

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia*

The Church at Worship

*World Communion Sunday
October 2, 2016
Eleven O'clock*



Entrance and Praise

Greeting in the Name of Christ

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us worship God.

Opening Voluntary

“Here, O Lord, Your Servants, Gather” Koisumi/Burkhardt

*Many are the tongues we speak, scattered are the lands,
Yet our hearts are one in God, One in love's demands.*

Call to Worship

Gary Dunn

Taste and see that the Lord is good!

Happy are those who rest in God.

Come and listen, children of God.

Teach us the way of truth and life.

Let us depart from evil and do good.

Let us seek peace and pursue it.

* Entrance Hymn No. 547

“O Church of God, United”

ELLACOMBE

* Prayer for World Communion Sunday

Rev. Bill Culpepper

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God,

we join with our sisters and brothers around the world
in remembering Christ's sacrifice for us.

For the opportunity to eat and drink together
and for the life we have received,
we give you thanks and praise.

In abundance of your many gifts,

grant us grace to fill one another's lives with love.

Redeem, restore and remold us until we are made new.

Transform our daily bread into the bread of life,

and the cup that we drink into the cup of salvation.

We pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

* A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Confession and Pardon

By grace we have been saved through faith;
and this is not our own doing;
it is a gift from God.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins.

God of every people and nation,

**we confess that we have not lived as global citizens
in your new realm of justice and peace.**

We build up dividing walls in the world.

We contribute to division in the church.

**We ignore the suffering in distant nations
and live in fear of our closest neighbors.**

Forgive us, God of grace.

**Pour out your Spirit of peace upon us,
break down the dividing walls among us,
and raise us up to be a holy temple –
your temple of peace in the world –
built on the cornerstone of Jesus Christ,
in whose holy name we pray. Amen.**

Brief Silence

People of God, hear the good news:
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

The Peace

Christ is our peace.
The peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

Act of Praise
“My Wordless Prayer”

Ainsworth Choir
Craig Courtney

*My words lie still and lifeless as dust upon the sand,
I can no longer voice one request or one demand,
My cup of tears is empty, I can no longer cry,
My lips have fallen silent, my prayer is but a sigh.
Spirit come and rest Your ear upon my heart,
O come and hear my wordless prayer,
my silent plea and take them far away from me.
Take them from this heart of mine to the Father’s heart divine,
Speak in tones unknown to man
that God may hear and understand.
My voice is weak from calling to You both night and day.
How long will You be silent?
Why do You turn away?
Spirit, come and rest Your ear upon my heart;
O come and hear my wordless prayer,
my silent plea and take them far away from me.
Take them from this heart of mine
to the Father’s heart divine.
Speak in tones unknown to man
that God may hear and understand.*

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

Proclamation and Response

Old Testament Reading
Lamentations 1:1-6 (The Message)

Gary Dunn

The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Homily
Rev. Tommy Perkins
WHY? The Question that Won’t Go Away:
Why Doesn’t Prayer Work?

Offering of our Gifts
“Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness” Johannes Brahms

Thanksgiving and Communion

Invitation to the Table
Rev. Bill Culpepper

All are invited to come to the table of the Lord
that stretches around the world.
We come to feast together.

* The Great Thanksgiving
Musical Setting A (Page 17)

Hymnal Page 13

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.**

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

Congregational Hymns: 618, 624, 629, 431

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

**God of all nations, we give you thanks
for this feast of your goodness and grace.
As you have nourished us in Christ Jesus,
send us forth to feed and serve others –
sharing your peace with the whole community
and showing your faithful love in the world;
through Jesus Christ, bread of life for all. Amen.**

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Rev. Jimmy Towson

Sending Forth

* Hymn of Discipleship No. 548

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

MCKEE

The Light of Christ Goes Into the World

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

Closing Voluntary

“In Christ There is No East or West”

Dale Wood

* Benediction

Rev. Tommy Perkins

* *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
David Keith, Ainsworth Choir Director
Gary Dunn, Lay Reader
Judy Hodgens, Bread Baker
Hank & Lori Martin, Lay Communion Servers
Savannah Stone, Lead Acolyte
Hayden Martin, Crucifer
Micah Johnston, Communion Steward
Graham Johnston & Elizabeth Sellers, Candlelighters

*The arrangement on the altar is given to the glory of God
by the Flower Guild.*

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
October 2, 2016*

Today's Sermon

WHY? The Question that Won't Go Away:
Why Doesn't Prayer Work?

Today's Scripture

Lamentations 1:1-6 (The Message)

¹ Oh, oh, oh . . .

How empty the city, once teeming with people.
A widow, this city, once in the front rank of nations,
once queen of the ball, she's now a drudge in the kitchen.

² She cries herself to sleep each night, tears soaking her pillow.
No one's left among her lovers to sit and hold her hand.
Her friends have all dumped her.

³ After years of pain and hard labor, Judah has gone into exile.
She camps out among the nations, never feels at home.
Hunted by all, she's stuck between a rock and a hard place.

⁴ Zion's roads weep, empty of pilgrims headed to the feasts.
All her city gates are deserted, her priests in despair.
Her virgins are sad. How bitter her fate.

⁵ Her enemies have become her masters. Her foes are living it up
because GOD laid her low, punishing her repeated rebellions.
Her children, prisoners of the enemy, trudge into exile.

⁶ All beauty has drained from Daughter Zion's face.
Her princes are like deer famished for food,
chased to exhaustion by hunters.

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.*