

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church

Macon, Georgia

July 26, 2020

Worship in the Sanctuary

11:00 a.m.

Gathering

Greeting in the Name of Christ

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

The Reverend Dr. Nita Crump

Voluntary

Partita on SLANE

Charles Callahan

Chorale

Adagio

Call to Worship

from Psalm 5:1-3

Give ear to my words, O Lord;

give ear to my sighing.

Listen to the sound of my cry, my King and my God,

for to you I pray.

O Lord, in the morning you hear my voice;

in the morning I plead my case to you, and watch.

Come, let us worship God.

Prayer of the Day

from Psalm 5

O Lord our God, your mercy greets us when we rise

and your grace attends us when we return to our rest.

Help us to live each waking moment assured of your protection and your love.

We pray rejoicing in the power of your Spirit,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn Solo

Lord of All Hopefulness

SLANE

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,

Trad. Irish, arr. Alan Bullard

whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy

Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,

Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,

Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,

Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,

Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,

Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,

Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,

Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,

Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,

Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,

Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

* **Call to Confession** from Psalm 105:8

* **Prayer of Confession** from Psalm 105:8

**God of mystery, God of life,
we imagine that we are capable judges
of power and wisdom and goodness.
We trust our own standards;
we separate and categorize;
we mark the performance of others.
We fail to trust your power, hidden in all things.
We fail to watch for you, working out your purposes.**

**Gracious God, hidden and manifest,
transform our withered imaginations
until we yield the judgments we trust
to a love we cannot control. Amen.**

* **Declaration of Forgiveness** from Romans 8:31-39

* **Passing the Peace**

We share peace as a sign of reconciliation in Christ.
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 from Romans 8:26

Epistle Romans 8:26-39

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

Psalm Psalm 105:1-10, 42-43

The Steadfast Love of the Lord THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD

Reflect on this sweeping account of God's history with Israel as this psalm is read and sung.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
God's mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning, new every morning;
great is your faithfulness, O Lord, great is your faithfulness.

Psalm Prayer

**O God of our salvation, through Jesus Christ you bring freedom,
fulfilling every promise you made to our ancestors in the faith.
So nourish us at your table with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
that we may endure our wilderness journeys and come at last to your eternal feast. Amen.**

* **Gospel** Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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

Sermon

Where Does the Sky Start?

The Reverend Dr. Nita Crump

Responding

Hymn 532

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

JESU, MEINE FREUDE

The soloist responds on our behalf to the word proclaimed through scripture and sermon with this 17th-century chorale, or hymn, focusing on Matthew 13:44-46.

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Chorale-Prelude

J. S. Bach

Chorale

original text sung in German

Jesu, meine Freude, meines Herzens Weide, Jesu, meine Zier!
Ach, wie lang, ach lange, ist dem Herzen bange, und verlangt nach dir!
Gottes Lamm, mein Bräutigam, außer dir soll mir auf Erden nichts sonst Liebers werden.

Chorale

sung in English

Jesus, priceless treasure, source of purest pleasure, truest friend to me,
long my heart hath panted, till it well-nigh fainted, thirsting after thee.
Thine I am, O spotless Lamb, I will suffer naught to hide thee, ask for naught beside thee.

Chorale-Prelude

Michael Burkhardt

* 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

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

Hymn

What Is the World Like

NEW WORLD

What is the world like when God's will is done?
Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive:
roots thread the soil; branches reach for the sun.
This is how God moves us each to believe.

What is the world like when God's will is done?
Witness the wandering child coming home;
watch as the parent breaks into a run.
This is how God longs for us when we roam.

What is the world like when God's will is done?
No more is neighbor just ally or friend;
peace thrives in places where once there was none.
This is how God works when rivalries end.

What is the world like when God's will is done?
Ready for feasting, we watch through the night,
tending our lamps till the new day's begun.
This is how God readies us for the light.

These are the stories that Jesus imparts,
filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.
Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts,
this is a new world where God's will is done.

Benediction

Voluntary

Prelude in Classic Style

Gordon Young

* *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. Nita Crump, Senior Pastor

Camilla Packroff, soloist and liturgist

Tom Granum, Director of Music Ministries and Organist

Credits:

Music is copied and streamed with permission: ONE LICENSE, License #A-712041. All rights reserved.

Lord of All Hopefulness

Words: Jan Struther, 1931, from Enlarged Songs of Praise

Music: Alan Bullard © 2010 Oxford University Press

We Are Forgiven

Words: Traditional liturgical text

Music: Hal H. Hopson, 1995

Words and Music © 1995, Hal H. Hopson

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.

What Is the World Like

Words: Adam M. L. Tice © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music: Sally Ann Morris © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc.