

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia*

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2015

Nine O'clock



Greeting

Rev. Jimmy Towson

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your heads, O gates!

**and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.**

Opening Voluntary

Cam Bishop

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

G. Martin

Lighting the Advent Candle of Peace

Reeves, Julie, Marian and Mack Minton

“He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.” *(Isaiah 40:11 NRSV)*

“In keeping with his promise,
we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth,
where righteousness dwells.

So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this,
make every effort to be found spotless, blameless,
and at peace with him.” *(2 Peter: 3:14-15 NIV)*

Today, we light the second Advent candle of peace.

In Advent, we are told to be at peace
and be patient as we wait for the day
when nations will live together in peace.

Let us pray.

Loving God, we are thankful for peace in our hearts
during this season of Advent.

We hear your call for us to be peace-makers in the world,

Help us today and every day

to be grateful to hear your word,

and to do your will by sharing peace with others. **Amen.**

* Hymn No. 203

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

ELLACOMBE

* Opening Prayer

Rev. Tommy Perkins

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of love and renewal,

enter the wilderness of our lives,

and call us to prepare once more

for the coming of your Son.

Fill the valleys of our insecurities with hope,

and bring low the mountains of our pride and conceit.

Make straight the paths before us,

and guide our feet in the ways of peace. **Amen.**

Confession and Pardon

Let us confess our sins before God.

O promised Christ:

We are a world at war.

Our peace depends on your coming.

We are a sinful people.

Our pardon depends on your coming.

We are full of good intentions

but weak at keeping promises;

our only hope of doing God’s will

is that you should come and help us do it.

Lord Christ, Word made flesh,

our world waits for your peace,

for your pardon,

and for your grace.

Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Silent Confession

The Good news of this Advent season

is forgiveness of sin and new life.

Let us commit our lives to Christ’s way of hope and peace.

Thanks be to the Advent God,

who comes among us,

setting us free to love and serve.

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

* Gospel Reading
Luke 2:8-15

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

Homily Rev. Jimmy Towson
Unwrapping Christmas: "The Heart of it All"

Offering of our Gifts

* The Great Thanksgiving Hymnal Page 13
Communion responses are spoken.

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.**

Giving the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

**O amazing God,
you come into our ordinary lives
and set a holy table among us,
filling our plates with the bread of life
and our cups with salvation.
Send us out, O God, with tenderheartedness
to touch an ordinary everyday world
with the promise of your peace. Amen.**

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

* Hymn of Discipleship No. 196 HYFRYDOL
"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

* Benediction Rev. Jimmy Towson



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

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

*Mulberry's Up & Coming Events and Prayer List
is located in the Registration Pads on your pew.*

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
December 6, 2015*

Today's Sermon

Unwrapping Christmas: "The Heart of it All"

Today's Scripture

Luke 2:8-15

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

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.*

***The Joy of Christmas
Celebrate the Season at Mulberry***

Sunday, December 6

Plum Pudding Festival

Children's Choir Music

5:00 pm Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 13

"A Festival of Carols and Readings"

Ainsworth Choir Christmas Music with Brass & Strings

(Joint worship service at 11:00 am only)

Sanctuary

Family Caroling

4:00 pm

Wednesday, December 16

Macon Outreach Community Christmas Celebration

11:00 am Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 20

Service of the Longest Night

5:00 pm Sanctuary

The death of friends, family, or the stresses of life can be discouraging during the Christmas season.

This service offers prayers, music and Holy Communion. And it is offered to all, especially those who may be struggling this season.

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve Services/Sanctuary

3:00 pm Family Christmas Eve Communion Service

4:30 pm Music of the Season

5:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service