

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia*

The Church at Worship

*Third Sunday of Lent
March 19, 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

“Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

Paul Manz

Call to Worship

In Christ, the God of heaven has made his home on earth.
Christ dwells among us and is one with us.
Highest of all creation, he lives among the least.
He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.
Come now, all who thirst,
and drink the water of life.
Come now, all who hunger,
and be filled with good things.
Come now, all who seek,
and be warmed by the fire of love.

* Hymn No. 127

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

CWM RHONDDA

* Opening Prayer

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

All-knowing and all-caring God,
we gather this day drained by another week.
We are like a parched desert,
empty and in need of replenishment.
Visit us with your presence,
saturate us with your Spirit,
and bathe us in your streams of living water,
that our lives might acknowledge and worship you
to the praise and honor of Jesus Christ. **Amen!**

* Affirmation of Faith

The World Methodist Social Affirmation

We believe in God,
creator of the world and of all people;
and in Jesus Christ, incarnate among us,
who died and rose again;
and in the Holy Spirit,
present with us to guide, strengthen, and comfort.

**We believe,
God, help our unbelief.**

We rejoice in every sign of God's kingdom:
in the upholding of human dignity and community;
in every expression of love, justice,
and reconciliation;
in each act of self-giving on behalf of others;
in the abundance of God's gifts
entrusted to us that all may have enough;
in all responsible use of the earth's resources.

**Glory be to God on high;
and on earth, peace.**

We confess our sin, individual and collective,
by silence or action:
through the violation of human dignity
based on race, class, age, sex, nation, or faith;
through the exploitation of people
because of greed and indifference;
through the misuse of power
in personal, communal, national,
and international life;
through the search for security
by those military and economic forces
that threaten human existence;
through the abuse of technology
which endangers the earth
and all life upon it.

**Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.**

We commit ourselves individually
and as a community to the way of Christ:
to take up the cross;
to seek abundant life for all humanity;
to struggle for peace with justice and freedom;
to risk ourselves in faith, hope, and love,
praying that God's kingdom may come.

Thy kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

Act of Praise

Lindsey Rueter, Mezzo Soprano

“And Can It Be That I Should Gain”

Kimbrough

*And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
That thou, my God, shouldst die for me?
No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ, my own.
(Text by Charles Wesley)*

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

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

HAMBURG

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.**

* Gospel Lesson

John 4:5-42 (Selected Verses)

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Jimmy Towson

“Giving Up Superiority”

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

* Hymn of Discipleship No. 354
“I Surrender All” (verses 1-3)

SURRENDER

* Benediction

* *Please stand as you are able.*



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

*The flowers in the chapel are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of her son, Stan Warchak,
and husband, John Warchak by Aliene Warchak.*

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
March 19, 2017

Today's Sermon

“Giving Up Superiority”

Today's Scripture

John 4:5-29 (Selected Verses)

⁵[Jesus] came to the Samaritan village of Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there; and Jesus, tired from the long walk, sat wearily beside the well about noontime. ⁷ Soon a Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Please give me a drink.” ⁸ He was alone at the time because his disciples had gone into the village to buy some food. ⁹ The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans. She said to Jesus, “You are a Jew, and I am a Samaritan woman. Why are you asking me for a drink?” ¹⁰ Jesus replied, “If you only knew the gift God has for you and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water.” ... ¹⁵ “Please, sir,” the woman said, “give me this water! Then I'll never be thirsty again, and I won't have to come here to get water.” ¹⁶ “Go and get your husband,” Jesus told her. ¹⁷ “I don't have a husband,” the woman replied. Jesus said, “You're right! You don't have a husband—¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and you aren't even married to the man you're living with now. You certainly spoke the truth!” ¹⁹ “Sir,” the woman said, “you must be a prophet.” ... ²⁵ ... “I know the Messiah is coming—the one who is called Christ. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.” ²⁶ Then Jesus told her, “I AM the Messiah!” ²⁷ Just then his disciples came back. They were shocked to find him talking to a woman, ... ²⁸ The woman left her water jar beside the well and ran back to the village, telling everyone, ²⁹ “Come and see a man who told me everything I ever did! Could he possibly be the Messiah?”

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.*