



# MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



## The Church at Worship SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*May 10, 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](http://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](http://mulberrymethodist.org).

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

Visit [bit.ly/mul-news](http://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](http://mulberrymethodist.org/bulletins).

## GIVING

You can make your offering to God by visiting [mulberrymethodist.org/give](http://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](mailto:hgodsey@mulberrymethodist.org).

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*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Martha and Jimbo Berg in loving memory of their grandchild James "Bo" Anderson Berg IV, and their parents Anne & James Berg and Mary & Tom Williams.*

*The single rose bud on the altar is given in celebration of the birth of Raelynn Rose Hutcheson, born May 4, 2026 to Nathan & Caroline Hutcheson. Proud great-grandmother is Lynn Rankin.*

*The artwork on the cover is "Jesus Heals the Centurion's Servant" by Paolo Veronese. <https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/56191>*

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



## *Entrance & Praise*

Opening Voluntary                      *Fairest Lord Jesus*                      arr. Nancy L Smith

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.**

Brothers and sisters, whom do you seek this day?

**We seek the living God in this place.**

God meets us here with love, mercy, and grace.

**We open our hearts to all that God desires to give us.**

Come and lay aside every distraction and every burden.

**We turn our minds and hearts to what matters most.**

**Let us worship the living God, the Lord of heaven and earth!**

\* Opening Hymn No. 529                      *How Firm a Foundation*                      FOUNDATION

\* Affirmation of Faith                      *The Apostle's Creed*                      Rev. Stone

**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.**

\* 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.**

*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.*

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*Proclamation & Response*

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First Reading

Acts 17:22-28 (Pew Bible pg 902)

Rev. Stone

So Paul, standing in the middle of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along, and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all men life and breath and everything.

And he made from one every nation of men to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their habitation, that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel after him and find him. Yet he is not far from each one of us, for 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your poets have said, 'For we are indeed his offspring.'"

\* Hymn No. 163

*Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know*

HENDON

Anthem

*Pilgrim's Song*

Arr. Ryan Murphy

My brethren, I have found  
 a land that doth abound  
 with fruit as sweet as honey;  
 The more I eat, I find,  
 The more I am inclined  
 To shout and sing hosanna.  
 My soul doth long to go where I may fully know  
 The glory of my Savior;  
 And as I pass along I'll sing the Christian song,  
 I'm going to live forever.

Perhaps you think me wild,  
 or simple as a child;

I am a child of glory;  
I am born from above,  
my soul is filled with love;  
I love to tell the story.  
My soul doth long to go where I may fully know  
The glory of my Savior;  
And as I pass along I'll sing the Christian song,  
I'm going to live forever.

My soul now sits and sings  
and practices its wings,  
and contemplates the hour  
When the messenger shall say,  
'Come quit this house of clay,  
and with bright angels tower.'  
My soul doth long to go where I may fully know  
The glory of my Savior;  
And as I pass along I'll sing the Christian song,  
I'm going to live forever.

\* Second Reading

Luke 7:1-10 (*Pew Bible pg 839*)

Rev. Varnell

After Jesus had ended all his sayings in the hearing of the people he entered Capernaum. Now a centurion had a slave who was dear to him, who was sick and at the point of death. When he heard of Jesus, he sent to him elders of the Jews, asking him to come and heal his slave. And when they came to Jesus, they besought him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy to have you do this for him, for he loves our nation, and he built us our synagogue." And Jesus went with them.

When he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed. For I am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me: and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard this he marveled at him, and turned and said to the multitude that followed him, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." And when those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave well.

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

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.**

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*Offering of our Tithes & Gifts*

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Offertory

Prelude in C, BWV 846

by J.S Bach

You can make your offering to God online by visiting [mulberrymethodist.org/give](http://mulberrymethodist.org/give)  
or in the offering plate.

\* Doxology

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

**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.**

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*Sending Forth*

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\* Closing Hymn No. 467

*Trust and Obey*

TRUST AND OBEY

\* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

Improvisation on *Trust and Obey*

by Daniel McIntosh



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## *News of the Church*

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### **Senior Recognition Sunday | Sunday, May 17**

We will celebrate our graduating High School Seniors on Sunday, May 17! Everyone is invited to join us for a potluck breakfast at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall, and we will continue the celebration by honoring our graduates during our 11 am Sanctuary worship service.

### **No May Second Sunday Lunch**

We will not meet for our monthly Second Sunday Lunch in May; we will instead meet on Sunday, May 17 for a potluck brunch in honor of our graduating High School Seniors.

### **Family Fun Day | Sunday, May 31 | 4 pm | Fickling Farm**

The whole Mulberry family is invited to join in on the fun Sunday, May 31 at Fickling Farm! Our Family Ministries team is hosting a Fun Day for all ages - we'll grill hot dogs & hamburgers, play games for kids & adults alike, and have a great time of fellowship together! Fickling Farm Entrance: 5215 Rivoli Drive, Macon, GA

### **VBS 2026 - Snowball Mountain Challenge | June 8-12**

9:00am - 12:00pm M-F | PreK (4) - 5th Grade | This year for VBS, we're heading up Snowball Mountain! Together with Ollie the Arctic Seal, kids will learn how to find their strength in God, based on Philippians 4:13- "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." Contact Elisa Reece with questions or to volunteer! Register kids at [mulberrymethodist.org/vbs](http://mulberrymethodist.org/vbs).

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## *Keep up with us online!*

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

To sign up, visit [bit.ly/mulnews](http://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](http://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**

**HENRY CARTER**

Crucifer

**CAROLINE DENT**

**& WILL MAGDA**

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

As you may recall, last week's Bicentennial Moment dealt with Trustees of Mulberry Street Methodist Church and Mrs. Nettie Dunlap Wortham's bequest to Mulberry.

Nettie Dunlap Wortham was one of the 5 daughters of Samuel S. Dunlap. Samuel S. Dunlap, born in 1830 in Jasper County, came to Macon as a young man and began his career in 1849 as a clerk in a retail grocery store. Dunlap and his wife Mary were given some 400 acres of land across the Ocmulgee River by her parents, and they built their home there. During the Civil War, the Dunlap farm home was at the center of Macon's most significant military actions in 1845, later known as the Battle of Dunlap Hill. In 1934, the Dunlap family deeded the farm to the Macon Historical Society, and in 1935, the Society in turn conveyed to the United States Government the 358 acres of the old Dunlap Farm, which in the late 1930s became Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park.

When Illah Dunlap Little, one of Dunlap's daughters, passed away July 1939, her will stated that her sisters, Clara Dunlap Bagley and Nettie Dunlap Wortham, were given a life tenancy of her estate. Mrs. Wortham passed away in September 1939 and Mrs. Bagley passed away in 1945; at that time Mulberry Street Methodist Church and Wesleyan College became the absolute owners of Mrs. Wortham's estate in equal shares. The funds and assets of the estate became The Samuel S. Dunlap Memorial Fund.

*(to be continued)*

————— *Eastertide* —————

The Easter Season begins on Easter Day and ends on Pentecost. It focuses on Christ's resurrection and ascension and the sending of the Holy Spirit. The paraments in the sanctuary are white to represent purity & joy.



**Mulberry Street**

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

719 Mulberry Street

478.745.8601

mulberrymethodist.org

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