

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia*

Third Sunday of Advent

*December 11, 2016
Nine O'clock*



Greeting

Rev. Jimmy Towson

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

As we enter this season of Advent,
may the love of God the Father,
and the grace of Jesus Christ the Son,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be and abide with us all.

Amen!

Opening Voluntary
Pastorale "Gesù Bambino"

Richard Gress
Pietro A. Yon

Lighting the Third Advent Candle of Joy
Andy & Louise Watson

The wilderness will dance
and the dry places will sing praises to God.

**When we see the glory of the Lord revealed,
we will be strengthened and saved!**

God's peace opens our eyes.

God's gift of hope opens our hearts.

With joy, we will praise the promised Savior of the world!

Let us – with joy – kindle the light of the Lord

* Hymn of Expectation No. 211

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
(Stanzas 1-3)

VENI EMMANUEL

* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

In the advent seasons,

when the past has fled, unasked, away

and there is nothing left to do but wait,

God, shelter us.

Be our surrounding darkness;

be the fertile soil out of which hop springs in due time.

In uncertain times,

help us to greet the dawn and labor on, love on,

in faith awaiting your purpose hid in you

waiting to be born in due time. **Amen.**

Old Testament Prophecy

Isaiah 35:1-10

Hymn of Prayer

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

ST. LOUIS

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.**

**Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.**

**How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given;
so God imparts to human hearts
the blessing of his heaven.**

**No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him,
still the dear Christ enters in.**

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

* Hymn of Response

“What Child is This”

GREENSLEEVES

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him.**

Refrain

**This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.**

* Gospel Lesson

Matthew 11:2-6 (NLT)

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Jimmy Towson

‘Twas the LIGHT Before Christmas:

“Search Light”

* Benediction

Rev. Jimmy Towson

* *Please stand as you are able.*



*Rev. Jimmy Towson, Senior Pastor
Rev. Tommy Perkins, Associate Pastor
Richard Gress, Assistant Organist*

*The arrangement in the chapel is given
to the glory of God and in honor of the
Ainsworth Memorial Choir by the Flower Guild.*

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
December 11, 2016*

Today's Sermon

‘Twas the LIGHT Before Christmas:
“Search Light”

Today's Scripture

Matthew 11:2-6 (NLT)

2 John the Baptist, who was in prison, heard about all the things the Messiah was doing. So he sent his disciples to ask Jesus,
3 “Are you the Messiah we’ve been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?”
4 Jesus told them, “Go back to John and tell him what you have heard and seen—
5 the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is being preached to the poor.
6 And tell him, ‘God blesses those who do not turn away because of me.’ ”

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.*

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.*

Celebrate the Season



Advent & Christmas at Mulberry

Sunday, December 11

Family Caroling

4:00 pm

Sunday, December 18

NewRoom Brunch

*(immediately following 10:00 am service
at the Library Ballroom)*

Children's Nativity

11:00 am Worship

Saturday, December 24

3:00 pm Family Christmas Communion Service/Sanctuary

4:30 pm Music of the Season/Sanctuary

5:00 pm Christmas Eve Communion Service/Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25

9:30 am Sweet Rolls in Fellowship Hall

10:00-10:30 am Worship Service/Sanctuary