

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia

# *The Church at Worship*

*First Sunday of Advent  
December 1, 2019  
Eleven O'clock*



## *Entrance and Praise*

**Greeting in the Name of Christ**

Rev. Jeff Cook

**Voluntary**

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Paul Manz

**Call to Worship**

Austin Carter

Hope is gravity for the broken –  
**pulling us up.**

Hope is manna in the wilderness  
**when we want to give up.**

Hope is seeing stars in the city  
**when we forget the sky is there.**

Hope is the anthem of faith  
**and the reason we're here.**

So come to this place with your hopes and your fears,  
**for the God of new life is drawing near.**

Let us worship Holy God.

\* **Entrance Hymn No. 196**

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

**Prayer of Confession**

Austin Carter

**Gracious God, you paint a picture of a better world –  
a world of peace and joy, of equality and grace.**

**But we turn our heads and close our eyes,  
afraid that you might want us to help.**

**You ask us to be brave, and we are complacent.**

**You ask us to speak out, but instead we stay quiet.**

**You ask us to listen, and we assume we are the experts.**

**You lead with love, and we wait on the sidelines.**

**Forgive us for always being ten steps behind you.**

**Forgive us for all the ways we are works in progress.**

**Fill our hearts with a hope that won't let go.**

**Gratefully we pray. Amen.**

**Declaration of Forgiveness**

Austin Carter

Beloved, in your baptism you were bathed in light and clothed with grace.

Therefore, put on the Lord Jesus Christ! Know that you are forgiven, and live in peace.

## Advent Candle Lighting

Wesley, Clare, Alice & Martha Rauls

### Choral Response *Light One Candle*

Natalie Sleeth

Light one candle for hope, one bright candle for hope.  
He brings hope to every heart. He comes, He comes.

Light one candle for peace, one bright candle for peace.  
He brings peace to every heart. He comes, He comes.

Light one candle for joy, one bright candle for joy.  
Every nation will find salvation in Bethlehem's baby boy.

Light one candle for love, one bright candle for love.  
He brings love to every heart. He comes, He comes.

### Lighting the Candle for Hope

#### Congregational Response *What Can't Wait*

HYFRYDOL

**Hope can't wait; she beckons brightly, shining surely in the dark.  
To the lonely, lost, and labored, hope endows the Spirit's spark.  
In our times of deep despairing, God renews the troubled soul.  
Mercy strong beyond comparing mends and makes the broken whole.**

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*Children ages 5K-Grade 2 are invited to leave  
for Children's Church during the Congregational Response.*

## *Proclamation and Response*

### Congregational Prayer for Illumination No. 204

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.  
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.**

Old Testament	Isaiah 2:1-5	Heather Evans
Psalm	Psalm 122	Heather Evans
Epistle	Romans 13:11-14	Rev. Jeff Cook
Homily	<i>WHAT CAN'T WAIT?</i> 1. <i>God's promised day can't wait. Hope can't wait.</i>	Rev. Jeff Cook

## *Thanksgiving and Communion*

\* Hymn No. 626 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* PICARDY

### Invitation to the Table

Rev. Trevor Ward

Brothers and sisters,  
This is the joyful feast of the people of God! Women, men, youth, boys and girls, come!  
The scriptures say they will come from north and south, and from east and west,  
and sit at the table in the kingdom of God.  
This is the Lord's Table. Christ, our Lord, invites those who love him.  
Come to the feast which he has prepared.

### The Peace

Rev. Trevor Ward

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

## Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts

*O Come, Emmanuel*

arr. Alice Parker

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, 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.

O come, Thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

## \* The Great Thanksgiving

Rev. Jeff Cook

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Sung Communion A (pages 17-18)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**Amen. Amen. Amen.**

## 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.**

## Breaking the Bread

## Giving the Cup

## Prayer after Communion

Loving God,  
you have given us a share in the one bread and the one cup  
and made us one with Christ.  
**Help us bring hope, peace, joy, and love to all the world.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## *Sending Forth*

## \* Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Rev. Jeff Cook

## \* Hymn No. 279

*O Day of Peace That Dimly Shines*

JERUSALEM

## \* Benediction

Rev. Jeff Cook

## \* Congregational Response

**Then enemies shall learn to love, all creatures find their true accord;  
the hope of peace shall be fulfilled, for all the earth shall know the Lord.**

*Please feel free to remain seated for the closing voluntary. If departing, please be sensitive to those remaining.*

## Closing Voluntary

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Michael Burkhardt

\* Please rise in body or spirit.

Those parts of the service of worship in which the congregation participates in word or song are noted in **bold type**.

  
*Rev. Jeff Cook, Associate Pastor*  
*Rev. Trevor Ward, Minister for Families & Youth*  
*Tom Granum, Director of Music/Organist*  
*Ainsworth Choir*  
*Caleb Esmond, Piano*  
*Christmas Children's Choir and Katie Trotter, Director*  
*Heather Evans, Lay Reader*  
*Austin Carter, Liturgist*  
*Wesley, Clare, Alice & Martha Rauls, Lighting of the Advent Wreath*  
*Bill & Cindy Jarrard, Lay Communion Servers*  
*Martha Linkous, Bread Baker*  
*Alex Stone, Lead Acolyte*  
*Wilson Brown, Crucifer*  
*Henry Carter & Jack Carter, Candlelighters*  
*Henry McClure, Communion Steward*  
*Julia Magda, Children's Church*

*The arrangement in the sanctuary is given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for her husband, Robert Walthall Gerson, and her daughters, Kimberly and Tim Munshower and Allison and Victor Younkins by Naomi Gerson.*

Much of our liturgy for Advent comes from the worship-resource series *What Can't Wait*, developed by A Sanctified Art and complementing the lectionary for Advent. These materials are copyrighted and licensed for our use.

## *Welcome to Mulberry*

Thank you for worshiping with us today! We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in Mulberry's worship and our opportunities for growing through education, fellowship, and mission. We hope you find our congregation to be a warm and caring community.

Please sign the Attendance Register as it is passed. The church newsletter is sent out electronically to all members for whom we have email addresses. If you are not receiving the electronic newsletter, please share your email address on the Attendance Register as it is passed. You may also include other changes or additions for contact information.

Children's church is open to children in Kindergarten and under after the Children's Moment each week. Please see our nursery staff or volunteer on the front row to check your child in and receive your Nursery pickup tag. Nursery is available for the entire service for children below Prekindergarten. Please see an usher for assistance in locating our nursery.

To keep up with Mulberry Street UMC's events, services, and more, we invite you to visit us at [www.mulberrymethodist.org](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org) and find us on Facebook.

Please speak to one of the pastors if you are interested in knowing more about membership at Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.

Our 11:00 a.m. worship service is broadcast live over radio station AM 940 WMAC. You can download the Sunday bulletin at <https://mulberrymethodist.org/worship/worship-online>.



**Hanging of the Greens**

Wednesday, December 4

Supper at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall – Service at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary  
Please bring your favorite dessert to share after the service.

**Christmas Camp**

Friday, December 6 – 5:00-9:00 p.m. – Fellowship Hall

Dinner and Christmas crafts included - \$10 per child or \$20 per family

RSVP to Julia Norman at [jnorman@mulberrymethodist.org](mailto:jnorman@mulberrymethodist.org) by December 4.

**Special Music**

Sunday, December 8 – 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Advent Masterworks for Choir & Orchestra

**Sunday, December 15**

**Family Caroling – 4:00 p.m.**

We'll meet at Springdale Elementary School parking lot, caravan together to carol to our elderly and homebound members, and then gather for dinner at Ingleside Village Pizza.

**Sunday, December 22**

**Children's Nativity**

11:00 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary

**Tuesday, December 24**

**Christmas Eve Services – Sanctuary**

3:00 p.m. – Candlelight Communion Service (*especially mindful of children*)

5:00 p.m. – Candlelight Communion Service (with 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Prelude)

**Sunday, December 29**

**One Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary**

10:00 a.m. – Fellowship for All – Sweet Rolls & Coffee – Fellowship Hall