

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

Nine O'clock

*As you enter this holy space and begin to make the transition from
"getting here" to "being here," you are encouraged to use these moments
to become aware of the quiet places within so that you are ready to worship God.
Please silence your cell phones. Come, let us worship God.*



Entrance and Praise

Greeting in the Name of Christ

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

*Please sign the Attendance Pad as it is passed, and then return it to the center aisle,
noting the names of those who are seated on your pew.*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Call to Worship

Gail Springstead

Jesus, Son of the living God,
splendor of the Father, eternal light.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Jesus, King of glory,
son of justice, son of the Virgin Mary.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Jesus, Wonderful Counselor, everlasting Lord,
Prince of Peace.

Come, Lord Jesus.

* Hymn No. 246

"Joy to the World"

ANTIOCH

Advent Candle Lighting

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world;
the one who follows me will not walk in darkness
but have the light of life."

**We light this candle as a sign
of the coming light of Christ.**

*As we celebrate the 200th anniversary of Silent Night
this month, the youth and children sing:*

**Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light;
radiant beams from thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

Prayer

Congregational Prayer for Illumination

Please remain seated to sing.

Hymn No. 204 "Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

McGEE

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

Prayers of the People

All the end of the earth

have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia!

Shout to the Lord, all the earth. Alleluia!

O Christ, splendor of God's eternal glory,

the mighty Word, sustaining the universe:

Renew our lives by your presence.

Lord have mercy.

O Christ, born into the world in the fullness of time

for the liberation of all creation:

Release all into your promised freedom.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, begotten of the Father before all time,

born in a stable at Bethlehem:

May your church be a sign of hope and joy.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, truly God and truly human,

born to a people in fulfillment of their expectations:

Fulfill our desires in you.

Lord, have mercy.

O Christ, born of the Virgin Mary,

child of wonder and splendor,

Mighty God of all ages, Prince of Peace:

May the whole world live in peace and justice.

Lord, have mercy.

From The Worship Sourcebook

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.

Offering of our Tithes and Gifts

* Doxology

OLD 100TH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Hymn No. 230

Please remain seated to sing this hymn.

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

ST. LOUIS

Old Testament Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

Gail Springstead

* Gospel Reading

Luke 1:39-45

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

Among Us:

“Silent Night, Holy Night...Christ the Savior is born!”

* 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.**

* Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

* Hymn of Discipleship No. 245 (Stanzas 1-2)

“The First Noel”

THE FIRST NOEL

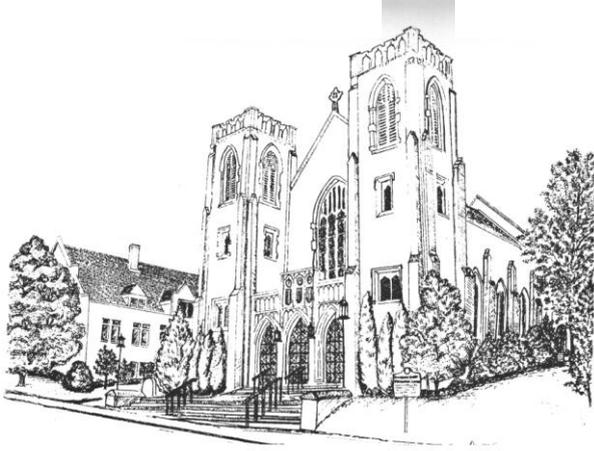
* Benediction

* *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. Dr. Matt Woodbery, Lead Pastor
Tom Granum, Director of Music/Organist
Gail Springstead, Liturgist*

*The arrangement in the chapel is given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Hazel Couch by her husband,
Harry Lee Couch.*



Welcome to Mulberry

Thank you for worshipping 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.

Nursery Care is provided for children younger than age 4. 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.

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 am worship service is broadcast live over radio station AM 940 WMAC. You can download the Sunday bulletin at <https://mulberrymethodist.org/media>.

Celebrating Advent and Christmas at Mulberry

Sunday, December 23

*A Carol Festival: "The Dawn of Redeeming Grace"
Celebrating the 200th Anniversary of "Silent Night"*

3:00 p.m. – Sanctuary - Tom Granum, organ

Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve Services - Sanctuary

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

4:30 p.m. – Christmas Eve Prelude

5:00 p.m. – Candlelight Communion Service

Sunday, December 30

Combined Worship Service

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

11:00 a.m. - Sanctuary

This will be the only worship service.