

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia*

The Church at Worship

*First Sunday after Christmas
December 31, 2017
Eleven O'clock*



Entrance and Praise

Greeting in the Name of Christ

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us worship God.

Opening Voluntary

Hunter Godsey, Guest Organist

Call to Worship

Pam Johnston

Arise! Shine! The light you have been waiting for is here!
Darkness has been banished!
God's light of hope floods the earth
God's light comes to us all.
Lord, make us ready to journey to this Light.
Prepare our hearts to receive this Light.

* Entrance Hymn No. 249

"There's a Song in the Air"

CHRISTMAS SONG

* Opening Prayer

Pam Johnston

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

God of Promise and mysterious Light,
be with us this day as we journey in our faith;
to meet your Gift.
Give us courage and hope along the way,
as your light will continue to glow brightly in our path,
leading us to service and discipleship in Jesus' Name.
Amen.

* Affirmation of Faith
The Apostles' Creed

Pam Johnston

**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.**

Act of Praise
"Medley for Christmas"

Sarah Inzetta, Euphonium
John Inzetta, Clarinet

Proclamation and Response

Children's Moments

Pam Johnston

*Children are invited to meet Pam on the chancel steps.
K-4 and K-5 children will leave for
Children's Church after Children's Moments.*

* New Testament Lesson
Luke 2:36-40

The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Jimmy Towson
The Wonder of Christmas: "The Wonder of Hope"

Responding to the Word

Pastoral Prayer

Pam Johnston

The Lord's Prayer

Pam Johnston

**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.**

* Hymn No. 219

“What Child Is This?”

GREENSLEEVES

Act of Praise

“Offering for Christmas”

Sarah Inzetta, Euphonium

John Inzetta, Clarinet

* Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Sending Forth

* Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Pam Johnston

* Hymn of Discipleship No. 251

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

The Light of Christ Goes Into the World

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

Closing Voluntary

Hunter Godsey, Guest Organist

* Benediction

Rev. Jimmy Towson

* *Please stand as you are able.*


Rev. Jimmy Towson, Senior Pastor
Hunter Godsey, Guest Organist
Richard Kosowski, Director of Music
Pam Johnston, Director of Children & Family Ministries
Alex Stone, Lead Acolyte
Micah Johnston, Crucifer
Austin Carter & Akins Manley, 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.*

If You Are New to Mulberry

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

*Welcome to Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.
Thank you for worshipping with us today!
We are grateful for your presence and invite you to
participate in our worship, growth opportunities
and service life here at Mulberry. Our hope is that you
will find this church to be a warm,
caring community that you can call home.*

*Nursery Care is provided for children under 4 years of age.
Please ask an usher for directions to the Nursery.*

*To keep up with Mulberry Street UMC's events, services and more
we invite you to visit us at www.mulberrymethodist.org
and find us on Facebook.*

Joining Mulberry Street UMC

*New Members are welcomed into the congregation
during our Sunday morning worship services
at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 am.*

*You may transfer from another Methodist church,
transfer from another denomination or join for the first time by
Profession of Faith (committing your life to Christ).
For more information, please contact Karen Carter
at 478-745-8601 or kcarter@mulberrymethodist.org.*

Connect with us Online

*You can learn more about our church community,
staff and other events by visiting our website at
www.mulberrymethodist.org.*

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
December 31, 2017*

Today's Sermon

The Wonder of Christmas: "The Wonder of Hope"

Today's Scripture

Luke 2:36-40 (NLT)

³⁶ Anna, a prophet, was also there in the Temple. She was the daughter of Phanuel from the tribe of Asher, and she was very old. Her husband died when they had been married only seven years. ³⁷ Then she lived as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the Temple but stayed there day and night, worshiping God with fasting and prayer. ³⁸ She came along just as Simeon was talking with Mary and Joseph, and she began praising God. She talked about the child to everyone who had been waiting expectantly for God to rescue Jerusalem. ³⁹ When Jesus' parents had fulfilled all the requirements of the law of the Lord, they returned home to Nazareth in Galilee. ⁴⁰ There the child grew up healthy and strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him.

Sermon Notes

Previous Sermons Available Online

If you are interested in listening to previous sermons, please visit our website at www.mulberrymethodist.org on the home page click on "Media" and sermons are found on the right side of the page.