



MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



The Church at Worship FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 28, 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 flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God in loving memory of
Ashley P. Hurt by his loving family.*

*The artwork on the cover is "Sermon on the Mount" by Cosimo Rosselli.
<https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/58320>*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary Improvisation on “Hendon” arr. Daniel McIntosh

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.

The God of all grace invites us to this place for worship.

We come to worship the One who fills us with grace.

The Lord is holy, righteous, and good.

May God empower us to be servants in his kingdom forever.

Let us worship!

*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. 384 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* BEECHER

* 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

First Reading

2 Corinthians 4:5-6, 7-12, 16-18 (Pew Bible pg 939)

Rev. Stone

For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed every day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, because we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen; for the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

* Hymn No. 163

Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know

HENDON

Anthem

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name

Tom Fettke

When I gaze into the night sky
And see the works of Your fingers,
The moon and stars suspended in space,
O what is man that You are mindful of him?

You have given man a crown of glory and honor,
And have made him a little lower than the angels.
You have put him in charge of all creation -
The beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea -
But what is man, O, what is man
That You are mindful of him?

O Lord, our God, the majesty and glory of Your name
Transcends the earth and fills the heavens.

O Lord, our God, little children praise you perfectly,
And so would we, and so would we.

Alleluia,
The majesty and glory of Your name!
Alleluia,
The majesty and glory of Your name
Alleluia!

- Linda Lee Johnson, based on Psalm 8

* Second Reading

Matthew 5:10-12 (Pew Bible pg 786)

Rev. Varnell

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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

Sermon

"Getting In Trouble For Jesus"

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

Quiet Consolation

James Michael Stevens

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

* 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.**

Sending Forth

* Closing Hymn No. 368

My Hope Is Built

THE SOLID ROCK

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

The Solid Rock

arr. Don Hustad



News of the Church

Office Closed for Independence Day | July 2-3

The church office will be closed on Thursday, July 2 & Friday, July 3 in observance of Independence Day. Regular office hours will resume Monday, July 6. Though the church office will not be open, the dedicated on-call line is available for any emergency or urgent need. The on-call number is: 478-219-9926.

Ken Medema Returns to Mulberry | Sunday, July 5

Join us in Sunday Worship on July 5 to hear singer & pianist Ken Medema perform! Ken has shared his musical talents with us over the years, and is sure to wow us again with his improvisational musical storytelling. Ken's ability to create unique musical reflections in response to the movement of the worship service is something you won't want to miss!

Faith & Film Sunday School Class | 5-week Study starting July 19

Join us for a 5-week journey exploring the intersection of storytelling and spirituality in our upcoming "Faith and Film" Sunday School class! Each week, participants will watch a film on their own, and during class, we will engage in insightful discussions that bridge cinematic narratives with theological reflection. We will kick off our series with a modern classic—*The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

No Worship & Prayer for July

We will not meet for our monthly Wednesday Night Worship & Prayer service for July. We will meet again in August on August 5!

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**

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

GEORGE DUNN

Crucifer

BAXTER JAMES

& THOMAS DUNN

Candle Lighters


Mulberry Street
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

719 Mulberry Street

478.745.8601

mulberrymethodist.org

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

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

Over the decades, Mulberry has fostered many Sunday School classes. One women's Sunday School class was the Peacock Bible Class, organized in the early 1900s. Below are excerpts of its history written by a class member:

"In the spring of 1905, a young schoolteacher from Eastman, GA arrived in Macon, the bride of E. Julian Peacock, Sr. She joined Mulberry and soon afterwards was asked to organize a Sunday School class for young women known as the Philathea Class. Under the leadership of Miss 'Tippie', as she was known to many of her friends, the class went all out for mission at home and in the mission fields. During WW2, we tried to make life more pleasant for our soldier boys in our town, furnishing entertainments in various ways and one of the hi-lights was a picnic dinner one Sunday for every soldier at church. We had sewing parties and sewed for various organizations or under-privileged children. During these years we have had to move from room to room in keeping with the growth of our class, always furnishing our own needs.

Not so long after the death of Mr. Peacock in 1929, it became necessary for Miss 'Tippie' to move back to Eastman to be with members of her family and in 1933, to show our love and appreciations to a devoted teacher, we changed our class name to The Peacock Bible Class just one year before she passed away. For over 53 years we have stood for these same principles, thinking of others, doing our best where we are with what we have for Jesus' Christ sake."

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.