# **WORSHIP GUIDE**

## September 7, 2025 13th Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME Pastor Beth Snarr
PRELUDE "Prelude" Maggie Tran
Henry Coleman

CALL TO WORSHIP Elise Caton

When the way is difficult and dangerous,

let us still choose what is good and just.

When evil comes to break us down and break us apart,

let us still choose to carry on with each other.

When the unthinkable strikes fear in our hearts,

let us still choose the courage to persist.

For we know that the love and power of God, which abides in us, will not be overcome.

HYMN UMH 529

"How Firm a Foundation"

- <sup>1</sup> 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?
- <sup>2</sup> "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.
- <sup>3</sup> "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.
- <sup>4</sup> "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.
- <sup>5</sup> "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** UMH 881

**Apostles Creed** 

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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.

### **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

## **RECEIVING GOD'S TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS**

SPECIAL MUSIC "Dona Nobis Pacem" Chancel Choir

Hal Hopson

**CALL TO PRAYER** UMH 408 (vs 3) "The Gift of Love"

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Harold Henderson

**LORD'S PRAYER** UMH 895

**GATHERING SONG** UMH 585 (vs 1) "This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine, this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT** 

SERMON "Vile"-tal Vision Pastor Beth Snarr

Vital "Vile"-tality Romans 8:35-39

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION COMMUNION MEDITATION MUSIC

Maggie Tran

"Blessed Assurance"

<sup>1</sup> Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

- <sup>2</sup> Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight; angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.
- <sup>3</sup> Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

#### **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** 

Toccata on "How Firm a Foundation" Claude Murphree Maggie Tran

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#### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Today's altar flowers are given by John Bevis in loving memory of his parents, Herb and Cotella Bevis.

#### **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.

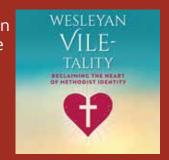
#### **MISSION FOCUS - COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY**

Our mission focus for this Sunday is our Community Outreach Ministry. COM provides support to those in need in our community facing eviction, utility shut-off, and other financial challenges. Your second-mile giving will help them to continue helping others through this ministry. Please note "COM" on your gift. Thank you for your faithful support!

### **NEW SERMON SERIES STARTS TODAY!**

We are starting a new sermon series today titled "Vile'-tal Vision: Love Boldy, Serve Joyfully, Lead Courageously" that will invite us to embrace the original Wesleyan spirit of faith. This series was

inspired by the book, *Wesleyan Vile-tality* by Ashley Boggan, and the new vision statement of the United Methodist Church. John Wesley, an Anglican priest who would become the founder of the Methodist movement, wrote in a journal entry from April 2, 1739, describing his decision to preach outside of a church, as: "I submitted to be more vile." In other words, *Wesleyan vile-tality* is a willingness to look beyond today's acceptable practices and norms, and bend the rules in order to ensure that more people can experience the love of God. This journey back to the heart of Methodism challenges us to live fully into today's new UMC vision



statement by loving boldly, serving joyfully, and leading courageously with Jesus in the lead!

## **COMMUNION AVAILABLE EVERY SUNDAY!**

A brief Service of Holy Communion (approx. 15 minutes) will be held in the Shaw Memorial Chapel immediately after worship every Sunday except for the first Sunday of the month when we observe the Sacrament during our 10:30 a.m. worship service. If you'd like to receive this tangible expression of God's grace on a more regular basis, please join us in Shaw Chapel beginning September 14.

## MEET AT THE CORNER AFTER WORSHIP TODAY

We will meet at the corner of NE 1st Street and NE 4th Avenue (by the First UMC sign) for an updated Reconciling Ministry congregational group picture, refreshments, and chalking of the sidewalk!

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

## WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES



#### **GIVE BY CHECK**

Mail or bring your check to the Church Office 419 NE 1st Street Gainesville, FL 32601



Have you considered longterm 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