

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia*

First Sunday of Advent

*November 27, 2016
Eleven O'clock*



Entrance and Praise

Greeting in the Name of Christ

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

As we enter this season of Advent,
may the love of God the Father,
and the grace of Jesus Christ the Son,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be and abide with us all.

Amen!

Opening Voluntary

“Sleepers, Wake!” A Voice is Calling”

J. S. Bach

Call to Worship

Austin Carter

Stir up our hearts, O God,
to prepare ourselves to receive your Son.
Grant that when he comes and knocks
he will not find us sleeping in sin,
but awake to righteousness,
endlessly rejoicing in his love.

**So purify our hearts and minds
that we may be ready to receive
his promise of life eternal. Amen.**

* Entrance Hymn No. 196

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

* Lighting the First Advent Candle of Hope
Rick and Beth Ector

We light the first Advent candle as a sign of our hope
that God's Messiah is coming.
May we stay alert for his coming
that we may hear with all creation
the redemption song of our God.

Let us pray.

God of salvation,
break into our world with your great power and glory.
Break the chains that bind us to sin.
Shatter the systems of our world
that promise injustice and oppression. **Amen.**

Act of Praise

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Ainsworth Choir

Shaw-Parker

*O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*O come, thou Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home.
The captives from their prison free,
and conquer death's deep misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

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.*

* Hymn No. 202

“People, Look East”

BESANCON

Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans 13:11-14 (CEB)

Austin Carter

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

Sermon

Rev. Bill Culpepper

‘Twas the LIGHT Before Christmas:
“Morning Light”

Prayer

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 Gifts

Chris Abbott, Tenor

“My Lord, What a Morning”

Spiritual

* Hymn Response

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

TRURO

**Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here!**

* Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Sending Forth

* Hymn of Discipleship No. 206

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

HOUSTON

The Light of Christ Goes Into the World

Please be seated after the cross and light pass your pew.

Closing Voluntary

* Benediction

Rev. Bill Culpepper

* *Please stand as you are able.*



Rev. Tommy Perkins, Associate Pastor
Rev. Bill Culpepper, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministries
Cam Bishop, Director of Music/Organist
Richard Gress, Assistant Organist
Ainsworth Choir
Lisa Shepard, Ainsworth Choir Conductor
Pam Johnston, Director of Children's & Family Ministries
Austin Carter, Lay Reader
Maddie McClure, Lead Acolyte
Hayden Martin, Crucifer
Georgia Mercer & Matt Newberry, Candlelighters

*The arrangement in the sanctuary is given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of John S. Warchak, Stan Warchak
and Charlie and Bertha Yancey by Aliene Warchak.*

*The rose on the altar is in honor of the birth of
McKenna Joy Smith,
daughter of Ken and Amanda Smith
born on November 17, 2016.*

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
November 27, 2016*

Today's Sermon

'Twas the LIGHT Before Christmas:
"Morning Light"

Today's Scripture

Romans 13:11-14 (CEB)

¹¹ As you do all this, you know what time it is. The hour has already come for you to wake up from your sleep. Now our salvation is nearer than when we first had faith. ¹² The night is almost over, and the day is near. So let's get rid of the actions that belong to the darkness and put on the weapons of light. ¹³ Let's behave appropriately as people who live in the day, not in partying and getting drunk, not in sleeping around and obscene behavior, not in fighting and obsession. ¹⁴ Instead, dress yourself with the Lord Jesus Christ, and don't plan to indulge your selfish desires.

Sermon Notes

Advent is **not** the story of _____.

Advent is the story of _____.

2 kinds of waiting:

1. _____ waiting (passive)
2. _____ waiting (active)

Advent comes from the Latin word "adventus" which means _____.

This Advent season, ask yourself two questions:

1. _____ are you waiting?
2. _____ are you looking?

Previous Sermons Available Online

*If you are interested in listening to previous sermons,
please visit our website at www.mulberrymethodist.org
and click on "Listen" on top right.*

Welcome All Visitors

*We welcome you to Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.
Please make sure you sign the **Attendance Register** as it is passed.*

***Nursery Care** is provided for children under 4 years of age.
Please ask an usher for directions to the Nursery.*

Up & Coming Events & Prayer List

*Mulberry's Up & Coming Events and Prayer List
is located in the Registration Pads on your pew.*