

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia*

# *The Church at Worship*

*Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 30, 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 David Johnson  
"Processional in D"

Call to Worship Martin Magda

How lovely is your dwelling place, O God!

My soul longs for your courts;

my heart and flesh sing for joy!

**Even the sparrow finds a home,**

**and the swallow a nest.**

**Blessed are those who dwell in your house,**

**ever singing your praise!**

\* Entrance Hymn No. 126  
"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" MIT FREUDEN ZART

\* Opening Prayer Rev. Bill Culpepper

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Holy God,

we thank you that you receive us

not according to our failing goodness,

but according to your overflowing grace.

You receive us as we are.

You show us what we can be.

You have come to us in Jesus Christ

to share our common lot and reconcile us to yourself.

Sweep over us with your Spirit,

change us by your love,

that we may sing with joy before you,

and live to your glory in the world. **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.**

Confession and Pardon

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*All pray in silence.*

Almighty God have mercy on you,  
forgive all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you in all goodness,  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit  
keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Act of Praise

Ainsworth Choir

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” Mark L. Williams  
(Words by W. Gladden (1879) UMH 430)

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Children’s Moments

Pam Johnston

*Children are invited to meet Pam on the chancel steps.  
K-4 and K-5 children will leave for  
Children’s Church after Children’s Moments.*

\* Hymn No. 451

“Be Thou My Vision”

SLANE

\* Gospel Reading

Martin Magda

Luke 18:18-30 (NLT)

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Jimmy Towson

Not a Fan: Completely Committed Follower  
“Something Missing?”

Response to the Word

Katie Trotter, Soprano

“An Offering”

Dan Forrest

*O Christ, Who spared not any cost,  
Nor any grace withheld,  
But poured forth Your redeeming blood  
In love unparalleled;  
What would you have me offer, Lord?  
What must I count as loss  
That I may taste the fellowship  
That brings me near Your cross?*

*Why should I cling to gifts You give?  
Why grasp in foolish pride  
What You who gave Yourself for me  
Now bid me lay aside?  
To know You is my highest gain  
Worth any sacrifice,  
A treasure worthy to possess  
At any earthly price.*

*Yet if behind my open hands,  
My heart shrinks from the cost,  
Teach me that nothing offered You  
Is ever truly lost.  
A hundredfold reward awaits  
In one glimpse of Your face,  
My sacrifice forgotten  
In the riches of Your grace.*

(Text by Eileen Berry. OneLicense #A-712041)

Offertory Prayer

Rev. Tommy Perkins

Offering of our Gifts

Caitlin Dowling

Prelude on “Christ, Redeemer of Us All”

Healey Willan

\* 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!**

\* Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Rev. Tommy Perkins

## **SENDING FORTH**

\* Hymn of Discipleship No. 415

“Take Up Thy Cross”

GERMANY

\* The Light of Christ Goes Into the World

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

*As the light of Christ is carried out into the world,  
you are invited to remain seated for a few minutes  
of personal reflection to prepare to re-enter that world.*

*Consider prayerfully how God has been present to you  
in worship this morning and how you can be present  
for him in the world this week.*

Closing Voluntary

Caitlin Dowling

“Tuba Tune in D Major”

C.S. Lang

\*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 of Youth Ministries  
Cam Bishop, Director of Music/Organist  
Ainsworth Choir  
David Keith, Conductor  
Pam Johnston, Director of Children's & Family Ministries  
Martin Magda, Lay Reader  
Savannah Stone, Lead Acolyte  
Emma Johnston, Crucifer  
Graham Johnston & Xavier Tarbox, Candlelighters*

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God  
in celebration and honor of  
Jim and Betsy Abbott on the occasion of their  
50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary (September 4, 1965)  
by their sons, Jay Abbott and Chris Abbott.*

## **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 11:1-11

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church*

*August 30, 2015*

**Today's Sermon**

Not a Fan: Completely Committed Follower  
"Something Missing?"

**Today's Scripture**

Luke 18:18-30 (NLT)

Once a religious leader asked Jesus this question: "Good Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?"

"Why do you call me good?" Jesus asked him. "Only God is truly good. But to answer your question, you know the commandments: 'You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. Honor your father and mother.'"

The man replied, "I've obeyed all these commandments since I was young."

When Jesus heard his answer, he said, "There is still one thing you haven't done. Sell all your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

But when the man heard this he became very sad, for he was very rich.

When Jesus saw this, he said, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the Kingdom of God! In fact, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God!"

Those who heard this said, "Then who in the world can be saved?"

He replied, "What is impossible for people is possible with God."

Peter said, "We've left our homes to follow you."

"Yes," Jesus replied, "and I assure you that everyone who has given up house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the Kingdom of God, will be repaid many times over in this life, and will have eternal life in the world to come."

**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.*