

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia*

The Church at Worship

*Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
August 14, 2011
Eleven O'clock*



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Please turn off your cell phones or place them on 'vibrate'
so that our distractions are limited as we worship God.*

News of the Church

Rev. Tommy Mason

Greeting in the Name of Christ

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Let us worship God!

Opening Voluntary

“Praise the Lord with the Drums and Cymbals” Karg-Elert

Call to Worship

Emily Fackler

Praise the Lord!
Praise God in the sanctuary;
praise God in the mighty firmament!
Praise God's mighty deeds;
praise God's surpassing greatness!
Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!

* Entrance Hymn No. 89

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

HYMN TO JOY

* Opening Prayer

Rev. Tommy Perkins

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

God of wonder that goes beyond words,
God of hope that goes beyond fears,
all that hath life and breath come now to praise you.
And all who seek life –
life that is more than mere breath,
life that springs from deep places,
life that is filled by Your grace
and graced by Your love,
come now to seek You –
giver of all life,
giver of life's meaning.
Meet us here, O Lord, as we worship together. **Amen.**

* 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

Ainsworth Choir

“I’m Trying to Be Like Jesus” Janice K. Perry/Barlow Bradford

THE GIFT OF GOD'S WORD

An Old Testament Reading

Ben & Mel Jamison

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (NRSV)

Hear, O Israel:

The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

You shall love the Lord your God

with all your heart,

and with all your soul,

and with all your might.

Keep these words in your heart.

Recite them to your children,

and talk about them when you are at home

and when you are away,

when you lie down and when you rise.

Bind them as a sign on your hand,

fix them as an emblem on your forehead.

Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Presentation of Bibles to Third Graders

Pam Johnston

William Russell Fackler
Nathan Michael Hutcheson
Benjamin Coleman Jamison
Zachary Yates

We want to thank our Mulberry family
for giving these Bibles to us.
God's word is a lamp to our feet,
and a light to our paths.

Congregation responds.

**May God help you grow in your faith
as you read and study his Word.**

A Pastoral Prayer for our Third Graders

Rev. Tommy Mason

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

* Hymn No. 405

“Seek Ye First”

SEEK YE

* New Testament Reading

Acts 2:42-47

Emily Fackler

Pew Bible Page 886

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“The Priority of the Church”

Rev. Tommy Mason

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*All children are invited to move to the altar
during the following hymn to participate
in the Blessing of the Backpacks.
You may come with or without your backpack.*

Hymn No. 411 (*remain seated*)

“Dear Lord, Lead Me Day by Day”

COTTAGE GROVE

*Congregation joins in singing the refrain.
Emma Johnston & Hayden Martin, Soloists*

**Praise to God, fount of love,
praise from morn till the set of sun;
praise at home, praise in church;
praise to God everywhere on earth.**

Blessing of the Backpacks

Rev. Tommy Mason

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God You have called us to love,
wisdom and understanding.

O Great teacher, lead us and empower us
to learn from and teach each other
that together we may be wholly yours,
completely dedicated to your service.

Use us, we pray, as you will,
and always to your glory
and the welfare of your people,
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

God bless these bags
and the ones who use them
as they learn and grow this year.
Show them how to serve you
and how to teach us all about your love.
We pray your blessings on all students,
young and old,
as they begin the new year.
We ask your blessing also on those who work with them
and support them in their education.
Grant us all the wisdom and means
to meet their needs in the coming year.

**Bless these children,
that with hearts enlightened by the Holy Spirit,
we all may grow in knowledge and grace,
to worship and serve you from generation to generation.**

We can serve God by going to school
and learning about his world,
and by being loving toward others.
We are all learners and teachers,
no matter our age.

**God, thank you for the gift of your children to raise,
these minds to help mold,
these bodies to nurture,
these spirits to enrich.
Empower us to help them become all you mean them to be.**

Let us go forth to make the world safe
for the dreams of all God's children;
may we be partners in manifesting
God's promised new creation of compassion and justice.
Amen.

Offering of our Tithes and Gifts
"I Am His Child"

Adam Hendley, Soloist
arr. Moses Hogan

* Hymn of Response No. 682
"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" TALLIS CANON

**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.**

* Invitation to Christian Discipleship Rev. Ben Gosden

*Anyone who wishes to become a member of
Mulberry Street UMC is invited to come forward during the
singing of the final stanza of the Hymn of Discipleship.*

* Hymn of Discipleship No. 451
"Be Thou My Vision"

SLANE

* The Light of Christ Goes Into the World

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

*As the light of Christ is carried out into the world,
you are invited to remain seated for a few minutes
of personal reflection to prepare to re-enter that world.*

*Consider prayerfully how God has been present to you
in worship this morning and how you can be present for him
in the world this week.
"Toccata" Frescobaldi*

* Benediction

* *For those able, please stand.*



*Rev. Tommy Mason, Senior Pastor
Rev. Tommy Perkins, Associate Pastor
Rev. Ben Gosden, Associate Pastor
Cam Bishop, Director of Music/Organist
Ainsworth Choir
David Keith, Conductor*

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Shipe
by Eleanor Castellaw and Beth Castellaw.*

Welcome All Visitors

*We welcome you to Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.
We are glad you have joined us this morning and hope
that through word, music, fellowship and prayer,
you will experience the presence of God today.*

*Please make sure you sign the **Attendance Register** as it is passed
so that we can share with you about what's happening
in the life of this church.*

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

This Week at Mulberry Street UMC

UMYF

Sundays from 5:00-7:00 pm

Wednesday Night Supper

5:30 pm

Program: "Mulberry's Got Talent!"

Ainsworth Choir

Wednesdays, 7:15-8:30 pm

Senior High Small Group

Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm

Beginning August 15

Middle School Small Group

Wednesdays, 6:15-7:00 pm

Beginning August 17

An evening of food and fellowship at Yoder's

Sponsored by Young at Heart

Please call the church office (745-8601) or email tperkins@mulberry.org to secure your spot on the bus.

Thursday, August 18

Youth Choir

Sundays, 4:00-5:00 pm

Beginning August 21

S.M.A.K. & MiniS.M.A.K. (Supper, Mission and Kids)

Fall 2011

The Milk and Honey Cooking School

Join us Sunday nights. Kids grades 1-6 are invited to bring their own supper, meet in the Children's Assembly Room, eat together, and then have class where we will use scripture, culture and FOOD to learn about the lands of the Middle East.

Preschool class also offered for children ages 3-5.

Beginning August 21

Long Term Study Information and Registration

Fellowship Hall

Sunday, August 21

3:30-4:20 pm

Rosser 2.2

Freedom in Simplicity

Disciple

Jesus in the Gospels