

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia*

# *The Church at Worship*

*Fifth Sunday in Lent  
April 2, 2017  
Eleven O'clock*



## *Entrance and Praise*

Greeting in the Name of Christ

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us worship God.

Opening Voluntary

Partita on “Lord of the Dance”  
(Variations 1, 3, 4, 5)

Noel Goemanne

Call to Worship

Heidi Ream

Sometimes we say that we are a people of dry bones;  
we are a people with hope.

**God says that we shall be raised from our living graves  
and we shall be filled with Spirit.**

Sometimes we say that we are cut off from one another,  
and our sources of joy are dried up.

**God says that we shall be at home with one another  
and we shall live with celebration.**

Sometimes we come to worship aimless and fearful.

**Then God reveals wondrous works of love  
and we come to know God.**

\* Entrance Hymn No. 108

“God Hath Spoken by the Prophets”

EBENEZER

\* Opening Prayer

Rev. Tommy Perkins

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

Lord, open our eyes to your presence,  
open our ears to your call,  
open our hearts to your love;  
that we may give ourselves completely to you  
and walk before you as children of the light;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Act of Praise  
“Kyrie” (from “Mass in G”)

Ainsworth Choir  
Franz Schubert

*Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Confession and Pardon

Rev. Tommy Perkins

Let us confess our sins before God.

**O God,**

**you are the hope of all who seek you  
and the help of all who find you.**

**We thirst for a grace that can be found  
only in Jesus Christ.**

**If our wells are dry,**

**if our spirits are weary,**

**if our hearts are hardened,**

**forgive us, we pray,**

**and restore to us the joy of your salvation.**

*Silent Confession*

Believe the good news;

in the name of Jesus Christ,

we are set free from the power of sin and given new life.

**Glory to God! Amen.**

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Rev. Tommy Perkins

Hattaway “Hattie” Elizabeth Vaughn

Daughter of Ben & Kris Vaughn

Do you, as Christ’s body, the Church,  
reaffirm both your rejection of sin  
and your commitment to Christ?

**We do.**

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith  
and include Hattie now before you in your care?

**With God’s help, we will proclaim the good news  
and live according to the example of Christ.**

**We will surround Hattie**

**with a community of love and forgiveness,**

**that she may grow in her trust of God,**

**and be found faithful in her service to others.**

**We will pray for her that she may be a true disciple  
who walks in the way that leads to life.**

\* Commendation and Welcome (*congregation stands*)

Members of the household of God,  
We commend Hattie to your love and care.  
Do all in your power to increase her faith,  
confirm her hope, and perfect her in love.

**We give thanks for all that God has already given you  
and welcome you in Christian love.  
As members together with you in the body of Christ  
and at Mulberry Street United Methodist Church,  
we renew our covenant faithfully to participate  
in the ministries of the church  
by our prayers, our presence,  
our gifts, our service, and our witness  
that in everything God may be glorified  
through Jesus Christ.**

\* Hymn of Baptism No. 611

“Child of Blessing, Child of Promise”

STUTTGART

**Child of blessing, child of promise,  
baptized with the Spirit’s sign;  
with this water God has sealed you  
unto love and grace divine.**

**Child of God your loving Parent,  
learn to know whose child you are.  
Grow to laugh and sing and worship,  
trust and love God more than all.**

### *Proclamation and Response*

Old Testament Lesson

Heidi Ream

Ezekiel 37:1-12 (NLT) (Selected Verses)

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Homily

Rev. Jimmy Towson

“Giving Up Giving Up”

Offertory Prayer

Offering of our Gifts

“All My Hope on God is Founded”

Charles Callahan

## *Thanksgiving and Communion*

Invitation to the Table

Rev. Bill Culpepper

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,  
who earnestly repent of their sin  
and seek to live in peace with one another.  
Come, let us break bread together.

\* The Great Thanksgiving  
Musical Setting A

Hymnal Pages 17-18

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.**

Breaking the Bread

Giving of the Bread and Cup

*Communion will be served by intinction.  
After receiving communion,  
you are welcome to go to the altar for prayer.  
Please let an usher know  
if you need to be served in your pew.*

Music at Communion

Congregational Hymn No. 261 "Lord of the Dance"

Prayer after Communion

**Eternal God,  
we give you thanks for this holy mystery  
in which you have given yourself to us.  
Grant that we may go into the world  
in the strength of your Spirit,  
to give ourselves for others,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

# *Sending Forth*

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

\* Hymn of Discipleship No. 614

“For the Bread Which You Have Broken”      FOR THE BREAD

The Light of Christ Goes Into the World

*Please be seated after the cross and light pass your pew.*

Closing Voluntary

Partita on “Lord of the Dance”  
(Variations 2, 7)

Noel Goemanne

\* Benediction

Rev. Jimmy Towson

\* *Please stand as you are able.*



*Rev. Jimmy Towson, Senior Pastor*

*Rev. Tommy Perkins, Associate Pastor*

*Rev. Bill Culpepper, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministries*

*Cam Bishop, Director of Music/Organist*

*Ainsworth Choir*

*Ainsworth Choir Conductor, David Keith*

*Heidi Ream, Lay Reader*

*Judy Hodgens, Bread Baker*

*Jim & Candi Wilson, Lay Communion Servers*

*Savannah Stone, Acolyte*

*Micah Johnston, Communion Steward*

*Alex Stone, Crucifer*

*Graham Johnston & Olivia Mann, Candlelighters*

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of Hilda Harris by her daughters,  
Bobbie Gore and Rita Swicegood.*

## *Welcome All Visitors*

*We welcome you to Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.*

*Please make sure you sign the **Attendance Register** as it is passed.*

***Nursery Care** is provided for children under 4 years of age.*

*Please ask an usher for directions to the Nursery.*

## *Up & Coming Events & Prayer List*

*Mulberry's Up & Coming Events and Prayer List  
is located in the Registration Pads on your pew.*

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
April 2, 2017*

**Today's Sermon**  
"Giving Up Giving Up"

**Today's Scripture**

Ezekiel 37:1-12 NLT (Selected Verses)

1 The LORD took hold of me, and I was carried away by the Spirit of the LORD to a valley filled with bones. 2 He led me all around among the bones that covered the valley floor. They were scattered everywhere across the ground and were completely dried out. 3 Then he asked me, "Son of man, can these bones become living people again?"

"O Sovereign LORD," I replied, "you alone know the answer to that."

4 Then he said to me, "Speak a prophetic message to these bones and say, 'Dry bones, listen to the word of the LORD! 5 This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Look! I am going to put breath into you and make you live again! 6 I will put flesh and muscles on you and cover you with skin. I will put breath into you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.'" 7 So I spoke this message, just as he told me. Suddenly as I spoke, there was a rattling noise all across the valley. The bones of each body came together and attached themselves as complete skeletons. ... They all came to life and stood up on their feet—a great army...

11 Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones represent the people of Israel. They are saying, 'We have become old, dry bones—all hope is gone. Our nation is finished.' 12 Therefore, prophesy to them and say, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: O my people, I will open your graves of exile and cause you to rise again. Then I will bring you back to the land of Israel.'

**Sermon Notes**

**Previous Sermons Available Online**

*If you are interested in listening to previous sermons,  
please visit our website at [www.mulberrymethodist.org](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org)  
and click on "Listen" on top right.*