

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia*

The Church at Worship

*Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 8, 2016
Eleven O'clock*



ENTRANCE AND PRAISE

Greeting in the Name of Christ

Rev. Jimmy Towson

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

Opening Voluntary

“All Glory Be to God on High”

Michael Burkhardt

Call to Worship

Kelly Stone

The heavens proclaim your righteousness, O God.
And all the peoples behold your glory.
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous!
And we shall give thanks to God's holy name!

* Entrance Hymn No. 92

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

DIX

* Opening Prayer

Rev. Bill Culpepper

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

We greet you in the morning, O God,
as those enfolded in your arms through the night.

We praise you for your tender mercies
and loving-kindness,
and for your faithfulness
at times when we have been unfaithful.

Now we gather to worship and glorify you
in the name of your son Jesus,
who taught us to pray, saying,
Our Father, who art in heaven...

Act of Praise

“Come, Let Us Sing Our Joyful Songs”

Ainsworth Choir

Gordon Young

CELEBRATION OF NEW LIFE

Psalm 8

Rev. Tommy Perkins

O Lord, our Lord

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Your glory is chanted above the heavens

by the mouths of babes and infants:

**you have set up a defense against your foes,
to still the enemy and avenger.**

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,

the moon and the stars which you have established:

what are human beings that you are mindful of them,

and mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them little less than God,

and crowned them with glory and honor.

You have given them dominion

over the works of your hands:

you have put all things under their feet,

all sheep and oxen,

and also beasts of the field,

the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,

whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

O Lord, our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth.

Recognition of Our Infants

Pam Johnston

Murphy James Hinshaw – October 16, 2015

Son of Jeremy & Brandi Hinshaw

William Sherwood James – March 28, 2016

Son of Baxter & Christi James

John Emmett Mooney – August 8, 2015

Son of Yancey & Whitney Mooney

Madeline Kate Moore – September 9, 2015

Daughter of Andy & Heather Moore

Emily Sharon Palmer – September 26, 2015

Daughter of Michael & Christine Palmer

Anna Jane Stephens – June 18, 2015

Daughter of Joe & Christina Stephens

Lenora Lee Swain – June 16, 2015

Daughter of Jason & Jayme Swain

Call to Thanksgiving

Rev. Jimmy Towson

As the family of God
we rejoice in God's gift of life
through the miracle of birth.
We join with these families,
as their extended family here at Mulberry,
in embracing these children
with open arms,
just as Jesus welcomed little children,
and their parents with grace and blessing.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray.

Loving God,
we give you thanks for your presence with us
in the presence of these children and families.
We celebrate that your abounding love
is already at work in these families.
Strengthen us to be the Body of Christ
that together,
we all may be formed
into the very image of our Risen Lord;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* Hymn of God's Love No. 191

"Jesus Loves Me" (*verses 1 & 3*)

JESUS LOVES ME

*Children age 5K and under are invited to leave
for children's church at this time.*

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

New Testament Lesson

Kelly Stone

Ephesians 5:15-17, 20 (NLT)

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Jimmy Towson

Encounters: "Growing Up"

Offering of our Gifts

Betsy Swanson, Soprano

"Laudate Dominum"

Mozart

*Praise the Lord, all nations;
Praise Him, all people.
For He has bestowed
His mercy upon us,
And the truth of the Lord endures forever.*

*Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and forever,
and for generations of generations. Amen.*

* Doxology

OLD 100TH

**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.**

* Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Rev. Tommy Perkins

SENDING FORTH

* Hymn of Discipleship No. 664

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

THE ASH GROVE

The Light of Christ Goes Into the World

Please be seated after the cross and light pass your pew.

Closing Voluntary

“Toccata on OLD 100th”

Michael Burkhardt

* Benediction

Rev. Jimmy Towson

* *Please stand as you are able.*



Rev. Jimmy Towson, Senior Pastor

Rev. Tommy Perkins, Associate Pastor

Rev. Bill Culpepper, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministries

Cam Bishop, Director of Music/Organist

Ainsworth Choir

Johnny Hathcock

Pam Johnston, Director of Children’s & Family Ministries

Kelly Stone, Lay Reader

Savannah Stone, Lead Acolyte

Will Smith, Crucifer

Matt Newberry & Elizabeth Sellers, Candlelighters

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Margaret and Tommy Tucker
by their loving son and family.*

Today is Betsy Swanson's last Sunday with us. Betsy joined Mulberry shortly after coming to Mercer University's Townsend School of Music and has been a vital part of the music ministry of our church for the past five years. She has enriched our worship of God by singing in the choir and offering countless solos in both our 9 and 11 o'clock services.

Betsy was recently selected as one of the top five female vocalists in the regional National Association of Teachers of Singing. She is returning home for a year before pursuing her graduate studies in vocal performance. She just learned that she has been selected to sing next year with the renowned Atlanta Master Chorale under the leadership of Eric Nelson. We congratulate Betsy on her graduation from Mercer and wish her love, blessings, and joy as she continues her journey.

Thank you, Betsy, for all you the gifts you have shared with us here at Mulberry. You will be greatly missed!

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
May 8, 2016*

Today's Sermon

Encounters: "Growing Up"

Today's Scripture

Ephesians 5:15-17, 20 (NLT)

¹⁵ So be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise. ¹⁶ Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days. ¹⁷ Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do.

²⁰ And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.*