

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia*

The Church at Worship

*Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 16, 2015
Eleven O'clock*



ENTRANCE AND PRAISE

Gathering and Greeting Rev. Jimmy Towson

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.
Let us worship God!

Opening Voluntary S. Karg-Elert
“Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals”

Call to Worship Laura Wilson

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!
Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into God’s presence with singing!
Enter God’s gates with thanksgiving,
and God’s courts with praise!
Give thanks and bless God’s name!

* Entrance Hymn No. 158 SPANISH HYMN
“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

* Opening Prayer Rev. Tommy Perkins

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

O God our Father,
we have come here to sing to you,
to pray to you,
to hear you speaking to us.
Help us to remember your presence with us
as we seek to worship you. **Amen.**

* Affirmation of Faith
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.**

* Gloria Patri No. 71

GREATOREX

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

BIBLES AND BACKPACKS

The Story of Jesus as a Boy at the Temple Austin & Jack Carter
Luke 2:41-52

Presentation of Bibles to Third Graders

Pam Johnston

John Hampton Carter
F. Stebin Horne, IV
Chase Elaine Kiernan
Jackson James Kinross
Thomas David Mann
Hannah Spencer Mayfield
Alice Elizabeth Rauls
Lewis Matthew Tharp
Stewart Crowell Vernon, Jr.
Laura McCutchen Wilson

Thankful Response

Thomas Mann and Hannah Mayfield

Thank you, Mulberry family, for the gift of these Bibles.
God's word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our paths.

**May God help you grow in your faith
as you read and study his word.**

*All children, teachers, and administrators
are invited to come forward
during the following hymn
to receive a blessing for the school year.*

Hymn of God's Love (*congregation remains seated*)

"Jesus Loves Me"

JESUS LOVES ME

**Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

**Jesus loves me still today, walking with me on my way,
wanting as a friend to give light and love to all who live.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**

Words from Our Senior Pastor

Rev. Jimmy Towson

Blessing of the Backpacks

Pam Johnston

As these your children begin their studies,
we ask a blessing on their backpacks.

O Lord of Life and Love,

Hear our prayer.

Bless, O God, all teachers and administrators.
Give them the wisdom to find inspiration for each child.
Give them the energy, creativity and love
that will make their work a blessing to our children.

O Lord of Life and Love,

Hear our prayer.

Bless, O God, these our cherished children,
those whom we have promised to love
and nurture at their baptism.

O Lord of Life and Love,

Hear our prayer. Amen.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

* Hymn No. 452
“My Faith Looks Up to Thee” OLIVET

* Gospel Reading Sarah Grantham
John 6:60-67 (NIV)

The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon Rev. Jimmy Towson
Not a Fan: Completely Committed Follower
“Define the Relationship”

Congregational Sung Response (*congregation remains seated*)
“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus” ASSAM

I have decided to follow Jesus; (*sing 3 times*)
No turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, I still will follow; (*sing 3 times*)
No turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me; (*sing 3 times*)
No turning back, no turning back.

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Offertory Prayer Rev. Bill Culpepper

Offering of our Gifts Ainsworth Choir
“Take Up Your Cross” Ronald Corp

*“Take up your cross”, the Savior said, “if you want to follow me.”
I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is ever before me.
Hide your face from my sins, and blot out my wicked transgressions.*

* Doxology OLD 100TH

SENDING FORTH

* Invitation to Christian Discipleship Rev. Bill Culpepper

*Those who are in charge of tables at the ministry fair
are encouraged to follow the choir and acolytes
into the courtyard during the final hymn
in order to be in place before the congregation arrives.*

* Hymn of Discipleship No. 396
“O Jesus I Have Promised” ANGEL’S STORY

* Benediction Rev. Jimmy Towson



Rev. Jimmy Towson, Senior Pastor
Rev. Tommy Perkins, Associate Pastor
Rev. Bill Culpepper, Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries
Cam Bishop, Director of Music/Organist
Ainsworth Choir
David Keith, Conductor
Pam Johnston, Director of Children's & Family Ministries
Sarah Grantham, Lay Reader
Savannah Stone, Lead Acolyte
Sara Kate Sellers, Crucifer
Will Fackler & Xavier Tarbox, Candlelighters

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our mother Melba M. Stout and in honor of our father Carter M. Stout by their sons Robert M. Stout, Larry M. Stout and their families.

The rose on the altar is in honor of the birth of John Emmett Mooney, son of Yancey and Whitney Mooney, on August 8, 2015.

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.*

***Nursery Care** is provided for children under 4 years of age.
Please ask an usher for directions to the Nursery.*

Gospel Reading for the Week
Mark 10:32-45

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Today's Sermon

Not a Fan: Completely Committed Follower
“Define the Relationship”

Today's Scripture

John 6:60-67

⁶⁰ On hearing it, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?”

⁶¹ Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶² Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! ⁶³ The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life. ⁶⁴ Yet there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. ⁶⁵ He went on to say, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them.”

⁶⁶ From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

⁶⁷ “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve.

Sermon Notes

Previous Sermons Available Online

*If you are interested in listening to previous sermons,
please visit our website at www.mulberrymethodist.org
and click on “Listen” on top right.*