



MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sharing the heart of God from the heart of downtown Macon.



The Church at Worship

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 1, 2026 | Eleven O'clock

Welcome to Mulberry Street UMC!

WELCOME TO THIS SERVICE OF WORSHIP!

We are a church on a mission to share the heart of God from the heart of downtown Macon by fostering healing for the broken places of life. Methodists have been worshipping Father, Son, & Holy Spirit on this corner since 1826.

You are invited to become a living part of this vital congregation. Check out the back of the bulletin to see the news of the church!

CONNECT WITH US

Please fill out a Connection Card found in the back of the pew if you are visiting with us, would like to sign up for upcoming events, have a prayer request, or need to update your contact information.

If you are visiting with us for the first time, please find an usher to receive a welcome gift!

We invite you to visit us at
mulberrymethodist.org.

Stay updated on the Mulberry community by subscribing to our weekly newsletter!

Visit bit.ly/mul-news to sign up.

Our 11:00 a.m. worship service is livestreamed on Facebook. You can download the Sunday bulletin at mulberrymethodist.org/worship/bulletins.

GIVING

You can make your offering to God by visiting mulberrymethodist.org/give or by scanning the QR code, which will take you directly to our church's secure giving website.



ACCESSIBILITY

Hearing Assistive devices are available and can be found in the narthex by the usher station. Please ask an usher for assistance locating them.

For information or comments on accessibility, contact Hunter Godsey at hgodsey@mulberrymethodist.org.

The flowers in the sanctuary are from the memorial service of Charlie Cloaninger, Jr.

*The artwork on the cover is "Moon Glow" by Edie Mae Herrel.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59856>*

*Please rise in body and/or in spirit. **Bold Type** indicates congregational participation

* Gloria Patri

GREATOREX

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be;
world without end. Amen.

Proclamation & Response

Anthem

Old Time Religion

Traditional Spiritual,

Sierra Sanders and Camilla Packroff, soloists Arr. Moses Hogan

Refrain:

Give me that old time religion,
Give me that old time religion,
Give me that old time 'ligion,
It's good enough for me.

Verses:

It was good for the Hebrew children,
It's good enough for me.

It was good for Paul and Silas,
It's good enough for me.

It was good for my grandmother,
It's good enough for me.

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 1:7-8 (*Pew Bible pg 949*)

Rev. Varnell

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our
trespasses, according to the riches of his grace which he lavished upon us.

This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Communion Meditation

"The Lavishness of Grace"

Rev. Varnell

Thanksgiving & Communion

Invitation to the Table

Rev. Stone

Confession and Pardon

Rev. Stone

All: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

One: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

Offertory

Prière

Ambroise Thomas

Make your offering to God online by visiting mulberrymethodist.org/give or in the offering plate.

* The Great Thanksgiving

Rev. Varnell

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sung Communion A (pages 17-18)

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

...all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

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

*Children are welcome to receive communion at the discretion of parents.
Let an usher know if you wish to be served in the pew.
Gluten free bread is available on the pedestal at the base of the steps.
An offering plate along the sanctuary wall is available for a communion offering,
which is designated for the pastor's discretionary fund.*

Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sending Forth

* Closing Hymn No. 452

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

OLIVET

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

God of Grace

arr. Paul Manz



News of the Church

Annual Chili Cook-off & Apple Pie Contest | Sunday, February 8 | 12:00 pm

Pull out your chili recipe and start prepping your spices - our annual Chili Cook-off and Apple Pie Contest will be Sunday, February 8 at our Second Sunday Lunch. Bring a pot of chili or an apple pie and put your recipe to the test!

Wednesday Night Worship & Prayer | Wednesday, February 4 | 5:30 pm

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for this monthly time of prayer & worship together. We will share a meal and then move into a time of meditation, silent prayer & modern worship.

Ash Wednesday | Wednesday, February 18 | 5:30 Dinner & 6:30 Service

Join us for our annual service of ashes to mark the beginning of Lent, where we come before God recognizing our humanity, repenting of our sin, and remembering who we are and who we can be. We will have a dinner before the service at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall, and the service will begin at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

The Ainsworth Choir Music for Our Bicentennial Year

During the bicentennial year of 2026, the Ainsworth Choir will highlight music of the American church during the 19th and 20th centuries. These anthems will come from the many traditional spirituals and early-American hymns that have defined the sound of worship in the American south since the founding of Mulberry Street United Methodist Church and our neighbor churches. In April, we will celebrate the church's bicentennial weekend with a special performance of Mozart's Requiem in memory of our beloved Mulberry members down through the church's history. And in the second half of 2026, we will sing a variety of choral pieces from recent years, including newly composed pieces, as we celebrate the present and look toward the future of the church.

Keep up with us online!



Stay updated on the Mulberry community by subscribing to our weekly newsletter!
To sign up, visit bit.ly/mulnews or scan the QR code.

You can find us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube at [@MulberryMethodist](https://www.instagram.com/MulberryMethodist)

Visit our website at mulberrymethodist.org for our calendar, service recordings, newsletter archives, and more!

REV. JACK VARNELL
Senior Pastor

REV. PAYTON STONE
Associate Pastor

ELISA REECE
Director of Family Ministries

DR. TERRE JOHNSON
Director of Music

DANIEL MCINTOSH
Organist

MILLIE THOMPSON
Director of Communications

THE AINSWORTH CHOIR

**GAIL SPRINGSTEAD
& BILL STEMBRIDGE**
Lay Communion Servers

EMILY STANSFIELD
Crucifer

**RUTH STANSFIELD
& KATE EVANS**
Candle Lighters

———— *A Bicentennial Moment* ————

In anticipation of Mulberry's upcoming Bicentennial Celebration in 2026, the Leonard Hill Cochran Historical Room presents a moment of Mulberry history:

Excerpts from the Grounds Committee Report to the Board of Stewards, June 23, 1969:

“The following projects are been completed:

1. The Joy Class under president Harry Thompson and project chairman, Scott Rankin, planted shrubbery on the Mulberry St. side of the large parking lot adjacent to the Church School building.
2. The Fellowship Class under president Bill Donovan and project chairman, Col. Aldman, planted shrubbery on the 1st St. side of the rear parking lot.
3. The Friendly Class under president Marie Gordon and project chairman, Walter Parrish, planted shrubbery between the 2 rear parking lots.

It was noted at the conclusion of the report there has been very little work done on the Church grounds since the Sanctuary burned 3 years ago and there remains much work needed and should be done. The old saying ‘you get what you pay for’ still holds true and it was strongly recommended that additional funds be set aside in the new budget for the grounds at our Church – the outside should look just as good as the inside.”

———— *Season of Epiphany* ————

The season of Epiphany is the period of time following Christmas through Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent. Epiphany represents the manifestation of Jesus Christ as a Savior for all. The color of the paraments is green to represent hope, peace & growth.


Mulberry Street
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

719 Mulberry Street
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mulberrymethodist.org
Office Hours M-Th 8:30am - 5pm