

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church

Macon, Georgia

August 16, 2020

Radio/In-Person Sanctuary Worship

11:00 a.m.

Gathering

Preservice Music for Seating of Congregation

Greeting in the Name of Christ

Rev. Dr. Rick Lanford

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

Voluntary

The Peace May Be Exchanged

Dan Locklair

Call to Worship

Psalm 51:10-13

Prayer of the Day

from Psalm 51

Merciful God, we cannot stand before you unless our hearts are cleansed and our spirits are made right by your redeeming. Thank you for your merciful forgiveness, and even more for your transforming love made known to us in Jesus the Savior. **Amen.**

Hymn 140

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou forever wilt be. (R)

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see: all I have needed thy hand hath provided--Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (R)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (R)

* **Call to Confession** *Please rise in body or spirit.*

* Prayer of Confession

Have mercy on us, Lord Jesus; we are tormented!

**Our lives have been disrupted by the devil
and by our own devilish desires and evil exploits.**

**We are dismayed at your presence,
anguished by the awful fallout of our own failures.**

**We cannot take back what we have said
or undo what we have done**

or atone for the agony we have caused.

**We are haunted by the past,
plagued by the present,
and fearful of the future.**

**We shrink away from your gaze
as strangers outside your circle of blessing.**

**Yet the faith you have planted in us
reaches out for your favor,
returns to your presence,
and hungers for your mercy,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

* **Declaration of Forgiveness**

* **Passing the Peace**

*We share peace as a sign of reconciliation in Christ. Please stay in your area but turn to all those around you, open your arms to them, and say: The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.***

* **Response**

We Are Forgiven

WE ARE FORGIVEN

The soloist sings on behalf of all of us.

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Proclaiming

Prayer for Illumination

Merciful Savior, your suffering has saved our lives, secured our future, and restored us to relationship with God. Remove the shame and fear that cause us to cower in your presence. By the power of your Spirit, open our eyes and hearts to your Word of love, mercy, healing, and blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Old Testament

Genesis 45:1-15

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

Psalm

Psalm 133

You are invited to silently join the soloist on the refrain:

Oh, look and wonder how good it is! Oh, look and wonder how good it is!

Epistle

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

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

* **Gospel**

Matthew 15:10-20

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

Sermon

A Kind Word

Rev. Dr. Rick Lanford

Responding

Hymn 452

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

OLIVET

My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine:
now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away, O let me from this day be wholly thine.

May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart, my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire.

While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away, nor let me ever stray from thee aside.

When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream shall o'er me roll,
blest Savior, then, in love, fear and distrust remove; O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul.

* **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

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

Jacques Berthier

The soloist sings to God on behalf of the congregation.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear, my prayer; when I call answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer; come and listen to me.

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

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Solo

Enrich My Heart

K. Lee Scott

Enrich my heart, mouth, hands in me

with faith, with hope, with charity;

that I may run, rise, rest with thee.

Lord, who hast formed me out of mud,

and hast redeemed me through thy blood,

and sanctified me to do good;

purge all my sin done heretofore

for I confess my heavy score

and I will strive to sin no more.

---Text by George Herbert (1593-1633); alt. K. Lee Scott

Benediction

Voluntary

Finale

Charles-Marie Widor

Post-service Music for Leaving the Sanctuary

Please follow the guidance of the ushers. The organist will play until worshipers have left the sanctuary.

* *Please rise in body or spirit.*

*Those part of the service of worship in which the congregation participates in spoken word are noted in **bold type**.*

Worship Leadership:

The Reverend Dr. Rick Lanford, guest preacher, Vice President, Georgia United Methodist Foundation
Camilla Packroff, soprano and liturgist
Sam McDaniel, organ

Credits:

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The Peace May Be Exchanged

Music: Dan Locklair

Create in Me a Clean Heart

Words and Music: John Carter © 1997 Hope Publishing Company

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Words: Thomas O Chisholm, 1923 Public Domain

Music: William M. Runyan, 1923 Public Domain

We Are Forgiven

Words: Traditional liturgical text

Music: Hal H. Hopson, 1995

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O Look and Wonder

Words and music: Pablo Sosa © 1972 GIA Publications, Inc.

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Words: Ray Palmer, 1875 Public Domain

Music: Lowell Mason, 1831 Public Domain

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

Words: Psalm 102:1-2; adapt. The Community of Taizé

Music: Jacques Berthier

Words and Music © 1991, Les Presses de Taizé (France), admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

Enrich My Heart

Words: George Herbert (1593-1633), alt. K. Lee Scott

Music: K. Lee Scott © 2014 Augsburg Fortress

Finale

Music: Charles-Marie Widor