



MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



The Church at Worship SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 12, 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 and in loving memory of
Otis Benton Gunn, Jeanette Walton Gunn, and Otis Walton Gunn
by son and brother, Frank Gunn.*

*The artwork on the cover is "Advent Candle" by Lauren Plummer.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57132>*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary Andante grazioso in F Henry Smart

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.

God calls us together today to be the Church.

We are the people of God!

Christ calls us to continue his work in the world.

We worship. We grow. We serve. All for the glory of God!

Come, let us worship the Lord, who is faithful in every generation.

With grateful and joyful hearts, 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. 540 *I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord* ST. THOMAS

* 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

Hebrews 10:19-25 (Pew Bible pg 976)

Rev. Stone

Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way which he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

* Hymn No. 585

This Little Light of Mine

LATTIMER

Solo

Come, Ye Disconsolate
arr. Terre Johnson

Morgan Whitley

Second Reading

Matthew 5:13-16, RSV

Rev. Varnell

You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trodden under foot by men.

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

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

Sermon

“The Impactful Church”

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

How Great Thou Art
Chris Abbott, soloist

Music by Stuart K. Hine
Lyrics by Carl Boberg

*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. 415

Take Up Thy Cross

GERMANY

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

Fanfare Postlude on “St. Thomas”

arr. Douglas E. Wagner



News of the Church

Second Sunday Lunch UWF Fundraiser | Today, immediately following Worship

Immediately following worship, you're invited to join us in the Fellowship Hall for our Second Sunday Lunch fundraiser hosted by the United Women in Faith! Come enjoy great food, laughter, and fellowship around the table! Your donations given during the lunch will help the Esther-Grace UWF Circle with their mission giving this year, which goes towards missions both locally and around the world!

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*.

Macon Bacon Game | Saturday, August 1 | 7 pm

Mulberry is heading back to the ballgame! Join us on Saturday, August 1 for Family Night at the Macon Bacon. Each ticket includes free hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and drinks. Tickets are \$17 each, and for every ticket purchased through Mulberry, the church will receive \$5 back for our Family Ministries! Purchase tickets through Realm or by calling the church office.

Youth/Kids Mission Day | Tuesday, July 14 | 9am-12pm

This upcoming Tuesday, July 14 from 9am to 12pm the youth & kids will be participating in a mission day at the church! They will be doing a variety of projects to help Macon Outreach, the Mulberry Community Garden, and the Clothing Closet.

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

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

**Excerpts from the Order of Worship,
Sunday, March 14, 1943:**

“On Easter, we will make our Offering on the Bond Moral Obligation. The total costs of our Sunday School building and the remodeling of our church was in excess of \$225,000. Over \$100,000 was raised in cash and bonds were issued for \$125,000. Interest on these bonds was paid and several of the bonds were retired prior to the depression in 1932. On a recommendation by the majority of the owners of the remaining \$101,000 worth of these Bonds the church bought them in at a discount. It will be remembered that this Church, under the leadership of Dr. Ed F. Cook, then pastor, made one of the greatest sacrificial offerings ever made by any people. This offering was then used in the purchase of these Bonds. It is estimated that \$45,000 would complete the principal moral obligations. Thus, it will be seen that the total of building and remodeling was in excess of \$225,000 and that the Church has already paid in excess of \$180,000 or a total of more than 80%. In order that all of us may do our full part, it is suggested that each of us give on Easter 5% of our income for March and April.”


Mulberry Street
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

719 Mulberry Street

478.745.8601

mulberrymethodist.org

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

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.