



Mulberry Street United Methodist Church

Macon, Georgia

November 29, 2020

11:00 a.m. In-Person Worship

Gathering

Greeting in the Name of Christ

Rev. Dr. Rick Lanford

Voluntary

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Paul Manz

Call to Worship

Those Who Dream

The power of dreams lies in waking up.

For when we close our eyes,

we can see a better world.

When we close our eyes,

we can dream a better dream.

But when we open our eyes,

we begin the work of faith.

The power of worship is the same.

When we enter this space,

we can see a better world.

When we enter this space,

we dream a better dream.

But when we leave this space,

we begin the work of faith.

So come in. Dream your dream.

Find hope here.

For in an hour,

we will begin the work of faith.

Let it be so.

Hymn

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

STUTTGART & HYFRYDOL

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, HOPE of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

Candle Lighting Liturgy

Candle of HOPE

Proclaiming

Prayer for Illumination

Lisa Shepard and Greg Elliott

Old Testament

Isaiah 64:1-9

Psalm

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

*Restore us again, O Lord God of hosts,
and show us the light of your face and your grace
and we shall be saved.*

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Sermon

Thank You

Rev. Dr. Rick Lanford

First Sunday of Advent: THOSE WHO DREAM . . . keep awake

*God's ultimate dream is to have an intimate relationship with every one of God's children.
May this be our ultimate dream also! Because we don't know the date or time of Christ's
return, we should keep watch, so that our dream may be realized.*

Responding

Call to Prayer

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

HEAR MY PRAYER

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.**

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Cater Snow Starling

Daughter of Kyle and Cater Starling

Renunciation of Sin

*** Profession 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.**

Baptism with Laying On of Hands

Congregational Pledge

Members of the household of faith . . .
. . . through our Savior Jesus Christ?

**With God's help
we will so order our lives after the example of Christ,
that this child, surrounded by steadfast love,
may be established in the faith,
and confirmed and strengthened
in the way that leads to life eternal.**

Sending

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Benediction

Voluntary

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Michael Burkhardt

* *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, Vice President, Georgia United Methodist Foundation
Lisa Shepard and Greg Elliott, soloists
Tom Granum, Director of Music Ministries and Organist

Our liturgy for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany is by the Reverend Sarah Are from A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctified art.org. Artwork is also from A Sanctified Art. All materials are copyrighted and used with permission.

Schedule of Events at Mulberry Street UMC

Grief Group

Grief Group led by Naomi Rockafellow begins Monday, December 14 at 4:00 in the Fellowship Hall. They will meet the second Monday of the month. If you have any questions, please call or email Beth Smith at 719-9041 or bsmith@mulberrymethodist.org.

ABC's of Christmas

Please sign up your children/family if you would like to participate in our Children's Christmas Program, *ABC's of Christmas*. More information about specific roles and parts will be sent to those who sign up, but it will require you to video your own children reading their assigned parts. You'll be asked to send it in for the church staff to compile into one video for distribution to the church family via email and social media on December 20. Deadline for signing up is Dec. 4. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040445aaa82ca6f49-abcs>

Advent Wreath

Facebook photos of Advent wreath:

Please take a photo of your Advent wreath with one candle (purple or blue) burning and send it to Tom Granum at tgranum@mulberrymethodist.org for a Facebook post later this week.

Video of lighting the Christ Candle for Christmas Eve Recorded Worship:

Please contact Tom Granum if you would be willing to videotape yourself or a group in your household/family lighting the Christ candle (white candle in the middle of the Advent wreath) to be used for our Christmas Eve Recorded Worship. Tom will provide you one sentence to read – as a group or for an individual – as one lights the candle.

THOSE WHO DREAM . . .

Our theme for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany

Psalm 126 opens with the line: “*When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.*” What does it look like to live as those who dream? The prophets, the psalmists, John the Baptist, Mary, Elizabeth, Joseph, Simeon, Anna, the shepherds and the Magi—they were all dreamers. They received, discovered, and responded to God’s dreams for the world. In Advent, we step into the mystery and awe of God’s dreams and pray they shape our reality.

Our theme for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany is for the dreamers in all of us—those who dream of a deeper connection with God and those who dream of a better world. They’re for those who dream of comfort and for those who have given up on their dreams. They’re for those whose dreams have been crushed and for those who show us that dreams take time. Join us this Advent as we dream alongside prophets and angels, Mary, and the Magi. Join us as we seek and sow God’s dreams for our world.