

# ***Mulberry Street United Methodist Church***

*Macon, Georgia*

*September 20, 2020*

*Recorded Online Sanctuary Worship*

## ***Gathering***

**Welcome**

Rev. Dr. Nita Crump

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

**Call to Worship**

from Psalm 105:1-6

*In the Lord, I'll be ever thankful; in the Lord I will rejoice!  
Look to God; do not be afraid. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.*

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name;  
make know the deeds of the Lord among the peoples.  
Sing to the Lord, sing praises,  
and speak of all God's marvelous works.  
Glory in God's holy name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.  
Search for the strength of the Lord;  
continually seek God's face.  
Remember the marvels God has done,  
the wonders and the judgments of God's mouth,  
O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,  
O children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.

**Prayer of the Day**

from Exodus 16:4-5

O God who knows our every need before we can even ask,  
you provide all our needs and some of our wants.

**You bless us all.**

Make us truly thankful and empower us to bless others from the gifts  
you have given us, for the glory of your name. **Amen.**

**Hymn**

*Brethren, We Have Met to Worship*

HOLY MANNA

Brethren, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God.  
Will you pray with all your power while we try to preach the word?  
All is vain unless the Spirit of the holy One comes down.  
Brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

## ***Proclaiming***

**Prayer for Illumination**

from Exodus 16:4

Let the wisdom of your Word rain down on us like manna and feed us,  
that we may be strengthened to do the work to which we are called,  
for the glory and honor of your name. **Amen.**

**Scripture**

Matthew 20:1-6

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*No Fair!*

Rev. Dr. Nita Crump

*3. We Don't Always Get What We Deserve*

*Today's sermon is the third in a three-part series from Matthew how God's idea of fairness is fortunately very different from ours. God is allowed. God is allowed to share forgiveness according to his measure, not ours. He is allowed to open the doors of heaven to those whom he deems worthy, not those we deem worthy.*

## *Responding*

### **Anthem**

*Lord, Make Us Worthy*

Natalie Sleeth

Blessed by his coming, touched by his birth,  
Graced by his glory, here on the earth,  
Fed by his wisdom, all who believe:  
Lord, make us worthy such gifts to receive.

Sent by the Father, humbly he came;  
Master and Savior him we proclaim.  
All who have found him now as before,  
Offer him honor and praise forevermore.

Spared by his mercy, healed by his skill,  
Saved by his sorrow, bound by his will,  
Raised by his power, all who believe:  
Lord, make us worthy such gifts to receive.

Led by his Spirit, cleansed by his love,  
Filled with his promise, Word from above,  
Called to his service, all who believe:  
Lord, make us worthy such blessings to receive.

### **Affirmation of Faith**

*The 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.**

### **Call to Prayer**

*There Is a Longing in Our Hearts*

LONGING

*Refrain*

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.  
There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.

For justice, for freedom, for mercy: hear our prayer.  
In sorrow, in grief: be near; hear our prayer, O God. *Refrain*

For wisdom, for courage, for comfort: hear our prayer.  
In weakness, in fear: be near, hear our prayer, O God. *Refrain*

For healing, for wholeness, for new life: hear our prayer.  
In sickness, in death: be near; hear our prayer, O God. *Refrain*

Lord, save us, take pity, Light in our darkness.  
We call you; we wait: be near, hear our prayer, O God. *Refrain*

### **Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

# Sending

## Hymn 97

## *For the Fruit of All Creation*

AR HYD Y NOS

For the fruit of all creation,  
thanks be to God.

For his gifts to every nation,  
thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping,  
silent growth while we are sleeping,  
future needs in earth's safekeeping,  
thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor,  
God's will is done.

In the help we give our neighbor,  
God's will is done.

In our worldwide task of caring  
for the hungry and despairing,  
in the harvests we are sharing,  
God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit,  
thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit,  
thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us,  
for the truths that still confound us,  
most of all, that love has found us,  
thanks be to God.

## Benediction

### **Worship Leadership:**

The Reverend Dr. Nita Crump, Senior Pastor

Mary Kathryn Borland, Doris Granum, Lisa Shepard,

Beautiful Sheriff, Beth Tripp, and Katie Trotter, Women's Sextet

Sam McDaniel, organ

Tom Granum, Director of Music Ministries

Steve Moretti and Davis Perkins, Production and Editing

### **Credits:**

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*In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

*Text: Taizé Community*

*Music: IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL Jacques Berthier, 1986*

*Text and Music: © 1991 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)*

*Brethren, We Have Met to Worship*

*Text: George Atkins, 1819, alt. Public Domain*

*Music: HOLY MANNA Columbian Harmony, 1825 Public Domain*

*Lord, Make Us Worthy*

*Text and music: Natalie Sleeth © Sacred Music Press, Lorenz Music*

*There Is a Longing in Our Hearts*

*Text and music: LONGING Anne Quigley © 1992 Anne Quigley (published by OCP)*

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

*Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1970, alt. © 1970 Hope Publishing Company*

*Music: AR HYD Y NOS Welsh melody, c. 1784 Public Domain*

*Liturgy (Prayer of the Day; Prayer for Illumination)*

*Text: Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2, Westminster John Knox Press*

### **Giving, Contact Information, and Prayer Requests**

You can give in one of the following ways: online, auto-draft, or online bill-pay.

We are thankful for your continued support of the calling and mission of our church as we strive to shine the light of Christ across our community and to help those in need.

To give online go to [mulberrymethodist.org/give](http://mulberrymethodist.org/give).

You may contact the church: 478-745-8601

P. O. Box 149, Macon, GA 31202

Staff email addresses are [here](#). [Follow Mulberry Street UMC on Facebook](#).