

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia

## *The Church at Worship*

*First Sunday after Epiphany  
Baptism of the Lord  
January 12, 2020  
Nine O'clock*



### *Entrance and Praise*

**Voluntary** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Paul Manz

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

**Call to Worship** Doris Granum

We gather to worship the Living Water!

**Spring up, O Well, within our souls.**

In our dry and arid places, Water of Baptism, refresh us.

**Stir up inside of us, renew us Living Water.**

The baptism of the Ethiopian official of Candace, sovereign queen of Ethiopia,

remind us of our connection to both the first church and the eternal Well that never runs dry.

**Burst forth within us, overflow, saturate the stagnant areas of our lives, reconnect us to you, our true Source.**

Let us remember our baptism and be thankful!

**Take us to the waters! Let us renew our baptismal vows. Amen.**

\* **Hymn No. 400** *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* NETTLETON

### **Call to Confession**

How often we forget or neglect our covenant and baptismal vows. Teach us to live like those who have accepted the obligation, the responsibilities of baptized believers.

### **Confession**

**Covenant God, you made us your people and gave your Son as a pledge of your love.**

**It was by his blood that we were baptized into relationship with you. Yet, we make trivial both his blood and the water, which symbolizes our entry into the church.**

**Forgive us our sins. Restore us to harmony with you, we pray. Amen.**

### **Words of Assurance**

Truly, God shows no partiality, but, in every nation, anyone who will give God reverence, and do no harm, is acceptable. Thanks be to God!

## *Proclamation and Response*

**Congregational Prayer for Illumination** Doris Granum

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.**

## Old Testament

Responsive Reading  
from Isaiah 42:1-8

Doris Granum

Jesus was the Suffering Servant, chosen by God, born of Mary, and baptized by John.

**The Holy Spirit rested upon him and God spoke from the heavens,  
for baptism is a family affair.**

Through the baptism, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus, justice has been seen  
by every nation.

**He never resorted to violence but worked faithfully to model and teach justice  
and equality.**

His Spirit is alive in us today. We cannot grow faint; we will not be crushed. God's reign will be  
established throughout the earth.

**The Lord of Host, Creator of Heaven and Earth, has called us to right living,  
taken us by our feeble hands, given strength to our knees, and kept us to this day.**

You are a covenant, a light, the vision to prisoners, yet enslaved.

**Steadfast is our God. We offer God praise and glory, for the promises of God  
are faithful and true.**

**The Lord strengthens us and blesses us with *shalom*!**

## \* Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

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

## Sermon

*Making God Happy*

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

## Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts

## \* Hymn No. 605

*Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters*

BEACH SPRING

## Congregational Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant

The liturgy for the Baptismal Covenant IV is found on page 50 of the hymnbook.

## Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

**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.**

## *Sending Forth*

## \* Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

## \* Hymn No. 608

*This Is the Spirit's Entry Now*

AZMON

## \* Benediction

Once again we have been refreshed by the waters of baptism.

**Let it be so now; for it is proper for us, in this way, to fulfill all righteousness.**

The heavens are opened to you, the Holy Spirit is available to you, and God affirms,  
"You are my beloved, well-pleasing in my sight!"

**May it always be so! Amen.**

\* 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  
Doris Granum, Reader*

*The flowers in the chapel are given to the glory of God and in honor of the Altar Guild.*

Much of the liturgy for this service is taken from *Trumpet in Zion: Black Church Worship Resources* (Abingdon) by the late Rev. Dr. Linda Hollies, who was a prolific author, motivational speaker, and champion of issues around social justice for women. She had served as senior pastor in several United Methodist Churches in the Michigan area at the time of her death (2007).

### *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.

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>.

## **Installation of Leaders in the Church**

Katie Griffis – Lay Leader  
Warren Dunn – Staff-Parish Relations Chair  
Baxter James – Finance Chair  
Alex Stone & Nik O’Dette – Church Council Youth Representatives  
Judy Hodgens, Bob McCormick & Heidi Ream – Trustees  
Greg Elliott, Marianne Lokey & Ben Rockafellow – Staff-Parish Relations  
Melissa Anderson, Darin McClure & Glenn Smith – Finance Committee  
Tim Anderson, Mel Jamison & Naomi Rockafellow – Nominations Committee

## **Midweek at Mulberry: January 15**

4:30 p.m. Social Principles Book Study  
5:30 p.m. Serving line opens, Fellowship Hall  
6:15 p.m. Martin Luther King Jr. program presented by Martin Magda, Fellowship Hall  
6:15 p.m. Children’s Choirs, Children’s Choir Rooms  
6:15 p.m. Youth Fellowship  
7:05 p.m. Methodist 101, Daughtery Classroom  
7:15 p.m. Ainsworth Choir, Choir Room

## **Wednesday class offerings**

**Social Principles Book Study** – 4:30-5:30 p.m. – Rev. Julia Norman, leader, studying the principles that are a product of more than a century of legislative decisions made by lay and clergy members of the General Conference. Contact [jnorman@mulberrymethodist.org](mailto:jnorman@mulberrymethodist.org) to order the book (\$5). Begins Jan. 15

**Methodist 101** – 7:05-8:00 p.m. – Rev. Jeff Cook, leader, using *Come to the Table: What It Means to Be Methodist*. Register at [jcook@mulberrymethodist.org](mailto:jcook@mulberrymethodist.org). Jan. 15 – Feb. 19

**Mulberry Moments** – 4:30-5:30 p.m. – Carolyn Kennedy Dominy, leader, studying important and interesting moments in our congregation’s history. Register at [cken@cox.net](mailto:cken@cox.net). Limited space. Jan. 22 – Feb. 12

## **Other opportunities**

**Vibrant Ministry** – Thursday, January 16, 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Lunch at Molly’s Café followed by volunteering at Sanctuary Respite (former Ingleside UMC, 3187 Ridge Ave.) RSVP by January 13 to [lparker@mulberrymethodist.org](mailto:lparker@mulberrymethodist.org).

**Women’s Bible Study** – Sundays – 5:00 p.m. – Home of Molly Walker, 731-7175. Study of Hebrews