

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia*

# *The Church at Worship*

*Baptism of the Lord  
January 8, 2012  
Nine O'clock*



*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

Opening Voluntary

“All Who Hunger, Gladly Gather”

Wilbur Held

Call to Worship

Rev. Ben Gosden

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;  
worship the Lord in holy splendor.**

The voice of God is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the Lord, upon many waters.

**The voice of the Lord is powerful,  
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**

*Psalm 29:1-4*

\* Hymn of Praise No. 77

“How Great Thou Art”

HOW GREAT THOU ART

\* Opening Prayer

Rev. Tommy Perkins

Living God,

when the Spirit descended on Jesus  
at his baptism in Jordan's water  
you revealed him as your own beloved Son.

You anointed him with the Holy Spirit.

Grant that all who are baptized into his name  
may boldly keep the covenant they have made,  
and boldly confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior  
now and forever. **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

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Melanie Buckner, Soloist

arr. Moses Hogan

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Ben Gosden

\* Gospel Lesson

Mark 1:4-11

Pew Bible Page 812

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Homily

“Called to Refocus”

Rev. Tommy Mason

Invitation to the Table

Rev. Tommy Perkins

Christ our Lord calls all –

all who wish to embody the vision  
that dares to see the world  
through the eyes of eternal grace and love;  
all who earnestly love God  
and seek to live in peace with one another.

Therefore, with hearts longing for repentance  
and transformation,

let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Confession and Pardon

**Merciful God,  
We confess that we have not loved you  
with our whole heart.  
We have violated your creation  
and plundered your good gifts.  
We have failed to love others  
with the same unconditional love you first gave us.  
We seek to own what is not ours, but yours.  
Forgive us, O God of Love,  
and reconcile us to yourself  
and to one another.  
Free us for joyful obedience  
that comes through a life devoted to serving you  
and serving one another;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All pray in silence.*

Hear the Good News:  
Christ died while we were yet sinners,  
and lives to show us the way of life eternal.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**  
Glory to God! Amen.

Offering of our Gifts

The Great Thanksgiving Hymnal Page 13  
*(Communion responses are spoken.)*

Prayer after Communion Rev. Ben Gosden

Let us pray together.

**Gracious God,  
through the gifts of your table  
we have been nourished to live  
as your disciples in this world.  
Send us out, O God,  
that we might be living witnesses  
of your self-emptying love. Amen.**

## Invitation to Christian Discipleship

*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. 347  
“Spirit Song”

SPIRIT SONG

\* Benediction

Rev. Tommy Mason

\* *Please stand as you are able.*



*Rev. Tommy Mason, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Tommy Perkins, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Ben Gosden, Associate Pastor  
Cam Bishop, Organist*



*Holy Communion*

*All who believe that Jesus Christ is Lord are invited to the Lord's Supper. You need not be a member of this congregation or a United Methodist. Children are invited to receive communion, too. God's grace is available to all.*

*Many communion participants bring an offering with them, leaving it in the offering plates in the side aisles. **Our communion offering is designated for the Methodist Home for Children & Youth.***

## **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 **Registration Pad** 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*

### **UMYF**

*Sundays – 5:00 pm*

### **Senior High Small Group**

*Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm*

### **Wednesday Night Supper**

*5:30 pm*

### **Children's Choirs**

*Wednesdays, 6:15-7:00 pm*

### **Ainsworth Choir**

*Wednesdays, 7:15-8:45 pm*

### **Middle School Small Group**

*Wednesdays, 6:15-7:00 pm*

### **Young at Heart**

**Thursday, January 12**

*12:00 pm - Fellowship Hall*

*All are invited to join together in these luncheons.*

*Program: A tour of the historical room along with some insights into Mulberry's history that will surprise you!*

*Call the church office (745-8601)*

*for reservations by Monday, January 9.*

