

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia*

# *The Church at Worship*

*Transfiguration of the Lord  
February 26, 2017  
Nine O'clock*



Greeting in the Name of Christ

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

Opening Voluntary  
“Prelude on HYFRYDOL”

Richard Gress  
Ralph Vaughn Williams

Call to Worship

The Lord is Sovereign;  
let the people tremble in awe.  
**God is enthroned upon the cherubim;  
let the earth shake.**  
The Lord is great in Zion,  
and is high above all peoples.  
**Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God,  
and worship Yahweh upon the holy mountain.**

\* Hymn No. 103  
“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

ST. DENIO

\* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.

God of glory and mercy,  
before his death in shame  
your Son went to the mountain top,  
and you revealed his life in glory.  
Where prophets witnessed to him,  
you proclaimed him your Son,  
but he returned to die among us.  
Help us face evil with courage,  
knowing that all things, even death,  
are subject to your transforming power.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. **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.**

Act of Praise

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot”

Joel Terning, Baritone

Harry T. Burleigh

Prayers of the People

We have seen Jesus,  
dazzling in glory.  
We have heard the voice of God,  
calling us to listen to him.  
And we have been terrified.  
But Jesus has come and touched us,  
and told us, “Get up! Be not afraid.”

We may not be able to explain  
what we've seen and heard to others.

But we know the voice of the one who calls us.

And part of his call to us is to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

For all who are terrified today,  
for whatever reason:  
illness, oppression, abuse, war,  
other threats of violence against themselves  
or those they love:

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

For all who are rejoicing today,  
for whatever reason:  
birth, health, friendship, love blossoming,  
joy unspeakable in your presence:

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

With all who hunger,  
and all who seek to feed them;  
with all who need medical attention,  
and all who provide it,  
with the good earth,  
and all who work with soil and water  
to provide the food we eat.

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

With all who have wronged us personally,  
or wronged our nation, or our people, or the earth,  
or other creatures, or anyone we know or love:

**And forgive us our trespasses,  
and we forgive those who trespass against us.**

With all whose lives are a constant trial,  
and those whose actions or inactions fail to help them:

**And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

With all among us who have today committed  
to learn to follow in your way in the weeks ahead,  
or learn to follow you more nearly,  
and with all of us who will accompany one another  
on this journey,  
we lift our prayers and praise:

**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.**

\* Gospel Lesson

Matthew 17:1-9

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Bill Culpepper

“God’s Promise of Presence”

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

\* Hymn of Discipleship

“We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding”

HYFRYDOL

**We have come at Christ’s own bidding  
to this high and holy place,  
where we wait with hope and longing  
for some token of God’s grace.  
Here we pray for new assurance  
that our faith is not in vain,  
searching like those first disciples  
for a sign both clear and plain.**

**Light breaks through our clouds and shadows,  
splendor bathes the flesh-joined Word,  
Moses and Elijah marvel as the heavenly voice is heard.  
Eyes and hearts behold with wonder  
how the Law and Prophets meet:  
Christ with garments drenched in brightness,  
stands transfigured and complete.**

**Strengthened by this glimpse of glory,  
fearful lest our faith decline,  
we, like Peter, find it tempting to remain and build a shrine.  
But true worship gives us courage  
to proclaim what we profess,  
that our daily lives may prove us  
people of the God we bless.**

*OneLicense #A-712041*

\* Benediction

\* *Please stand as you are able.*



*Rev. Tommy Perkins, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Bill Culpepper, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministries  
Richard Gress, Assistant Organist*

*The flowers in the chapel are given to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of her parents, Olive and John Cowan  
by their daughter Angela Cowen Irving  
and family.*

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church*

*February 26, 2017*

**Today's Sermon**

“God’s Promise of Presence”

**Today's Scripture**

Matthew 17:1-9

<sup>1</sup>After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup>There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. <sup>3</sup>Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

<sup>4</sup>Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

<sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

<sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” <sup>8</sup>When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, “Don’t tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

**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.*