEN MINDS
OPEN DOORS



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WELCOME

Pastor Beth Snarr

PRELUDE

"Lasst Erfreuen"
arr. John Purifoy

Cameron Perrin

"THE MASTER CRAFTSMAN"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Donna Parrish

In the beginning, God created - spinning galaxies, sculpting mountains, and painting the sunrise.

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.

God breathed life into us, embedding the spark of creativity within our souls.

We come to praise the Master Artisan, offering our gifts, our voices, and our imagination.

HYMN UMH 62 (vss. 1, 2, 3, 7) "All Creatures Of Our God And King"

¹ All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing, O praise ye! Alleluia! O brother sun with golden beam, O sister moon with silver gleam!

O praise ye! O praise ye! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

² O brother wind, air, clouds, and rain, by which all creatures ye sustain, O praise ye! Alleluia! Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, ye lights of evening find a voice!

³ O sister water, flowing clear, make music for thy Lord to hear, Alleluia! Alleluia! O brother fire who lights the night, providing warmth, enhancing sight,

⁷ Let all things their Creator bless, and worship him in humbleness, O praise ye! Alleluia! Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, Three in One!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God the Master Artisan, who spoke light into the darkness, sculpted the valleys and mountains, and painted the canvas of space and time in whom everything that is beautiful, true, and good finds its source.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Word Made Flesh, who came as a storyteller, using parables of seeds and soil to unveil the kingdom of heaven. By his life, death, and resurrection, he is rewriting the broken story of humanity into a masterpiece of grace and redemption.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Divine Wind and Inspirer, who brooded over the waters of creation and breathes creative fire into our souls today. The Spirit fills us with wisdom and skill, turning our raw materials into expressions of praise.

We believe that we are made in the image of God. Therefore, we are called to be creators, not just consumers. We affirm that art is a holy vocation - a way to look deeply at the world, to echo the Creator's love, and to point toward the final renewal of all things. 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

"THE LITERARY ARTS"

SCRIPTURE

John 1:1-4, 14

Alex Gibson

A POEM

"The Creation"
James Weldon Johnson

"THE VISUAL ARTS"

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 31:1-11

Carol Morris

REFLECTION

Michael Ekbladh

HYMN UMH 150 (vss. 1, 4) "God, Who Stretched The Spangled Heavens"

- ¹ God, who stretched the spangled heavens, infinite in time and place, flung the suns in burning radiance through the silent fields of space, we your children, in your likeness, share inventive powers with you. Great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.
- ⁴ As each far horizon beckons, may it challenge us anew, children of creative purpose, serving others, honoring you. May our dreams prove rich with promise, each endeavor well begun. Great Creator, give us guidance till our goals and yours are one.

RECEIVING GOD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

SPECIAL MUSIC

"God the Sculptor of the Mountains"

Chancel Choir

David N. Johnson, John Thornburg

"THE SONIC ARTS"

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 150

Evie and Gia Bruce

HYMN UMH 64

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

- ¹ Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
- ² Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
- ³ Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see, only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.
- ⁴ Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

CALL TO PRAYER UMH 77 (vs. 1, 2) "How Great Thou Art"

- ¹ O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hand have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed.
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee; how great thou art, how great thou art!
- ² When through the woods and forest glades I wander, and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees; when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Harold Henderson

LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

GATHERING SONG FWS 2152 "Change My Heart, O God"

Change my heart, O God, make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.
You are the Potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me, this is what I pray.
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Beth Snarr

"THE KINESTHETIC & APPLIED ARTS"

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 18:1-6

Sandy Reeves

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.



POETRY READING

"Life is but a Weaving"
Corrie ten Boom

Nate Carpenter

HYMN UMH 382 (vss. 1, 2, 4)

"Have Thine Own Way, Lord"
Interpretive Dance by Jill Dumas

- ¹ Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Thou art the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me after thy will, while I am waiting, yielded and still.
- ² Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Search me and try me, Savior today! Wash me just now, Lord, wash me just now, as in thy presence humbly I bow.
- ⁴ Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way! Hold o'er my being absolute sway. Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see Christ only, always, living in me!

"THE SENDING OF THE ARTISTS"

LITANY OF BLESSING FOR CREATORS

Pastor Beth Snarr

To those who mix colors, mold clay, and design spaces:

May your hands be steady and your vision clear.

To those who write melodies, play chords, and sing harmonies:

May your songs give voice to our deepest joys and sorrows.

To those who weave words, tell stories, and speak truths:

May your words heal, challenge, and inspire.

To all who look at a blank canvas or a broken world and dare to imagine something beautiful:

May the Holy Spirit fuel your creative fire.

HYMN UMH 68

"When In Our Music God is Glorified"

- ¹ When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried Alleluia!
- ² How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound, as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!
- ³ So has the church in liturgy and song, in faith and love, through centuries of wrong, borne witness to the truth in every tongue, Alleluia!
- ⁴ And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: Alleluia!
- ⁵ Let every instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing always Alleluia!

BENEDICTION

Pastor Beth Snarr

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

"Festive Joy"
Simon Clark

Anait Piloyan

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ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given by Brendan and Dalis Shortley in celebration of Brendan, Jr's second birthday.

PRAYER CONCERNS

If you have prayers to be lifted up, drop an email to our Prayer Team at prayer@fumcgv.org or go to <https://fumcgv.org/PrayerRequest>.

SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES

Ways to help support our missions and ministries can be found by using the QR Code or on our web page at <https://fumcgv.org/give>

