

WELCOME

We extend a cordial welcome to each person worshipping with us today. If you need any assistance, please call on our ushers. They would be glad to help you. Please join us in the Social Hall after the service for our Coffee Hour. If you would like to know more about Asbury, drop by our "Connection Corner" in the Social Hall. We hope you have a meaningful worship experience and leave Asbury renewed, fulfilled, and challenged!

**The flowers for today's service are given by Mike Flatt
in memory of his mom and dad.**

**Flowers are also given by Wendy Ciccodicola and family
in memory of Wendell Hearn Hester.**



Mission Statement

Asbury Memorial is a place where all people, individually and collectively, develop their spirituality, use their talents, and grow in faith as we become a living example of people who love, serve, and celebrate God, each other, and our community.

Our Tithes and Offerings

Weekly Budget Need – \$13,170.00

Given Last Sunday – \$11,108.00

Year-to-Date Budget Need – \$618,990.00

Year-to-date Received – \$609,607.20

Billy Hester, Senior Minister

Claire Marich, Associate Minister

Candace Jenkins, Connectional Ministries

Ruthie Deffley, Family Ministries

Laura Angell & Chris Kincade, Youth

Ray Ellis, Minister of Music

Randy Canady, Administrator

Claudette DeLong, Office Manager

Ashley Stroud, Children Ministries

Kay Deffley, Organist/Pianist

Asbury Memorial Church

1008 East Henry St., Savannah, GA 31401; Phone (912)233-4351

Web Site: www.asburymemorial.org; E-Mail: church@asburymemorial.org

Assistive Listening Devices are available in the narthex.

Asbury Memorial Church

December 1, 2019

11:15 a.m.



God's Dream for Humanity

1st Sunday of Advent

WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE Asbury Musicians

ANNOUNCEMENTS Chris Fahey

CHIMES Preparing hearts and minds for worship

SONG *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Handbell Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Hester & Rev. Durham

One: We've seen the star in the East, and again we begin our journey to find the Christ. On the advent road, the star lights our anticipation of family gatherings, of loving friendships, and profound worship experiences.

All: O come, o come, Emmanuel.

One: On the advent road, the star gleams in Rachel's tears for loved ones gone, for times of pain, for times remembered that will be no more.

All: O come, o come, Emmanuel.

One: On the advent road, the starlight dances with joyous celebrations, winter play, carol singing, yuletide spirit, Christmas giving.

All: O come, o come, Emmanuel.

One: On the advent road, the star leads us by Herods of greed and need, haste and waste, neglect and death.

All: O come, o come, Emmanuel.

One: On the advent road, hand in hand, we follow the star, with shepherds' fear and angels' joy, that we might see the newborn child.

All: O come, o come, Emmanuel.

Come one. Come all. Let us walk together.

*HYMN *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* No. 196

ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE Chelsea Hester & Chris Bradt

CHORAL RESPONSE *Come, Child of Hope* Asbury Choir

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 2:1-5 Rev. Bob Chvatal

*HYMN *View the Present through the Promise* see insert
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SERMON **God's Dream for Humanity** Rev. Hester

TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Prepare the Way* Asbury Choir

*DOXOLOGY No. 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION see insert

HOLY COMMUNION & STRIPS OF CLOTH

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God,

Your vision of peace and wholeness

**comes to us in sweeping revelations and in tiny signs of hope
as in our communing together at your gospel feast.**

Kindle our hearts that we may be hopeful people.

Keep us from growing weary of waiting,

lest we miss the glory of your appearing. Amen.

*HYMN *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* No. 206

*BENEDICTION Rev. Hester

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Here I Am, Lord* Congregation

The congregation is invited to "sign" and to "sing" the following:
*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

*POSTLUDE Asbury Musicians

*Please stand as you are able.

**Children are invited to attend Children's Church (1st - 5th grades)

LITURGY FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Long ago our tradition says,
Jesus came in the humble birth of a child,
a child of amazing and divine love,
a child of Mary's 'yes' to God,
a child of Joseph's acceptance,
a child of our humanity.

We pledge ourselves to be embodiments of the dream he dreamed.

Long ago our tradition says,
Jesus took bread,
gave thanks,
broke it and said:
'This bread is broken, as my body will be'.
And he handed it to his friends inviting them to eat:
'Remember all that I have been to you'.

Long ago our tradition says,
Jesus poured a cup of wine,
offered thanks for it,
and gave it to his friends:
'This wine is poured out as my life will be poured out.
As you drink give thanks for all I have given'.

It is through the goodness and effort of others, that
we have this bread and wine to offer...
bread, that was once scattered as grain in a field
and gathered together and baked into a loaf;
wine, that was once grapes grown on a hillside
and gathered together and pressed into juice.
May this gathering of this community of faith
be comforted and challenged during this Advent season.

**May people see in us
the courage and the generosity
that characterized Jesus' life.
Amen.**

View the Present through the Promise

1. View the pres-ent through the prom-ise, Christ will come a - gain.
2. Probe the pres-ent with the prom-ise, Christ will come a - gain.
3. Match the pres-ent to the prom-ise, Christ will come a - gain.

Trust de-spite the deep-ening dark-ness, Christ will come a - gain.
Let your dai - ly ac - tions wit-ness, Christ will come a - gain.
Make this hope your guid - ing prem-ise, Christ will come a - gain.

Lift the world a - bove its griev-ing through your watch-ing and be-liev-ing
Let your lov-ing and your giv-ing and your jus - tice and for-giv-ing
Pat-tern all your cal - cu - lat - ing and the world you are cre - a - ting

in the hope past hope's con-ceive-ing: Christ will come a - gain.
be a sign to all the liv - ing: Christ will come a - gain.
to the ad - vent you are wait-ing: Christ will come a - gain.

WORDS: Thomas H. Troeger

MUSIC: Traditional Welsh melody; harm. by Luther Orlando Emerson

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