

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia*

# *The Church at Worship*

*First Sunday after Christmas  
December 27, 2015  
Eleven O'clock*



## **ENTRANCE AND PRAISE**

Greeting

Rev. Bill Culpepper

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us worship God!

Opening Voluntary

Cam Bishop

“Sing with Joy, Glad Voices Lift”

Hermann Schroeder

Call to Worship

Harold Chapman

O sing to the Lord a new song.

**The Lord has done marvelous things.**

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who live in it.

**Let the hills sing together for joy  
for the Lord is with us.**

\* Carol No. 220

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

REGENT SQUARE

\* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

God of earth and heaven,

when you brought your firstborn into the world,  
you sent your angel messengers,  
swift as the winds,  
and your servants,  
like flames of fire,  
to tell the glad news.

Give us courage in the midst of all earth's shadows  
to praise you for the Light that overcomes;  
to sing the glory of your beloved Son,  
who came to live among us,  
full of grace and truth. **Amen.**

\* Affirmation of Faith  
The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit  
and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in the one holy catholic  
and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Act of Praise  
“Mary, Did You Know?”

Chris Abbott, Tenor  
B. Greene & M. Lowry

# PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

## Children's Moments

*All children are invited to meet on the chancel steps.  
Kids age 6 and under will leave for  
Children's Church after Children's Moments.*

## Psalm 148

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord from the heavens,  
praise the Lord, in the heights!

**Praise the Lord, all his angels,  
praise the Lord, all his hosts!**

Praise the Lord, sun and moon,  
praise the Lord, all shining stars!

**Praise the Lord, highest heavens,  
and all waters above the heavens!**

Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
who commanded and they were created,  
**who established them for ever and ever,  
and fixed their bounds which cannot be passed.**

Praise the Lord from the earth,  
sea monsters and all deeps,  
**fire and hail, snow and smoke,  
stormy wind fulfilling God's command!**

Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars!  
**Beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and flying birds!**

Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the earth!  
**Young men and maidens together,  
old men and children!**

Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
whose name alone is exalted,  
whose glory is above earth and heaven.  
**God has raised up a horn for his people,  
praise for all his faithful ones,  
for the people of Israel who are near their God.  
Praise the Lord!**

\* Carol No. 251

“Go, Tell it on the Mountain” GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

\* Gospel Lesson

Harold Chapman

Matthew 2:13-18

Response: The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Bill Culpepper

“Don't They Know It's Christmas?”

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Offering of our Gifts

\* Hymn of Response

GREENSLEEVES

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
come, peasant, king, to own him;  
the King of kings salvation brings,  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary.**

\* Invitation to Christian Discipleship

## **SENDING FORTH**

\* Closing Carol No. 246

“Joy to the World”

ANTIOCH

The Light of Christ Goes Into the World

*Please be seated after the cross and light pass your pew.*

*As the light of Christ is carried out into the world,  
you are invited to remain seated for a few minutes  
of personal reflection to prepare to re-enter that world.*

*Consider prayerfully how God has been present to you  
in worship this morning and how you can be present for him  
in the world this week.*

*“God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen” W. Held*

\* Benediction

Rev. Bill Culpepper

\* *Please stand as you are able.*



*Rev. Tommy Perkins, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Bill Culpepper, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministries  
Cam Bishop, Director of Music/Organist  
Harold Chapman, Lay Reader  
Sara Kate Sellers, Lead Acolyte  
Hayden Martin, Crucifer  
Graham Johnston & Xavier Tarbox, Candlelighters*

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of C.J. Bridges, Sr. and Vivian H. Bridges  
by the family.*

## **Welcome All Visitors**

*We welcome you to Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.*

*Please make sure you sign the **Attendance Register** as it is passed.*

***Nursery Care** is provided for children under 4 years of age.*

*Please ask an usher for directions to the Nursery.*

*For more information visit us at: [www.mulberrymethodist.org](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org)*

### **Up & Coming Events & Prayer List**

*Mulberry's Up & Coming Events and Prayer List  
is located in the Registration Pads on your pew.*

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**Today's Sermon**

“Don't They Know Its Christmas?”

**Today's Scripture**

Matthew 2:13-18

<sup>13</sup> When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

<sup>14</sup> So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, <sup>15</sup> where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

<sup>16</sup> When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. <sup>17</sup> Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

<sup>18</sup> “A voice is heard in Ramah,  
weeping and great mourning,  
Rachel weeping for her children  
and refusing to be comforted,  
because they are no more.”

**Sermon Notes**

***Previous Sermons Available Online***

*If you are interested in listening to previous sermons,  
please visit our website at [www.mulberrymethodist.org](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org)  
and click on “Listen” on top right.*