



MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



The Church at Worship

PALM SUNDAY

March 29, 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. This year we are celebrating 200 years of this Church worshipping on this corner of First & Mulberry. To learn more about our Bicentennial year and how we're celebrating this milestone, visit mulberrymethodist.org/bicentennial.

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.

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 & YouTube. You can download the Sunday bulletin at mulberrymethodist.org/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 artwork on the cover is "Entry of Christ into Jerusalem" by Wilhelm Morgner.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54247>*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

arr. Albert Travis

Welcome & News of the Church

Rev. Jack Varnell & Rev. Payton Stone

Greeting & Call to Worship

Rev. Stone

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

On this day Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem and was proclaimed King.

We celebrate Jesus as our King today!

The people spread garments and palm branches along his way.

We honor Jesus as our King today!

The question is still asked, "Who is this?"

Jesus Christ is the King, the Messiah, come to love and save the world!

Today, we worship the King!

* Procession of Palms No. 280 *All Glory, Laud and Honor*

ST. THEODULPH

* Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Stone

One: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword?

All: No! In all things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us. We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Children 5th grade and under are invited to leave for Godly Play at this time.
Children may be picked up on the 2nd Floor in the Godly Play classroom after the service.

Proclamation & Response

First Reading

Psalm 118 (Pew Bible pg 492)

Rev. Stone

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures for ever!
Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and
give thanks to the Lord. The stone which the builders rejected has become
the head of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.
This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Blessed be he who enters in the name of the Lord! Bind the festal procession
with branches, up to the horns of the altar! Thou art my God, and I will give
thanks to thee; thou art my God, I will extol thee. O give thanks to the Lord,
for he is good; for his steadfast love endures for ever!

* Hymn No. 277

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

STORIES OF JESUS

Anthem

Hark! I Hear the Harps Eternal American Shaped-note Hymn;
Arr. Robert Shaw and Alice Parker

Hark! I hear the harps eternal ringing on the farther shore,
As I near those swollen waters, with their deep and solemn roar.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, praise the Lamb,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Glory to the great I AM.

And my soul though stained with sorrow, fading as the light of day,
Passes swiftly o'er those waters to the city far away.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, praise the Lamb,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Glory to the great I AM.

Souls have crossed before me, saintly, to that land of perfect rest;
And I hear them singing faintly in the mansions of the blest.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, praise the Lamb,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Glory to the great I AM.

-F. R. Warren (1867)

Hear from the Gospel according to Matthew how our Lord Jesus entered Jerusalem:

Matthew 21:1-11

And when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If any one says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and he will send them immediately." This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying, "Tell the daughter of Zion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their garments on them, and he sat thereon. Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when he entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee."

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

Sermon

"A Donkey and a King"

Rev. Varnell

Morning Prayer

Rev. Stone

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 Tithes & Gifts

Offertory

"Finale" from Organ Sonata VI Op. 65

Felix Mendelssohn

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

* Doxology

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

HAMBURG

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Sending Forth

* Closing Hymn No. 278

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

ELLACOMBE

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

Prelude in D minor

Johann Christian Kittel



Found Faithful at Mulberry & First: Celebrating 200 Years

This year we are celebrating 200 years of this Church worshiping and serving our community on this corner of First and Mulberry. To learn more about our Bicentennial year and how we're honoring our past, celebrating our present, and envisioning our future together, visit mulberrymethodist.org/bicentennial.

Important Spring Dates:

Sunday, April 26 - Bicentennial Celebration Sunday

Saturday, April 25 - The Mozart Requiem featuring the Ainsworth Choir

Saturday, April 25 - 200 Remarkable Years: A 1-Hour History Stroll with Creede Hinshaw

News of the Church

Easter 2026 Events

- **Easter Egg Hunt on Coleman Hill | March 29 | 3-5 pm**
- **Holy Week Services | March 30 - April 3 | Noon | 30-minute Services**
Lunch following in the Fellowship Hall
- **Maundy Thursday Service | April 2 | 6:30 pm**
- **Easter Sunday | April 5**
Sunrise Service on Coleman Hill | 7 am
Butterfly Release in the Courtyard | 10 am
Sanctuary Worship | 11 am

Holy Week Noon Services | March 30 - April 3 | Sanctuary | Lunch following

Come reflect on the life and ministry of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ as we draw closer to Easter Sunday. Services will be 30 minutes, and lunch is provided immediately following worship.

Monday - Cameron Bishop; **Tuesday** - Rev. Marcus Tripp;

Wednesday - Rev. Rachel Paul Hartman; **Thursday** - Rev. Lynn. Meadows-White;

Friday - Rev. Payton Stone

Easter Egg Hunt on Coleman Hill | TODAY | 3-5 pm

The Easter Egg Hunt is this afternoon! It's not too late to help out - join us on Coleman Hill at 3 pm to give us a hand with the egg hunt, games, arts & crafts and more. See you there!

Bring Flowers for the Easter Flowering Cross

On Easter Sunday morning members of Mulberry are asked to bring flowers from their yards or gardens to place on the cross in Mulberry's courtyard. Please bring flowers to the courtyard prior to Sunday school.

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

BEN MORRIS

Crucifer

DREW MORRIS

& BAXTER JAMES

Candle Lighters

————— *A Bicentennial Moment* —————

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

Carolyn Kennedy Dominy, Church Historian

Music at Mulberry

Mulberry United Methodist Church has forever been well known for its fine music over the years. Among the collection of programs located in the Historical Room's archives, shown below are a few of those musical occasions.

On Thursday evening, 8:00 January 27, 1938, Mulberry presented the Boston University Seminary Singers in concert. Among some of the music presented were "Tenebra Factae Sunt, De Profundis, Open Our Eyes, The Indian Serenade, Three Russian Folk Songs - Song of the Volga Boatman, Fireflies, At Father's Door - Italian Street Song, Wade in de Water (a Negro spiritual)", etc. The program had these notes handwritten across the top: "A good attendance of the people was on hand this night to hear and the weather was fair and very cold, around freezing during the concert."

On October 19-22, 1941, a meeting at the City Auditorium in which Mulberry Methodist took part and featuring Stanley Jones showed 14 different songs such as "Come Thee Fount, I Love To Tell The Story, Faith Of Our Fathers, Love Lifted Me" plus other well known religious songs.

An organ recital by Carl Weinrich was held in Mulberry's sanctuary on Thursday, 8:30 p.m., October 30, 1958. The music of J. S. Bach, Franz Josef Haydn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart were just a few of eight musical composers were presented.

(to be continued)

————— *Season of Lent* —————

Lent is a season of 40 days, not including Sundays, which leads to Easter. It is a time of repentance, fasting, and preparation for Easter celebration. The color of the paraments is purple to represent penitence and mourning.



Mulberry Street

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

719 Mulberry Street

478.745.8601

mulberrymethodist.org

Office Hours M-Th 8:30am - 5pm