

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia

# *The Church at Worship*

*Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany*  
*February 2, 2020*  
*Nine O'clock*



## *Entrance and Praise*

**Voluntary** *Lord, You Give the Great Commission* Charles Callahan

**Greeting in the Name of Christ** Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery  
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

**Call to Worship** Melissa Anderson

Let us meet God in this gathering.

**We gather to praise God, to offer our hopes,  
to hear again God's call, to strengthen our faith.**

God calls us to honor all persons, be kind to our neighbors, and praise God's holy name.

**Let us worship God who calls us, who loves us, and who blesses us!**

*from Call to Worship*

\* **Hymn No. 584** (Stanzas 1-4) *Lord, You Give the Great Commission* ABBOT'S LEIGH

\* **Opening Prayer** Melissa Anderson

*Please remain standing.*

**Redeeming God, you come to us in Christ  
to rescue us from slavery and lead us out of captivity.**

**Guide us by the wisdom of the cross,  
and show us how to live a life of justice, love, and blessedness. Amen.**

\* **Congregational Response**

**Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end."**

**Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend  
and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity.**

**With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.**

## *Proclamation and Response*

**Congregational Prayer for Illumination**

**Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
as thou didst break the loaves beside the sea;**

**beyond the sacred page I seek thee, Lord;  
my spirit pants for thee, O Living Word!**

*This prayer is Hymn No. 599.*

**Epistle** 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Melissa Anderson

\* **Gospel**

Matthew 5:1-12

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**Homily**

*A World Like No Other*

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

## *Thanksgiving and Communion*

**Invitation to the Table**

Rev. Julia Norman

With what shall we come before the Lord this day?

We come with a love of justice and a passion for sharing Christ's love. Let us walk in humble gratitude, offering to God a portion of the gifts that God freely shares with us, gifts for the healing of the world.

**Confession and Pardon**

Rev. Julia Norman

**God, we have not done what is blameless and right,  
nor spoken truth from the heart with love.**

**We do not keep your word,  
and when we participate in gossip, our words and deeds cause pain.**

**Forgive us by the power of your mercy,  
that we might stand in the goodness of Christ and walk in the light of his love.**

*from Feasting on the Word*

*All pray in silence.*

Sisters and brothers, your sins are forgiven by the faith of Christ,  
who chose love over hatred and forgiveness over blame.

Rejoice and be glad, for God's mercy is great; Jesus brings healing, justice, and peace.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

**Glory to God! Amen.**

**The Peace**

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

**Offering of Our Gifts**

\* **The Great Thanksgiving**

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery & Rev. Julia Norman

Hymnal, page 13 *Communion responses are spoken.*

**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 Bread and Cup**

**Prayer after Communion**

**Now, Master,**

**you are letting your servants go in peace as you promised;**

**for our eyes have seen the salvation**

**that you have made ready in the sight of the nations;**

**a light of revelation for the gentiles**

**and glory for your people, Israel.**

**Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

# *Sending Forth*

## **Invitation to Christian Discipleship**

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

### \* **Hymn No. 708**

*Rejoice in God's Saints*

HANOVER

### \* **Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

\* *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  
Rev. Julia Norman, Minister for Families and Children  
Tom Granum, Director of Music/Organist  
Melissa Anderson, Liturgist*

### **Gluten-Free Communion**

Because our table is open to all, we serve gluten-free communion bread.

### **Souper Bowl of Caring**

At the end of worship today, youth will stand at the doors with soup pots to collect money for Macon Outreach. Through the concept of the Souper Bowl of Caring, youth throughout the U.S. today are collecting money for local projects and ministries to feed the hungry in their local communities.

### **Hymn Festival – “HOPE: A Vision for 2020”**

Our congregation is co-hosting a hymn festival at 3 p.m. this afternoon. Led by Tom Granum, we hope others will join us at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 565 Wimbish Road, for a time of singing familiar and less-familiar hymns focusing on the theme of HOPE. As part of the Souper Bowl of Caring, you can make a donation to be used by Macon Outreach and Loaves & Fishes to feed the hungry in Macon. The combined choirs will provide leadership for the festival. Please join us.

## *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. 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.

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 next Joining Sunday is February 16.

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

**Midweek at Mulberry: February 5**

- 4:30 p.m. Mulberry Moments, Historical Room
- 4:30 p.m. Social Principles Book Study, Parlor
- 5:30 p.m. Serving line opens, Fellowship Hall
- 6:15 p.m. Program: Kirby Moore; Attorney, former UGA QB,  
and former chair of Macon Volunteer Clinic
- 6:15 p.m. Youth Fellowship
- 6:15 p.m. Children's Choirs, Children's Choir Rooms
- 6:15 p.m. Family Connections
- 7:05 p.m. Methodism 101, Historical Room
- 7:15 p.m. Ainsworth Choir, Choir Room

**Vibrant Ministry (for adults 55 and older) - February 20**

Join us for a lunch trip to Social Circle to eat lunch at the Blue Willow Inn. Meet at Mulberry at 10:00 a.m. RSVP to Linda at [lparker@mulberrymethodist.org](mailto:lparker@mulberrymethodist.org).

**Shrove Tuesday – February 25 – 5:30 p.m. – Fellowship Hall**

Join us for our celebration of Pancake Tuesday.

**Ash Wednesday Service – February 26 – 6:30 p.m. - Sanctuary**