

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia*

The Church at Worship

*Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 11, 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, My Soul, The King of Heaven"

Diemer

Call to Worship

Sarah Hammond

Bless the Lord, O my soul!
and all that is within me,
bless God's holy name.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits.**

* Entrance Hymn No. 66

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

LAUDA ANIMA

* Opening Prayer

Rev. Tommy Perkins

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God,

in mystery and silence you are present in our lives,
bringing new life out of destruction,
hope out of despair, growth out of difficulty.

We thank you that you do not leave us alone
but labor to make us whole.

Help us to perceive your unseen hand

in the unfolding of our lives,
and to attend to the gentle guidance of your Spirit,
that we may know the joy you give your people. **Amen.**

* A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Act of Praise
"Canticle of Hope"

Ainsworth Choir
Joseph Martin

Morning Prayer

Rev. Tommy Perkins

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.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

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. 390

"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"

DETROIT

* Gospel Lesson

Matthew 18:21-35

Sarah Hammond
Pew Bible Page 800

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Ben Gosden

Merciful God we come to you
in the silence confessing our sin and failures.
Hear our silent pleas for forgiveness

Silence

Let us pray.

God of hope and refuge,
forgiveness is so hard.
We confess that anger and hatred have held onto us.
Too often we desire forgiveness
and yet we are unwilling to forgive others.

Lord, have mercy

Forgiveness is so hard.
We admit that we don't like to be vulnerable.
In times of distress, chaos, and confusion
we long for security and we settle for the illusion of it.

Christ, have mercy

Forgiveness is so hard.
We still want our enemies to be annihilated
and for our lives to return to safety.
But we know that it is you, O God,
alone who is our source of security and safety.

Lord, have mercy

Fix our faith on you
so we know that nothing can separate us from you.
Forgive us and heal us.
Raise us to new life.
Strengthen us in the way of compassion and justice
that we might truly be witnesses of your love
and grace in this world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 Tithes and Gifts
“Elegy”

Belinda Yu, Violin
James Biery

- * Hymn of Response
“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou has been, thou forever wilt be.
Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

- * 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. 437
“This Is My Song”

FINLANDIA

- * 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.*

- * 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
Sarah Hammond, Lay Reader
Bert Thompson, Lead Acolyte
Phillip Dunn, Crucifer
Caroline Dunn & Will Smith, Candlelighters*

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Monroe J. "Tommy" Tucker
by his wife, Margaret J. Tucker and family.*

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

Youth Choir

Sundays – 4:00 pm

S.M.A.K. & MiniS.M.A.K.

Sundays – 5:00 pm

UMYF

Sundays – 5:00 pm

Wednesday Night Supper

5:30 pm

Program: Pastor's Bible Study – Rev. Tommy Mason

Menu: Salad Bar

Ainsworth Choir

Wednesdays, 7:15-8:45 pm

Senior High Small Group

Mondays, 7:00-8:15 pm

Middle School Small Group

Wednesdays, 6:15-7:00 pm

Youth District Service Day

Saturday, September 17

Mulberry Street UMC

9:00 a.m. – Work Projects

6:00-9:00 p.m. – District Youth Rally

*A day of service to our community as a group
of United Methodist Youth working together with*

Rebuilding Macon to impact our hometown.

RSVP to Thomas Hodges, 745-8601

or thodges@mulberrymethodist.org