

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia*

# *The Church at Worship*

*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

*August 20, 2017*

*Eleven O'clock*



## *Entrance and Praise*

Greeting in the Name of Christ

Rev. Jeff Cook

The grace of our Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us worship God.

“Rhosymedre”

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Call to Worship

George Dunn

Give us this day, O Father,  
Stillness,

**to realize your presence;**

Humility,

**to know our own need;**

Trust,

**to ask your help;**

Obedience,

**to accept whatever you say to us;**

**so that it may this day be good for us to be here:**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\* Entrance Hymn No. 383

“This Is a Day of New Beginnings”

BEGINNINGS

\* Opening Prayer

Rev. Jimmy Towson

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Eternal God, our Loving Parent,  
you have called us to be your children.

Forgive us when we lose our childlike wonder,  
and act as though we are the source  
of all that is good in our lives.

Grant that as we become more like children,  
we might place the children in our midst  
at the head of your banquet table –  
for that is the way your Kingdom is designed;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

\* Affirmation of Faith  
The Apostles' Creed

Rev. Jimmy Towson

**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.**

Act of Praise  
"Lord, Here Am I"

Ainsworth Choir  
John Ness Beck

### *Bibles and Backpacks*

The Story of Jesus as a Boy at the Temple  
Luke 2:41-52                      Baxter James & Sanford Horne

Presentation of Bibles to Third Graders                      Pam Johnston

Landon Barwick	Owen Nash Mayfield
Jayden Browning	Malin McAfee
Benton Gates Bush	Kathryn Mercer
Carleesia Daniel	Waylon Hawkins Miller
George Emory Dunn, II	Rocco Moretti
Ramzi Pierce Harley	Benjamin Thomas Morris
Sanford Alexander Horne	Martha Golson Rauls
Ethan Asher Langley	

Thankful Response                      Malin McAfee

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! 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.**

Blessing of the Backpacks

Pam Johnston

*Elementary students and their families:*

Bless our paper and pen; help us think and play.

Guide our spirits daily.

**Of whom much is given, much is required.**

**May God keep you in His hand.**

*Middle and high school students and their families:*

As we move from class to class,

Guide our footsteps; keep our tongues to speak your words.

In all subjects may God's excellence be shown.

Keep us strong, growing in grace.

**Of whom much is given, much is required.**

**May God keep you in His hand.**

*College students and their families:*

Whether far from home or near,

may we hold God's promises close,

and do our best, increasing in wisdom.

**Of whom much is given, much is required.**

**May God keep you in His hand.**

*Non-traditional and graduate adult students  
and their families:*

As we lift our minds and hearts to study, work and pray,  
be also with our families.

**Of whom much is given, much is required.**

**May God keep you in His hand.**

*(Adapted from 21<sup>st</sup> Century African Liturgy by The Rev. Marilyn E. Thornton)*

Prayer and Blessing

Rev. Jimmy Towson

## *Proclamation and Response*

\* Hymn of Response No. 447 RHOSYMEDRE  
“Our Parent, by Whose Name” (*Verses 1 & 3*)

Old Testament Lesson John Inzetta  
Deuteronomy 6:3-9 (NRSV)  
The word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Rev. Jeff Cook  
It Starts at Home: “Raising and Parenting Godly Kids”

Offering of our Gifts  
“Children of the Heavenly Father” arr. by Ovid Young  
Greg Elliott, Baritone Rich Kosowski, Tenor

\* Doxology LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## *Sending Forth*

\* Invitation to Christian Discipleship Rev. Jimmy Towson

\* Hymn of Discipleship No. 580  
“Lead On, O King Eternal” LANCASHIRE

The Light of Christ Goes Into the World  
*Please be seated after the cross and light pass your pew.*

“Fanfare” Ronald Arnatt

\* Benediction Rev. Jeff Cook



*Rev. Jimmy Towson, Senior Pastor*  
*Rev. Jeff Cook, Associate Pastor*  
*Pam Johnston, Director of Children & Family Ministries*  
*Pat Crowe, Organist*  
*Richard Kosowski, Director of Music*  
*Lay Reader, John Inzetta*  
*John Morgan Manley, Crucifer*  
*Georgia Mercer & Davis Uren, Candlelighters*

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God  
in memory of their parents  
Melba Martin Stout and Carter McRae Stout  
by Robert Stout and Larry Stout.*

### ***If You Are New***

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

*Welcome to Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.*

*Thank you for worshiping with us today!*

*We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in our worship, growth opportunities and service life here at Mulberry. Our hope is that you will find this church to be a warm, caring community that you can call home.*

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

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

*To keep up with Mulberry Street UMC's events, services and more we invite you to visit us at [www.mulberrymethodist.org](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org) and find us on Facebook.*

### **Joining Mulberry Street UMC**

*New Members are welcomed into the congregation during our Sunday morning worship services at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 am.*

*You may transfer from another Methodist church, transfer from another denomination or join for the first time by Profession of Faith (committing your life to Christ). For more information, please contact Karen Carter at 478-745-8601 or [kcarter@mulberrymethodist.org](mailto:kcarter@mulberrymethodist.org).*

### **Connect with us Online**

*You can learn more about our church community, staff and other events by visiting our website at [www.mulberrymethodist.org](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org).*

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
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**Today's Sermon**

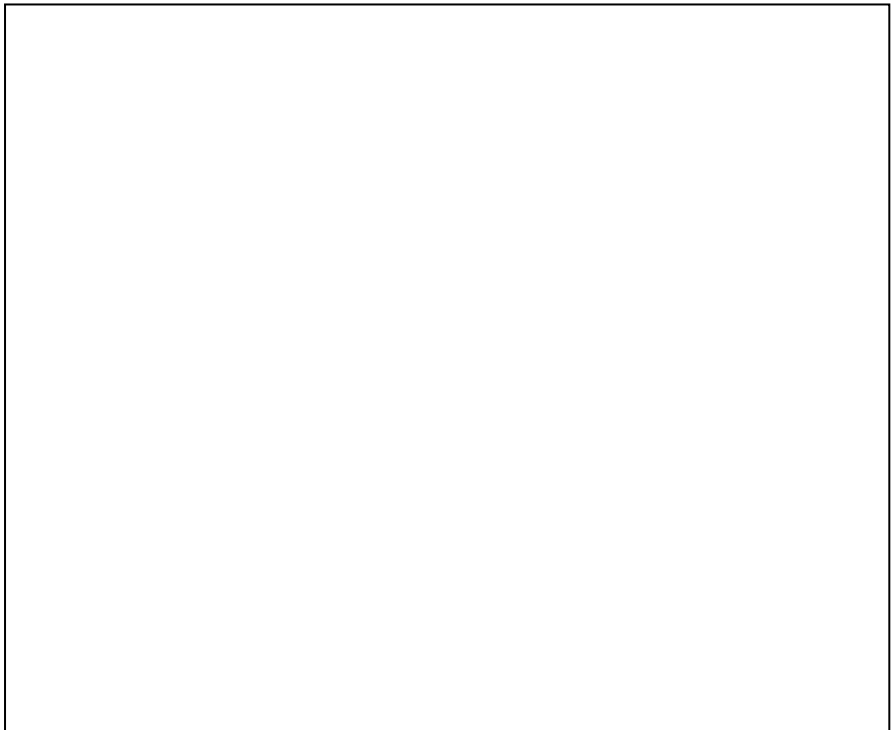
It Starts at Home: "Raising and Parenting Godly Kids"

**Today's Scripture**

Deuteronomy 6:3-9 (NRSV)

<sup>3</sup> Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

<sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. <sup>5</sup> You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. <sup>6</sup> Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. <sup>7</sup> Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. <sup>8</sup> Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, <sup>9</sup> and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.



**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.*