

*Mulberry Street United Methodist Church  
Macon, Georgia*

# *The Church at Worship*

*Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 10, 2017  
Eleven O'clock*



## *Entrance and Praise*

Greeting in the Name of Christ

The grace of our Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us worship God.

“Prelude in G Major, BWV 541”

J. S. Bach

\* Call to Worship

Kelly Stone

We come to worship faithfully God –

**we're here again this morning.**

We come faithfully,

but there's a part of all of us that doubts, that wonders.

**“Are you really there?**

**Are you really listening?**

**Can we really trust you?”**

We live in a world where we can't live without you.

This morning, give us an assurance

of what we cannot always see,

a conviction of hope in your presence

and your power.

**We want to be faith-filled,**

**confident in your abiding**

**and unfailing love for us.**

\* Entrance Hymn No. 92

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

DIX

\* Opening Prayer

Rev. Jeff Cook

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Dear Lord,

In these troubling times,

we are filled with unspeakable fears.

We reach out our hands to you now,

and ask you to walk beside us.

We cannot carry all our burdens,

but we know you can, and will.

Please walk beside us.

Please guide us.

Please help us hold on strong through the trials and storms.

Help us hold on to our faith,

in even the darkest hour.

Stay with us Lord,

and show us Your way.

In your love and Holy Spirit we abide. **Amen.**

\* Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Jeff Cook

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, dead, and buried;**

**the third day he rose from the dead;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**and sitteth at the right hand**

**of God the Father Almighty;**

**from thence he shall come to judge**

**the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Act of Praise

“Psalm 121”

Ainsworth Choir

John Ness Beck

## *Proclamation and Response*

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

Old Testament Lesson Kelly Stone  
Joshua 24:14-24 (NLT)

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

Sermon Rev. Jimmy Towson  
It Starts at Home: "Fight for Your Faith"

\* Hymn No. 710  
"Faith of Our Fathers" ST. CATHERINE

## *Responding to the Word*

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Jeff Cook

The Lord's Prayer Rev. Jeff Cook

**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 Joel Terning, Baritone  
"How I Love Your Word" Mark Hayes

\* Doxology LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**



## ***If You Are New***

*Please make sure you sign the **Attendance Register** as it is passed.*

*Welcome to Mulberry Street United Methodist Church.*

*Thank you for worshipping with us today!*

*We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in our worship, growth opportunities and service life here at Mulberry. Our hope is that you will find this church to be a warm, caring community that you can call home.*

***Nursery Care** is provided for children under 4 years of age.*

*Please ask an usher for directions to the Nursery.*

*To keep up with Mulberry Street UMC's events, services and more we invite you to visit us at [www.mulberrymethodist.org](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org) and find us on Facebook.*

### **Joining Mulberry Street UMC**

*New Members are welcomed into the congregation during our Sunday morning worship services at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 am.*

*You may transfer from another Methodist church, transfer from another denomination or join for the first time by Profession of Faith (committing your life to Christ). For more information, please contact Karen Carter at 478-745-8601 or [kcarter@mulberrymethodist.org](mailto:kcarter@mulberrymethodist.org).*

### **Connect with us Online**

*You can learn more about our church community, staff and other events by visiting our website at [www.mulberrymethodist.org](http://www.mulberrymethodist.org).*

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### **Today's Sermon**

It Starts at Home: "Fight for Your Faith"

### **Today's Scripture**

Joshua 24:14-24 (NLT)

<sup>14</sup> "So fear the Lord and serve him wholeheartedly. Put away forever the idols your ancestors worshiped when they lived beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord alone. <sup>15</sup> But if you refuse to serve the Lord, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live? But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord."  
<sup>16</sup> The people replied, "We would never abandon the Lord and serve other gods.<sup>17</sup> For the Lord our God is the one who rescued us and our ancestors from slavery in the land of Egypt. He performed mighty miracles before our very eyes. As we traveled through the wilderness among our enemies, he preserved us. <sup>18</sup> It was the Lord who drove out the Amorites and the other nations living here in the land. So we, too, will serve the Lord, for he alone is our God."  
<sup>19</sup> Then Joshua warned the people, "You are not able to serve the Lord, for he is a holy and jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins. <sup>20</sup> If you abandon the Lord and serve other gods, he will turn against you and destroy you, even though he has been so good to you."  
<sup>21</sup> But the people answered Joshua, "No, we will serve the Lord!"  
<sup>22</sup> "You are a witness to your own decision," Joshua said. "You have chosen to serve the Lord."  
"Yes," they replied, "we are witnesses to what we have said."  
<sup>23</sup> "All right then," Joshua said, "destroy the idols among you, and turn your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel."  
<sup>24</sup> The people said to Joshua, "We will serve the Lord our God. We will obey him alone."

### **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.*