

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia*

## *The Church at Worship*

*Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
November 15, 2015  
Nine O'clock*



Gathering and Greeting

Rev. Jimmy Towson

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us worship God!

Opening Voluntary

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

Dale Wood

Call to Worship

Rev. Tommy Perkins

It is good to praise the Lord  
and make music to your name, O Most High,  
**to proclaim your love in the morning  
and your faithfulness at night.**

\* Hymn of Praise No. 66

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

LAUDA ANIMA

\* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O Lord, our God,  
you are always more ready  
to give your good gifts to us  
than we are to seek them,  
and you are willing to give  
more than we desire or deserve.  
Help us so to seek that we may truly find,  
so to ask that we may joyfully receive,  
so to knock that the door of your mercy  
may be opened to us  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

\* Affirmation of Faith

A Modern Affirmation

Where the Spirit of the Lord is,  
there is the one true church,  
apostolic and universal,  
whose holy faith let us now declare:

**We believe in God the Father,  
infinite in wisdom, power, and love,  
whose mercy is over all his works,  
and whose will is ever directed  
to his children's good.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,  
Son of God and Son of man,  
the gift of the Father's unfailing grace,  
the ground of our hope,  
and the promise of our deliverance  
from sin and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit  
as the divine presence in our lives,  
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance  
of the truth of Christ,  
and find strength and help in time of need.**

**We believe that this faith should manifest itself  
in the service of love  
as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord,  
to the end  
that the kingdom of God  
may come upon the earth. Amen.**

Act of Praise  
"Coming Home"

Peter Schultz, Tenor  
Joseph Martin

Prayers of the People

Lord, in your mercy.  
**Hear our 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 Tithes and 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.**

Sermon

Rev. Jimmy Towson

Invest and Invite: "Invite" Luke 15:11-32 (selected verses)

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

\* Hymn of Discipleship No. 191

"Jesus Loves Me!"

JESUS LOVES ME

\* Benediction

Rev. Jimmy Towson



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

*The flowers in the chapel are given to the glory of God  
and in loving memory of her husband Emory Greene  
and her mother Annie McDonald by Hannah Greene.*

## **Welcome All Visitors**

*We welcome you to Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.  
We are glad you have joined us this morning and hope  
that through word, music, fellowship and prayer,  
you will experience the presence of God today.*

*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.*

**Gospel Reading for the Week**  
*Mark 14:27-52*

**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.*

**Today's Sermon**

Invest and Invite: "Invite"

**Today's Scripture**

Luke 15:11-32 (NIV)

The Parable of the Lost Son

- 11 Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons.
- 12 The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.
- 13 "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living.
- 14 After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need.
- 15 So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs.
- 16 He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.
- 17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death!
- 18 I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.
- 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.'
- 20 So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.
- 21 "The son said to him, '*Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.*'
- 22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.
- 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate.
- 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.
- 25 "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing.
- 26 So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on.
- 27 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'
- 28 "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him.
- 29 But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends.
- 30 But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'
- 31 "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me and everything I have is yours.
- 32 But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

**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.*