

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia*

# *The Church at Worship*

*Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost  
October 11, 2015  
Eleven O'clock*



## **ENTRANCE AND PRAISE**

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

Richard Gress, Organist

“Andante Sostenuto (Symphony V)

C. M. Widor

Call to Worship

Mickey Pope

Blessings to God,

who gives hope in the darkness of our lives.

**Blessings to Jesus Christ,**

**who reveals God’s love unto the world.**

Blessings to the Holy Spirit,

who empowers us to be a light for others.

**Blessings, honor, and glory to God,**

**today and forever. Amen.**

\* Entrance Hymn No. 188

“Christ is the World’s Light”

CHRISTE SANTORUM

\* Opening Prayer

Rev. Bill Culpepper

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

God of life, we rejoice in your love

which has filled creation from the beginning

and which calls all life into being.

We praise you for Jesus Christ

who reveals most fully your loving purpose

for all people.

We bless you for your Spirit

who draws all humanity

into the circle of your tender love.

Gracious God, bless us with your presence  
so that our worship and our lives  
may be a true celebration of your love in Jesus Christ,  
in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

Psalm 8

O Lord, our Lord,  
**how majestic is your name in all the earth!**  
Your glory is chanted above the heavens  
by the mouth of babes and infants:  
**you have set up a defense against your foes,  
to still the enemy and the 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 the 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!**

Act of Praise

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Ainsworth Choir

Phillip Keveren

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

Children’s Moments

Rev. Bill Culpepper

*Children are invited to meet Bill on the chancel steps.  
K-4 and K-5 children will leave for  
Children’s Church after Children’s Moments.*

\* Gospel Reading

Mickey Pope

Matthew 5:13-16 (The Message)

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Rev. Jimmy Towson

“Why Mulberry?”  
\$28,500 Week 2

\* Hymn No. 583

“You are the Seed”

ID Y ENSENAD

\* 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.**

Offering of our Gifts

“My God, How Endless is Thy Love”

Chris Abbott, Tenor

G. Young

\* 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.**

\* Invitation to Christian Discipleship

## **SENDING FORTH**

\* Hymn of Discipleship No. 581

“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service” BEACH SPRING

\* The Light of Christ Goes Into the World

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

*As the light of Christ is carried out into the world,  
you are invited to remain seated for a few minutes  
of personal reflection to prepare to re-enter that world.*

*Consider prayerfully how God has been present to you  
in worship this morning and how you can be present  
for him in the world this week.*

*Voluntary T. Mee Pattison*

\*Benediction

Rev Jimmy Towson

\* *Please stand as you are able.*



*Rev. Jimmy Towson, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Bill Culpepper, Associate Pastor of Youth Ministries  
Cam Bishop, Director of Music  
Richard Gress, Guest Organist  
Ainsworth Choir  
Harold Chapman, Conductor  
Mickey Pope, Lay Reader  
Emma Johnston, Lead Acolyte  
Conner Hefner, Crucifer  
Austin Carter & John Morgan Manley, Candlelighters*

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God  
and in honor of our church staff  
and in memory of Arnold Lee Freeman  
by Waverly and Beth Golson.*

*The rose on the altar is in honor of the birth of  
Emily Sharon Palmer, daughter of Michael and Christine Palmer,  
born September 26, 2015.*

## **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 12:35-44*

**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*  
*October 11, 2015*

**Today's Sermon**

“Why Mulberry?”  
\$28,500 Week 2

**Today's Scripture**

Matthew 5:13-16 (The Message)

“Let me tell you why you are here. You’re here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You’ve lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage.

“Here’s another way to put it: You’re here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We’re going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don’t think I’m going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I’m putting you on a light stand. Now that I’ve put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you’ll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.”

**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.*