

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia*

The Church at Worship

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

October 30, 2016

Nine O'clock



Greeting in the Name of Christ

Rev. Jimmy Towson

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

Opening Voluntary

“Amazing Grace”

Gilbert Martin

Call to Worship

Like those who worshiped with the disciples long ago,
we, too, wish to see Jesus.
Jesus welcomes us with compassion and love.
Christ redeems us and calls us by name.
O sing to the Lord a new song!
Praise God from the ends of the earth!

* Hymn of Praise No. 384

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

BEECHER

* Opening Prayer

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

O God of mercy and love,
who knows us and calls us,
we gather as your people to worship you,
thankful that you love us as we are.
Break the bonds that hold our minds captive
to the petty concerns of our lives.
Quiet the din of our distracted spirits
that we may hear your gentle voice calling us.
Transform our lives that we may go forth from this hour
with deeper commitment and greater joy. **Amen.**

Prayer of Confession

O God, all over the world

Jesus finds the lost and dines with sinners.

**All over the world are those like Zacchaeus,
who want merely to glimpse Jesus,
but find their lives transformed.**

The burden is on us now: we are among those
who murmured against Zacchaeus,
resenting Jesus' invitation to his kind.

**We confess that we think tomorrow
Zacchaeus will be back to his old tricks,
forgetting promises.**

But in Jesus' eyes,
Zacchaeus has regained full stature.

Lord, forgive us.

We fail to recognize that your love can change lives.

Enable us to respond to your surprising blessing.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

We can trust God's promise of mercy
which is affirmed in Christ.

Jesus said, "Your sins are forgiven."

This is indeed good news. **Amen.**

Act of Praise

"Softly and Tenderly"

Greg Elliott, Baritone

arr. Gilbert Martin

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

* 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.**

* Gospel Reading

Luke 19:1-10

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Reading

“Zacchaeus” by Rev. B. Kevin Smalls

Sermon

“Trying to See”

Rev. Jimmy Towson

Reading

“Zacchaeus” by Rev. B. Kevin Smalls

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

* Hymn of Discipleship No. 340

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

RESTORATION

* Benediction

**Please stand as you are able.*



*Rev. Jimmy Towson, Senior Pastor
Rev. Bill Culpepper, Associate Pastor for Youth Ministries
Cam Bishop, Director of Music/Organist*

*The flowers in the chapel are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of our mothers,
Lucy Anderson and Eleanor Nicholson
by Tim and Melissa Anderson.*

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Today's Sermon

“Trying to See”

Today's Scripture

Luke 19:1-10

¹ Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. ² A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. ³ He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

⁵ When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.” ⁶ So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

⁷ All the people saw this and began to mutter, “He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.”

⁸ But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.”

⁹ Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

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.*