

## WELCOME

Pastor Harold Henderson

## PRELUDE

"You Say"

Magnolia Demers

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Cheryl Resch

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 UMH 577

"God Of Grace And God Of Glory"

<sup>1</sup> God of grace and God of glory, on the people pour thy power; crown thine ancient church's story, bring her bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

<sup>2</sup> Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us; free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

<sup>3</sup> Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control; shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

<sup>4</sup> Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in God, the Creator! Maker of everything, Author of the Universe, and mystery behind every matter.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ! God from God, Light from Light, true God and true human, one with the creator. He is the Word made flesh and the savior of all creation!**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit! Breath of God moving among us, one with the creator and one with Christ. He is our guide and the mentor of all creation!**

## 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

"Mercy"

Magnolia and Chris Demers

## 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 Dean Brown

## LORD'S PRAYER UMH 895

## HYMN 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

Sandy Reeves

## SERMON

Fruit-full Faith and Forrest Gump  
Faithfulness

Pastor Harold Henderson

*Galatians 5:22-23 & Luke 12:15-21*

## HYMN UMH 700

"Abide With Me"

<sup>1</sup> Abide with me; fast falls the eventide; the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide. When other helpers fail and comforts flee, Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

<sup>2</sup> Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away; change and decay in all around I see; O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

<sup>3</sup> I need thy presence every passing hour. What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power? Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

<sup>4</sup> I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless; ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness. Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

<sup>5</sup> Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes; shine through the gloom and point me to the skies. Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

## 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 place the Connection Card 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](http://fumcgvn.org/ConnectionCard)



online Connection Card

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Member  Guest  Regular Attendee

Please add/update my contact information:  Mobile

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  Home

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please add me to your email list  Please have a Pastor contact me

Please have someone contact me, I am interested in  
 Volunteering  Membership at First UMC  
 Growth Groups  Other

Questions, Comments, Prayer Requests  
 Please share only with the Pastors

## ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given by Wes Emmanuel in honor of his mother, Muffet's birthday on July 17.

The rose on the altar celebrates the birth of Luca Neal Strong-Das on July 8. Congratulations to his proud parents, Jyoti Das and Adrienne Strong!

## 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](mailto:prayer@fumcgvn.org) or note it on the Connection Card.

## CONNECTION CARDS

We're glad you're worshipping with us today!

**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.

## FALL KICKOFF BRUNCH AUGUST 26

We are having a fun and music-filled brunch on Saturday, August 26 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to kick off our Fall 2023 ministries! Save the date on your calendars - childcare will be available. More information coming soon! Remember it's not First UMC without U!

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who continues to financially support our church over the summer. The pace of activity slows down this time of the year, but the bills keep on coming!

## WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES



### GIVE ONLINE

use the QR code above  
or visit  
[www.fumcgvn.com/GiveOnline](http://www.fumcgvn.com/GiveOnline)  
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### TEXT TO GIVE

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to  
1-888-364-GIVE (4483)



### 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@fumcgvn.org](mailto:legacy@fumcgvn.org)