

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia*

# *The Church at Worship*

*Seventh Sunday after Pentecost*

*July 3, 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

Call to Worship

May those who love your salvation say continually,  
“Great is the Lord!”

**Yea, our heart is glad in God,  
because we trust in God’s holy name.**

Let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

**We praise you, O God;  
we acknowledge you to be the Lord.**

\* Hymn of Praise No. 698

“God of the Ages”

NATIONAL HYMN

\* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty God,

to you all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hidden.

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**We believe that God created the earth,  
and that everything in the earth belongs to God.  
We believe that God has given us this nation  
and blessed us with freedom and plenty.  
We believe that freedom and plenty  
carry certain responsibilities:  
that we are to love justice and mercy,  
and walk humbly with our God;  
that we are to share our gifts with those who have less,  
both in this nation and in other nations;  
and that we are to live with gratitude,  
giving thanks to God for all that we have received.  
We believe, therefore, that we cannot fully celebrate  
our independence without remembering  
at the same time our dependence upon God  
and exalting God's name among the nations.  
There is no power like the power of God.  
Glory be to God! Amen!**

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that, as the Scriptures are read  
and your Word proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Daniel 3:13-18 (NLT)

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Homily

Rev. Jimmy Towson

Once Upon a Time:  
Bible Stories You Need to Know  
"Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego"

Invitation to the Table

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,  
who earnestly repent of their sin  
and seek to live in peace with one another.  
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God  
and one another.

Confession and Pardon

**Merciful God,**  
    **we confess that we have not loved you**  
    **with our whole heart.**  
**We have failed to be an obedient church.**  
**We have not done your will,**  
    **we have broken your law**  
    **we have rebelled against your love,**  
    **we have not loved our neighbors,**  
    **and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**  
**Forgive us, we pray.**  
**Free us for joyful obedience,**  
    **through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All pray in silence.*

Hear the good news:  
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;  
    that proves God's love toward us.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**  
**Glory to God! Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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.**

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

**Eternal God,  
we thank you for this holy mystery  
in which you have given yourself to us.  
Grant that we may go into the world  
in the strength of your Spirit  
to give ourselves for others;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

\* Hymn of Discipleship No. 452

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

OLIVET

\* Benediction

Rev. Jimmy Towson

\* *Please stand as you are able.*



*Rev. Jimmy Towson, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Bill Culpepper, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministries  
Richard Gress, Assistant 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**

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

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
July 3, 2016*

**Today's Sermon**

Once Upon a Time:  
Bible Stories You Need to Know  
"Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego"

**Today's Scripture**

Daniel 3:13-18 (NLT)

13 Then Nebuchadnezzar flew into a rage and ordered that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought before him. When they were brought in,

14 Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you refuse to serve my gods or to worship the gold statue I have set up?"

15 I will give you one more chance to bow down and worship the statue I have made when you hear the sound of the musical instruments. But if you refuse, you will be thrown immediately into the blazing furnace. And then what god will be able to rescue you from my power?"

16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego replied, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you.

17 If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God whom we serve is able to save us. He will rescue us from your power, Your Majesty.

18 But even if he doesn't, we want to make it clear to you, Your Majesty, that we will never serve your gods or worship the gold statue you have set up."

**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.*