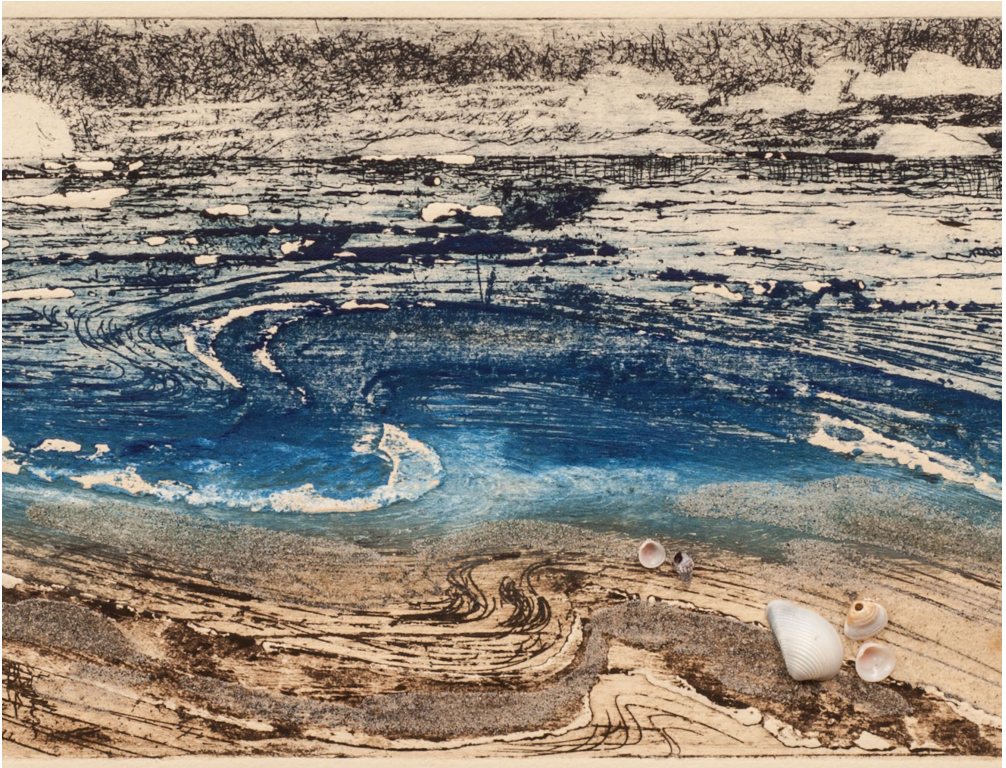


MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



The Church at Worship SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 7, 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 "Tides in" by Edie Mae Herrel.
<https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/59858>*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary *Let Us Break Bread Together* arr. Michael Larkin

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.

Today, we come to worship the God whose mercy never fails.

We receive anew the gift of God's grace!

Christ is with us this day and equips us for love and service.

May Christ fill us with the fullness of grace!

Let us worship God!

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.

* Opening Hymn No. 549 *Where Charity and Love Prevail* ST. PETER

* 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.

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

Christ Be With Me

Terre Johnson

Christ be with me, Christ before me,
Christ be with me, Christ before me.
Christ behind me, Christ within me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me.
Christ on my right side, Christ on my left side,
When I lie down, when I sit down,
Christ when I arise!
In the heart of all who think of me,
In the mouth of all who speak of me,
Christ in every eye that sees me,
Christ in every ear that hears me.
Amen.
- St. Patrick's Breastplate

Scripture Reading

Matthew 18:20 (Pew Bible pg 800)

Rev. Varnell

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

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

Communion Meditation

“Christ With Us!”

Rev. Varnell

Thanksgiving & Communion

Invitation to the Table

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

Improvisation on arr. Daniel McIntosh
"O Thou Who This Mysterious Bread" (Land of Rest)

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.*

Communion Music *My Shepherd Will Supply All My Need* arr. Craig Duncan
This Is My Father's World
Katie Trotter, violin

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. 557 *Blest Be the Tie that Binds* DENNIS

* Benediction & Sending Forth Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary *Rejoice, the Lord Is King* arr. Mark Patterson



News of the Church

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.

June Second Sunday Lunch | June 14 | Fellowship Hall | 12:00 pm

We will meet on Sunday, June 14 for our monthly potluck lunch! Immediately following worship, you are invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall for this monthly time sharing a meal together. Bring a side dish or dessert to share, or just bring yourself!

Summer of Psalms Sunday School Class | Through July 5

Join us for a five-week walk through the Psalms as we explore everything from joyful worship to sorrowful lament and see how we can model in our modern lives how the psalmists cried out to God. This class will be led by Julia Magda and will meet on Sunday mornings at 10 AM in the Mustard Seed classroom at the church from June 7 to July 5. No book to purchase; bring your own Bible or we'll have some to share as well.

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

FRANK & MARY ANNE GAUDRY
Lay Communion Servers

————— *A Bicentennial Moment* —————

In conjunction with Mulberry's 2026 Bicentennial Celebration, the Leonard Hill Cochran Historical Room presents a moment of Mulberry history.
Carolyn Kennedy Dominy, Church Historian

The below was printed in the Winter/Spring 2014 Edition of "The Mulberry Quarterly":

A pall, also called a mort cloth, is a cloth which covers caskets at funerals. The use of a rich cloth pall to cover the casket or coffin during funerals began back in the Middle Ages. Today palls are pure white to symbolize the white clothes worn during baptism and the joyful triumph over death brought by the Resurrection.

When the late Pauline Pierce Corn passed away in 1987, her family decided to use a pall for her funeral rather than flowers on the casket. At that time, Mulberry did not own one and borrowed the "traveling pall" from Christ Episcopal Church, which was reserved by Christ Church to be loaned to other churches if requested. After her services, her family decided to make a memorial gift to Mulberry in her name for this appropriate and much needed item for the church. Not only was Polly Corn a dedicated member of Mulberry for decades, she was also known far and wide for her horticultural pursuits with a beautiful garden. She wrote a Sunday column under her by-line "Garden Ventures" for the Macon Telegraph for many years. She was also flower arranger par excellence as witnessed by her many years as a member of Mulberry's Altar Guild. She showcased her talents by creating beautiful arrangements by putting them together in her hands, and then in a vase. So from borrowing a "traveling pall", Pauline Pierce Corn's family left a lovely legacy in their mother's name that serves even now as a fitting memorial to a most talented member of Mulberry Street.

————— *Season of Ordinary Time* —————

The season of Ordinary Time emphasizes the church living & witnessing in the world. The color of the paraments is green to represent the church's growth & presence.


Mulberry Street
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

719 Mulberry Street
478.745.8601
mulberrymethodist.org
Office Hours M-Th 8:30am - 5pm