

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia

The Church at Worship

Epiphany of the Lord
January 5, 2020
Nine O'clock



Entrance and Praise

Voluntary

We Three Kings

Robert Powell

Greeting in the Name of Christ

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

Call to Worship

based on Isaiah 60

Marilyn Armstrong

Arise, shine, for your light has come!
The glory of the Lord has risen upon us.
Let us praise the Lord together.
**The sun shall no longer be our light by day,
nor will the brightness of the moon shine on us,**
for the Lord will be our light,
and our God will be our glory.
**The Lord will be our everlasting light,
and our days of sorrow will end.**
Come, let us sing to our light and salvation!

* **Hymn No. 254**

We Three Kings

KINGS OF ORIENT

Prayer

Marilyn Armstrong

Eternal God, by a star you led Magi to the worship of your Son. Guide the nations of the earth by your light, that the whole world may see your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

from The Worship Sourcebook

Proclamation

Congregational Prayer for Illumination

Please remain seated to sing.

**O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

Psalm

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Luke Baker

Please sing the refrain when indicated.

In his days justice will flourish; in his days fullness of peace forevermore.

* **Gospel Reading**

Matthew 2:1-12

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

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

Homily

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

Please remain seated to sing.

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

Thanksgiving and Communion

Invitation to the Table

Rev. Julia Norman

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the gospel tells us that God, by the leading of a star, manifested the Savior to the peoples of the earth, and, by the power that enabled Christ to change water into wine, made known his glory to the disciples.
Come then to the joyful feast of the Lord and be transformed.

Confession and Pardon

**God of the Bethlehem star,
everyone is searching for your light shining in the face of Christ.
The Magi sought Christ simply to worship him.
But Herod sought him to appease his jealous anger.
We confess that our motives in seeking Jesus are not pure.
We do not come simply to worship;
we come to Christ, asking his benefits of reassurance, health, wealth;
asking him to fulfill the hundred petitions
for not-so-important requests that we heap before him.
But the Magi sought first the kingdom.
Help us, God, to follow their example, putting our own need in perspective,
worshiping the Christ in love, content to be in your presence,
and laying our gifts before you.
Then may we journey, trusting, that your goodness and light
will accompany us all the days of our life. Amen.**

from The Worship Sourcebook

All pray in silence.

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

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 Tithes and Gifts

* The Great Thanksgiving

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 of Discipleship No. 245** (Stanzas 3-5) *The First Noel*


THE FIRST NOEL

* **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 & Children
Tom Granum, Director of Music/Organist
Luke Baker, Tenor
Marilyn Armstrong, Lay Reader
Gini Lamback, Communion Baker

Gluten-Free Communion

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

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.

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 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 will be next Sunday.

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>.

Wednesday, January 8
Midweek at Mulberry
Program: Epiphany Party
5:30 p.m. Serving line begins

Giving Opportunities

Generation to Generation (G2G) Mission Trip – January 17-20

Join us for our annual trip to Hinton Rural Life Center. From one generation to the next we travel as one church to reach the rural community surrounding the center by offering our skills, time, energy, and efforts to bless and serve the families of the local area. This trip has continued to be an amazing time of fellowship as well as outreach and mission. 6th Grade-Older Adults.

Cost: \$215 per person Sign up Deadline/\$100 Deposit Due: Today

Final Payment Due: January 17

Sign up online at: <https://mulberrymethodist.org/community/youth>

Macon Outreach Cold Weather Drive

We are collecting gloves, hats, and foot warmers for our Macon Outreach for the cold weather months. Please drop off your donation in the atrium.

Church News

Epiphany Party – January 8

Epiphany Party – January 8 – 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall – We'll kick off our Wednesday Night supper schedule for 2020 with an Epiphany Party! The wise men followed the star to Bethlehem and we'll celebrate Epiphany with a fun party for all ages! Wear something fitting for royalty or that makes you shine like a star – lights, glitter, sequins, gold or silver are all welcome! Break out your favorite crown, or borrow from our royal costumes, but come ready for some fun! Please bring a donation of a baby item to be given to The Methodist Children's Home Embrace Program, which is a cottage for teen mothers and their babies. They especially need diapers (size 3-4), wipes, clothing (9 months to 1 year, all seasons), etc.

Safe Sanctuary Training for 2020

Safe Sanctuary Training for 2020 will be held January 12 at 12:30 and January 13 at 5:30 p.m. If you volunteer in any capacity with students or children, please make plans to attend one of these trainings for your annual renewal. If you are interested in volunteering in 2020, you are invited to come as well. RSVP to Julia Norman by January 8 so that a meal can be provided. jnorman@mulberrymethodist.org or 919-323-6626.

Methodist 101 Small Group

Wednesdays, January 15 - February 19 (6 sessions)

7:05-8:00 p.m. – Daughtery Classroom

Rev. Jeff Cook will lead a small group that meets on Wednesday nights, 7:05–8:00 p.m. in the Daughtery Classroom on the 2nd floor. This six-week study will utilize the curriculum *Come to the Table: What It Means to Be Methodist* and will be supplemented with other resources. Please email Jeff at jcook@mulberrymethodist.org to sign up and for any questions.

Social Principles Book Study

Wednesdays, beginning January 15

Social Principles Book Study: Wednesdays, 4:30–5:30 p.m. beginning January 15. The Social Principles of the UMC are the product of more than a century of legislative decisions made by lay and clergy members at General Conference. Studying the Social Principles provides opportunities to examine your own approach to the topics included in the Social Principles and to deepen your discipleship. Books are \$5; please contact Rev. Julia Norman to sign up and order your book.

Vibrant Ministry Event for January

Thursday, January 16

11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

On Thursday, January 16, join the Vibrant Ministry (for adults 55 and older) for lunch at Molly's Café and to volunteer at Sanctuary Respite, a local ministry for families living with dementia. Lunch will be at 11:30 followed by volunteering at Sanctuary Respite (at old Ingleside UMC campus at 3187 Ridge Ave.). R.S.V.P. by Monday, January 13 to Linda at lparker@mulberrymethodist.org.

Mulberry Moments

Wednesdays, January 22, January 29, February 5 & February 12

4:30-5:30 p.m.

A Study of Important and Interesting Moments in the History of Our Church. Join Carolyn Kennedy Dominy in the Historical Room as we will explore a variety of topics in Mulberry's History. Please email Carolyn Kennedy Dominy to make a reservation: cken@cox.net. Space is limited.