

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
Macon, Georgia

The Church at Worship

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 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

“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”

Michael Burkhardt

Call to Worship

Melinda Powell

O God, you are my God.

I seek you, my soul thirsts for you.

**So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.**

Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.

So I will bless you as long as I live;

I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

(Psalm 63)

* Entrance Hymn No. 79

“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name” *(stanzas 1-4)* GROSSER GOTT

* Opening Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Holy and loving God,

You who created the world and all that is in it,
who sustains the universe and all that is beyond it,

You are beyond our knowing.

We cannot understand You completely.

We cannot comprehend the breadth and depth
of your power and your love.

And yet, You have chosen to be among us,
to walk with us,
to love us,
to die for us.

May the warmth of Your love
chase away the cold chill of our fears.

May the fire of Your love
burn away all that is false within us.

May the light of Your love
shine throughout our worship and our lives. **Amen.**

* Affirmation of Faith

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.**

Confession and Pardon

*Together let us confess our sins before God
and one another.*

**Almighty God,
We come seeking your forgiveness.
You have spoken, but we have not listened.
You have commanded, but we have not acted.
You have called, but we have not followed.
We have loved our comfort
more than we have loved Your will.
Forgive us, O Lord. Amen.**

Silent Confession

To all who turn from sin in sorrow,
to all who turn to God in hope,
this is God's Word of grace:
We are accepted, we are forgiven, we are loved.
This gift we have from God.
Thanks be to God.

Act of Praise

“He Comes to Us”

Ainsworth Choir

Jane Marshall

*He comes to us as One unknown, without a name,
as of old, by the lakeside He came,
He came to those men who knew Him not.
He speaks to us, He speaks the same word:
“Follow! Follow! Follow thou me!”
and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfill for our time.
He commands. And to those who obey Him,
whether they be wise or simple,
He will reveal Himself, in the toils,
the conflicts, the sufferings
which they shall pass through in His fellowship,
and, as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn
in their own experience
Who He is.
(Words by Albert Schweitzer)*

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Children’s Moments

Shannon Morris

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

* Gospel Reading

Melinda Powell

John 21:1-10 (NIV)

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

Sermon

Rev. Jimmy Towson

Not a Fan: Completely Committed Follower
“Come After Me”

Hymn of Prayer No. 419

“I Am Thine, O Lord” *(remain seated)*

I AM THINE

**I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice,
and it told thy love to me;
but I long to rise in the arms of faith
and be closer drawn to thee.**
Refrain
**Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to the cross where thou hast died.
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord.
to thy precious, bleeding side.**
**O the pure delight of a single hour
that before thy throne I spend,
when I kneel in prayer, and with thee, my God,
I commune as friend with friend!**

Refrain

**Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to the cross where thou has died.
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
to thy precious, bleeding side.**

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

“My Jesus, I Love Thee”

Greg Elliott, Baritone

arr. Dan Forrest

* 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.**

* Invitation to Christian Discipleship

SENDING FORTH

* Hymn of Discipleship No. 398

“Jesus Calls Us”

GALILEE

* 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.*

“Fugue in C Major” Buxtehude

*Benediction

Rev Jimmy Towson

* *Please stand as you are able.*

*A Retirement Reception to Honor Johnny Hathcock
will be held today immediately following the
11:00 am worship service in the Parlor.
Make plans to join us as we honor Johnny for his faithful
ministry to Macon Outreach.*



*Rev. Jimmy Towson, Senior Pastor
Rev. Tommy Perkins, Associate Pastor
Cam Bishop, Director of Music/Organist
Ainsworth Choir
David Keith, Conductor
Melinda Powell, Lay Reader
Sara Kate Sellers, Lead Acolyte
Hayden Martin, Crucifer
Alex Stone & Hampton Tiller, Candlelighters*

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God
and loving memory of two very special ladies,
her grandmother, Florrie M. Johnson
and great-grandmother, Helen H. Matthews
by Jason and Allison Hawkins.*

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 11.20-33

Mulberry Street United Methodist Church
September 13, 2015

Today's Sermon

Not a Fan: Completely Committed Follower
"Come After Me"

Today's Scripture

John 21:1-10 (NIV)

Afterward Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Tiberias. It happened this way:

Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together.

"I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.

He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered.

He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water.

The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards.

When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.

Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you have just caught."

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.*