

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia*

# *The Church at Worship*

*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 28, 2016  
Nine O'clock*



Greeting in the Name of Christ

Rev. Jimmy Towson

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

Opening Voluntary

Elizabeth Lamback, Violin

Call to Worship

Rev. Tommy Perkins

Come to Christ, that living stone,  
rejected by the world,  
but in God's sight chosen and precious.  
**We have responded to Christ's call,  
and seek to be built into a spiritual house,  
a living reminder of God's presence on earth.**  
Once we were no people,  
but now we are God's people,  
called out of the darkness into God's marvelous light.  
Therefore we sing with the Church in all ages:  
**Blessed be your name, O God, our Redeemer.  
By your mercy we have been born anew  
to a living hope through the resurrection  
of Jesus Christ from the dead.**

\* Hymn of Praise No. 545

"The Church's One Foundation"

AURELIA

\* Confession and Pardon

We confess that the circle of love is repeatedly broken  
because of our sin of exclusion.

We create separate circles:

the inner circle and the outer circle,  
the circle of power and the circle of despair,  
the circle of privilege and the circle of deprivation.

**Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive all who have sinned against us.**

We confess that the circle of love is broken  
whenever there is alienation,  
whenever there is misunderstanding,  
whenever there is insensitivity  
or a hardening of the heart.

**Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive all who have sinned against us.**

We confess that the circle of love is broken  
whenever we cannot see eye to eye,  
whenever we cannot link hand to hand,  
whenever we cannot live heart to heart  
and affirm our differences.

**Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive all who have sinned against us.**

Through God's grace we are forgiven,  
by the mercy of our Creator,  
through the love of the Christ,  
and in the power of the Spirit.

Let us rejoice and be glad!

**Glory to God! Amen.**

\* Affirmation of Faith

Affirmation from 1 Corinthians 15: 1-6  
and Colossians 1: 15-20

This is the good news  
which we have received,  
in which we stand,  
and by which we are saved:

**Christ died for our sins,  
was buried,  
was raised on the third day,  
and appeared first to the women,  
then to Peter and the Twelve,  
and then to many faithful witnesses.**

**We believe Jesus is the Christ,  
the Anointed One of God,  
the firstborn from the dead,  
in whom all things hold together,  
in whom the fullness of God  
was pleased to dwell  
by the power of the Spirit.**

**Christ is the head of the body, the church,  
and by the blood of the cross  
reconciles all things to God. Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer

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.**

Offering of our Gifts

\* Doxology

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

New Testament Reading  
1 Peter 2:2-5 (NIV)

Sermon  
“Growing People Change”

Rev. Jimmy Towson

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

\* Hymn of Discipleship No. 438  
“Forth In Thy Name, O Lord”

DUKE STREET

\* Benediction

Rev. Jimmy Towson

*\*Please stand as you are able.*



*Rev. Jimmy Towson, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Tommy Perkins, Associate Pastor  
Cam Bishop, Director of Music/Organist*

*The flowers in the chapel are given to the glory of God  
and in honor of Bob and Anna Waters.*

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**Today's Sermon**

“Growing People Change”

**Today's Scripture**

1 Peter 2:2-5 (NIV)

2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation,

3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

4 As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—

5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

**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.*

## *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*

*If you would like to have a copy of  
Mulberry's Up & Coming Events and Prayer List,  
please see an usher.*