WELCOME

We extend a cordial welcome to each person worshiping with us today. If you need any assistance, please call on our ushers or greeters. They would be glad to help you. Following the service, please join us in the Social Hall for refreshments and fellowship. We hope you have a meaningful worship experience and will leave Asbury renewed, fulfilled, and challenged!



Mission Statement

Asbury Memorial UMC 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 - \$10,778.75 Given Last Sunday - \$10,435.59 Year-to-Date Budget Need - \$420,375.15 Year-to-date Received - \$388,047.53

Rev. Billy Hester, Senior Minister Randy Canady, Church Administrator Laura Angell, Youth Director Detective Santana Willis, Security Ray Ellis, Minister of Music Claudette DeLong, Office Manager Ashley Stroud, Children's Programs Kay Deffley, Organist/Pianist

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church 1008 East Henry St., Savannah, GA 31401 Phone (912) 233-4351; Fax (912) 233-5026 Web Site: www.asburymemorial.org E-Mail: church@asburymemorial.org Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church October 2, 2016 11:15 A.M.

The Phantom of the Opera



God On Broadway

WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE The Music of the Night The Phantom

OVERTURE The Phantom

INTROIT The Phantom of the Opera Asbury Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP Angel of Music Christine & Phantom

One: Sing! Children of God!

Let the music draw you closer to the Spirit!

All: God lives and moves among us!

One: Dance! Children of God!

Lose yourself in the choreography of the Spirit.

Life is a dance and God is the orchestra.

All: God lives and moves among us!

One: Embrace! Children of God!

Open your arms and feel close to each other.

It is our openness where life takes on meaning.

All: It's great to be alive!

Let us give God thanks and celebrate!

*HYMN When in Our Music God is Glorified No. 68

*PRAYER For True Singing No. 69

SCRIPTURE Matthew 23:1-12, 23

SONG Masquerade Asbury Choir

and Dancers

ANNOUNCEMENTS The Phantom

ALL I ASK OF YOU LITANY see insert

TITHES & OFFERINGS

We recognize and bless the gifts brought to the table and those given to support the mission of the church through automatic payment.

OFFERTORY

All I Ask of You

Ashley Roper and Randy Canady

*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

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SERMON **Taking Off Our Masks** Rev. Billy Hester

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

see insert

HOLY COMMUNION

All people are welcomed at God's table. If you would like to receive Communion, please come forward using the side aisles as the ushers assist you. There will be three stations – the center station will have gluten free bread. After Communion, please feel free to spend time praying at the altar. If you are unable to come forward, but want to receive the elements, simply inform an usher. We will be happy to bring the elements to you. Any gifts that are left at the altar will go to an Emergency Fund that helps people in need. God bless you as we receive Holy Communion.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

see insert

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

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Hester

One: Removing our masks, let us go forth in the light of God's love.

All: We will stand with the sad and broken.

We will remind them that they are God's children.

One: Children of the Light, your God goes with you!

*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 The Phantom of the Opera Asbury Musicians

^{*} Please stand as you are able.

^{**}Children are invited to attend Children's Church (K-6th grades)

All I Ask of You Litany

God: No more talk of darkness,
Forget these wide-eyed fears;
I'm here, nothing can harm you,
My words will warm and calm you.
Let me be your freedom,
Let daylight dry your tears;
I'm here, with you, beside you,
To guard you and to guide you.

All: Say you love me every waking moment,
Turn my head with talk of summertime.
Say you need me with you now and always;
Promise me that all you say is true,
That's all I ask of you.

God: Let me be your shelter; Let me be your light; You're safe, no one will find you, Your fears are far behind you.

All: All I want is freedom,
A world with no more night;
And you, always beside me,
To hold me and to hide me.

God: Then say you'll share with me one love, one lifetime; Let me lead you from your solitude. Say you need me with you, here beside you, Anywhere you go, let me go too, That's all I ask of you

All: Say you'll share with me one love, one lifetime; Say the word and I will follow you.

Share each day with me,
Each night, each morning.
Say you love me!

God: You know I do.

All: Love me, that's all I ask of you.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

On the first Sunday of October, Christians around the world from all kinds of denominations partake in the sacrament of Holy Communion and will remember other Christians around the world. In churches, homes, huts, and in God's creation this sacrament will be observed. Many different types of bread will be used. Also, the drink may be different. For many, it will be wine, some will have juice, some will celebrate with water that had to be carried from a well miles away. In many different languages, by ordained clergy and volunteer pastors, something like these words of institution will be given.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread. And when he had given thanks and blessed it, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way after supper, Jesus took the cup and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Let us pray together:

Creator God,

we thank you for this sacrament of communion shared with Christians around the world. Pour out your Holy Spirit on these elements and on those who partake—that we may be your body and the representation of your covenant in our lives and throughout the world. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of abundance and mercy,
we give joyful thanks
for your eternal love and healing presence
in our celebration of bread and cup.
Bless this body of Christ
that we may attend faithfully
to our call to be your servants,
with each other and throughout the world. Amen.