

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia

# *The Church at Worship*

*Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost  
November 12, 2017  
Eleven O'clock*



## *Entrance and Praise*

Greeting in the Name of Christ

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us worship God.

“Petite Pièce, W. 313”

Joseph Jongen

Call to Worship

Melinda Powell

The God of our ancestors has led us to this place.

**We are witnesses.**

We have sworn to teach God’s promises  
to all generations.

**We are witnesses.**

The time is coming when Christ will come again in glory.

**We are witnesses.**

Let us tell the world of God’s faithful love.

**We will worship and witness together!**

\* Entrance Hymn No. 116

“The God of Abraham Praise”

LEONI

\* Opening Prayer

Rev. Jeff Cook

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

We gather here to remember God’s glorious deeds –  
recorded for all time  
by people whose lives were touched by divine grace.

As people of hope,  
they affirmed the great works of God,  
and the importance of keeping  
the commandments of God.

We are heirs of their faithfulness  
in witnessing to the greatness  
of God’s wondrous acts.

Let our witness be as convincing,  
so that generations to come  
will continue to honour God’s holy name. **Amen.**

*(Maira Laidlaw)*

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.**

Act of Praise

“Achieved is the Glorious Work”  
(from *The Creation*)

Ainsworth Choir

Franz Joseph Haydn

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Wade Austin Myers  
Son of Bill and Callie Myers

Do you, as Christ's body, the Church,  
reaffirm both your rejection of sin  
and your commitment to Christ?

**We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith  
and include Wade now before you in your care?

**With God's help, we will proclaim the  
good news and live according to the example  
of Christ.**

**We will surround Wade  
with a community of love and forgiveness,  
that he may grow in his trust of God,  
and be found faithful in his service to others.**

**We will pray for him that he may be a true  
disciple who walks in the way that  
leads to life.**

Reception into Membership

\* Commendation and Welcome (*congregation stands*)

Members of the household of God,  
We commend Wade and his family to your love and care.  
Do all in your power to increase their faith,  
confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

**We give thanks for all that God  
has already given you  
and welcome you in Christian love.  
As members together with you  
in the body of Christ  
and at Mulberry Street  
United Methodist Church,  
we renew our covenant faithfully to participate  
in the ministries of the church  
by our prayers, our presence,  
our gifts, our service, and our witness  
that in everything God may be glorified  
through Jesus Christ.**

\* Hymn of Baptism No. 611

“Child of Blessing, Child of Promise”

STUTT GART

**Child of blessing, child of promise,  
baptized with the Spirit’s sign;  
with this water God has sealed you  
unto love and grace divine.**

**Child of God your loving Parent,  
learn to know whose child you are.  
Grow to laugh and sing and worship,  
trust and love God more than all.**

*Proclamation and Response*

Children’s Moments

Pam Johnston

*Children are invited to meet Pam on the chancel steps.*

*K-4 and K-5 children will leave for*

*Children’s Church after Children’s Moments.*

Old Testament Lesson

Melinda Powell

1 Joshua 24:1-3, 14-15

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

Sermon

Rev. Jimmy Towson

What’s the Good News?: “Choices”

## *Responding to the Word*

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Jeff Cook

The Lord's Prayer Rev. Jeff Cook

**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.**

\* Hymn No. 328  
"Surely the Presence of the Lord" WOLFE

Offering of our Gifts Adele Bauman, Mezzo-Soprano  
"Here I Am, Lord" Daniel L. Schutte  
arr. Craig Courtney

\* Doxology OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

**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.**

## *Sending Forth*

\* Invitation to Christian Discipleship Rev. Jeff Cook

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

The Light of Christ Goes Into the World  
*Please be seated after the cross and light pass your pew.*

"Recessional" Ronald Arnatt

\* Benediction Rev. Jimmy Towson

\* *Please stand as you are able.*

  
*Rev. Jimmy Towson, Senior Pastor*  
*Rev. Jeff Cook, Associate Pastor*  
*Pat Crowe, Organist*  
*Richard Kosowski, Director of Music*  
*Pam Johnston, Director of Children & Family Ministries*  
*Melinda Powell, Lay Readers*  
*Matt Newberry, Lead Acolyte*  
*Alex Stone, Crucifer*  
*Georgia Mercer, Baptism Aquifer*  
*Cooper Baskette & Edie Sharpton, Candlelighters*

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God  
and in honor of the people of Mulberry  
by Wesley and Clare Rauls.*

### ***If You Are New***

*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](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org)  
and find us on Facebook.*

### ***Joining Mulberry Street UMC***

*New Members are welcomed into the congregation  
during our Sunday morning worship services  
at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 am.*

*You may transfer from another Methodist church,  
transfer from another denomination or join for the first time by  
Profession of Faith (committing your life to Christ).  
For more information, please contact Karen Carter  
at 478-745-8601 or [kcarter@mulberrymethodist.org](mailto:kcarter@mulberrymethodist.org).*

### ***Connect with us Online***

*You can learn more about our church community,  
staff and other events by visiting our website at  
[www.mulberrymethodist.org](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org).*

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
November 12, 2017*

**Today's Sermon**

What's the Good News?: "Choices"

**Today's Scripture**

Joshua 24:1-3, 14-15

<sup>1</sup>Then Joshua summoned all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, including their elders, leaders, judges, and officers. So they came and presented themselves to God.<sup>2</sup> Joshua said to the people, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: Long ago your ancestors, including Terah, the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River, and they worshiped other gods.<sup>3</sup> But I took your ancestor Abraham from the land beyond the Euphrates and led him into the land of Canaan. I gave him many descendants through his son Isaac.

<sup>14</sup> "So fear the LORD and serve him wholeheartedly. Put away forever the idols your ancestors worshiped when they lived beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD alone.<sup>15</sup> But if you refuse to serve the LORD, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live? But as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD."

**Sermon Notes**

**Previous Sermons Available Online**

*If you are interested in listening to previous sermons, please visit our website at [www.mulberrymethodist.org](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org) and click on "Sermons".*