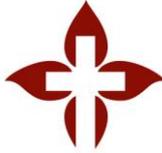


*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia*

The Church at Worship

*Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 22, 2018
Nine O'clock*



Greeting in the Name of Christ

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

The grace of our Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us worship God.

Opening Voluntary

Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

We gather together in the name of Jesus Christ –

members of God's family,

and brothers and sisters to one another.

There are no outsiders here among us,

no one has any special standing or bragging rights.

For we have been brought together

by the redeeming love of Jesus.

Let's join together in worship!

* Hymn of Praise No. 540

"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"

ST. THOMAS

* Opening Prayer

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

God, we are aliens and sojourners in this world,

but you invite us to be your guests.

You lavishly offer us your hospitality

and lovingly welcome us into your family.

You invite us to share in the abundance of your kingdom.

God, you have shown us that providing hospitality to
strangers opens a doorway into the Kingdom of God.

Remind us that when we offer hospitality to others,

we are receiving Christ into our midst

and so fulfilling the law of love.

We open our hearts to embrace the stranger, the friend,
the rich, and the poor.

We open our lives to offer a generous heart toward all.

Amen.

(adapted from A Litany of Hospitality written by Christine Sine.)

* Affirmation of Faith
The Apostles' Creed

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

**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.**

* Gloria Patri No. 71

GREATOREX

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

Act of Praise
"In Repentance and Rest"

Katie Trotter Soprano
Bill and Robin Wolaver

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

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.**

New Testament Lesson
Ephesians 2:11-22

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon
“Hearts of Peace”

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

* Hymn of Discipleship No. 547
“O Church of God, United”

ELLACOMBE

* Benediction

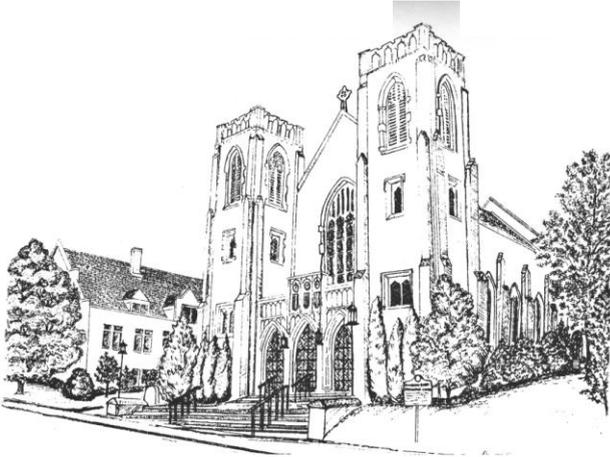
Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery

* *Please stand as you are able.*



*Rev. Dr. Matt Woodbery, Lead Pastor
Pat Crowe, Organist*

*The arrangement on the altar
is given to the glory of God by the Flower Guild.*



If You Are New to Mulberry

*Please make sure you sign the Attendance Register
as it is passed.*

Welcome to Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

*We are grateful for your presence and invite you to
participate in our worship, growth opportunities
and service life here at Mulberry. Our hope is that you
will find this church to be a warm,
caring community that you can call home.*

Nursery Care is provided for children under 4 years of age.

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.*

Connect with us Online

*You can learn more about our church community,
staff and other events by visiting our website at
www.mulberrymethodist.org.*

Previous Sermons Available Online

*If you are interested in listening to previous sermons,
please visit our website at www.mulberrymethodist.org
on the home page click on "Media" and sermons
are found on the right side of the page.*

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
July 22, 2018

Today's Sermon
"Hearts of Peace"

Today's Scripture
Ephesians 2:11-22

¹¹ So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth,^[a] called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision"—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—
¹² remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵ He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile both groups to God in one body^[b] through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.^[c] ¹⁷ So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸ for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰ built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.^[d] ²¹ In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²² in whom you also are built together spiritually^[e] into a dwelling place for God.

John Wesley Moments

Rev. Dave Hanson

(Reprinted from the South Georgia Advocate,
<https://www.sgaumc.org/advocate.>)

John Wesley said that Methodist belief is a "hair's breadth" from Calvinism (predestination). By that he meant it is God's grace that saves us. We cannot save ourselves. You do not simply choose to become a Christian. You respond to the grace of God which reaches out to you! God seeks you. Then you respond. You can never respond until God knocks on your heart's door. But you can say "yes" to God or "no."

Wesley says you can choose to be a Calvinist (believe in predestination) but you do not have to do so.

Think about it.