

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia*

Fourth Sunday of Advent

*December 18, 2011
Eleven O'clock*



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

Greeting in the Name of Christ

Rev. Tommy Mason

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us worship God!

Voluntary

“Bell Tone’s Ring”

Mulberry Brass

Kenneth Amis

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Melynn and Kinsey Canova

After the angel came to Mary
and told her she would conceive the child in her womb
and would call him Jesus,
Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord;
let it be with me according to your word.”

And Mary sings her Song of Praise:

“My soul magnifies the Lord...
He has scattered the proud...
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones...
He has lifted up the lowly...
He has filled the hungry...
He has provided for the poor and forgotten.”

We light the fourth Advent candle reminding us
that Mary’s song of praise is the very song
all of Creation longs to sing in one accord.

Light the candle.

Come Lord Jesus.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

arr. Barlow Bradford

Ainsworth Choir

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

O come, Desire of Nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, and be Thyself our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Comfort Ye My People

Joseph Martin

Comfort, comfort ye my people, speak ye peace, thus saith the Lord.
Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning 'neath their sorrow's load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover, and her warfare now is over.

Make ye straight what long was crooked, make the rougher places plain;
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits His holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now on Earth has been restored.
And all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

Alleluia!

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

Earlene Rentz

Ainsworth Choir and Violin

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love a right, she bore to us a Savior,
When half spent was the night.

Carol No. 234

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELIS

Please stand as directed.

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given.**

**Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

Reflection

“The Singing of Angels”

Ron Knight

Howard Thurman

Do You Hear What I Hear?

arr. Harry Simeone

Said the night wind to the little lamb, "Do you see what I see?
'Way up in the sky, little lamb. Do you see what I see?
A star, a star, Dancing in the night, with a tail as big as a kite,
With a tail as big as a kite."

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy, "Do you hear what I hear?
Ringing thru the sky, shepherd boy, Do you hear what I hear?
A song, a song high above the tree, With a voice as big as the sea,
With a voice as big as the sea."

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king, "Do you know what I know?
In your palace warm, mighty king, Do you know what I know?
A Child, a Child shivers in the cold, Let us bring Him silver and gold.
Let us bring Him silver and gold."

Said the king to the people ev'rywhere, "Listen to what I say:
Pray for peace, people everywhere! Listen to what I say:
The Child, the Child sleeping in the night,
He will bring us goodness and light,
He will bring us goodness and light.

What Child is This

Grant Cochran

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

Rejoice and Be Merry

John Rutter

Rejoice and be merry in songs and in mirth,
O praise our Redeemer, all mortals on earth:
For this is the birthday of Jesus our King,
Who brought us salvation: his praises we'll sing.

A heavenly vision appeared in the sky,
Vast numbers of angels the shepherds did spy,
Proclaiming the birthday of Jesus our King
Who brought us salvation: his praises we'll sing.

Likewise a bright star in the sky did appear,
Which led the wise men from the East to draw near;
They found the Messiah, sweet Jesus our King,
Who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing.

And when they were come, they their treasures unfold,
And unto him offered myrrh, incense and gold.
So blessed forever be Jesus our King
Who brought us salvation: his praises we'll sing.
Rejoice and be merry, rejoice!

Reflection

"Heavenly Peace"

Margaret Brogdon
Mary Robinson Reynolds

Cold are the people, winter of life,
 We tremble in shadows this cold endless night,
 Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping,
 Flowers that will echo the sunrise,
 Fire of hope is our only warmth,
 Weary, its flame will be dying soon.

Voice in the distance, call in the night,
 On wind you enfold us, you speak of the light,
 Gentle on the ear you whisper softly,
 Rumors of a dawn so embracing.
 Breathless love awaits darkened souls,
 Soon will we know of the morning.

Spirit among us, shine like the star,
 Your light that guides shepherds and kings from afar,
 Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely
 Rising in the warmth of your Son's love
 Star unknowing of night and day,
 Spirit we wait for your loving Son.

Congregation will sing "Silent Night" when directed.

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
 Round yon Virgin Mother and Child.
 Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
 Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.**

Glory be to God on High
 And to the earth be Peace:
 God comes down: He bows the Sky;
 He shows himself our Friend!
 God th' Invisible appears,
 God the Blest, the Great I AM
 Sojourns in this Vale of Tears,
 And JESUS is his Name.

Him the Angels all ador'd,
 Their Maker and their King:
 Tidings of their Humbled LORD
 They now to Mortals bring:
 Emptied of his Majesty,
 Of His dazzling Glories shorn,
 Being's Source begins to BE,
 And God himself is BORN!

See th'Eternal Son of GOD
 A Mortal Son below,
 Dwelling in an Earthly Clod,
 Whom Heav'n cannot contain!
 Stand amaz'd ye Heav'ns at This!
 The LORD of Earth and Skies
 Humbled to the Dust He is,
 And in a Manger lies!

We the Folk on Earth rejoice,
 The Prince of Peace proclaim,
 With heaven's Host lift up our Voice
 And shout Immanuel's Name;
 Knees and Hearts to Him we bow;
 Of our Flesh, and of our Bone,
 JESUS is our Brother now,
 and GOD is All our own.

Offering of our Gifts
“Suisse Noel”

Mulberry Brass
Claude D’Aquin

* Congregational Carol 238

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

GLORIA

Please stand as directed.

**Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.**

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly songs?**

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

**Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.**

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

**See him in a manger laid, whome the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.**

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

* Benediction

Rev. Tommy Mason

Closing Voluntary (*seated*)
Flourish on “Joy to the World”

Mulberry Brass
Robert Hobby

* *For those able, please stand.*



Rev. Tommy Mason, Senior Pastor
Rev. Tommy Perkins, Associate Pastor
Rev. Ben Gosden, Associate Pastor
Cam Bishop, Organist/Director of Music
Ainsworth Choir
David Keith, Conductor
Bert Thompson, Lead Acolyte
Jonathan Hefner, Crucifer
Conner Hefner & Savannah Stone, Candlelighters
Trumpets
Hollie Lifshy, Clayton Chastain, Michael Hurt
Trombones
Cory Mixdorf, Hollie Lawing
French Horns
Jau Hamselman, Anna Marie Dodd
Tuba *Violin*
Eric Bubacz *Belinda Yu*
Handbells
Melynn Canova *Melinda Powell*
Clare Powell *Katie Powell*

*The arrangement in the sanctuary is given to the glory of God
by the Altar Guild.*

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.*

Up and Coming at Mulberry Street UMC

Christmas Eve Services

Saturday, December 24

2:00 pm Communion/Chapel

4:00 pm A Service for Children and Families/Sanctuary

5:30 pm Music of the Season/Sanctuary

6:00 pm Candlelight Communion Service/Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25

*9:15 am Gathering Time in the Fellowship Hall
Coffee and sweet rolls served.*

No Sunday School

10:00 am Worship/Sanctuary (one service only)

Sunday, January 1, 2012

9:00 am Worship/Chapel

9:40 am KIDSPRAISE

9:45 am Sunday School

11:00 am Worship/Sanctuary