



# MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



## The Church at Worship

**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

*November 16, 2025 | 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 by fostering healing for the broken places of life. Methodists have been worshipping Father, Son, & Holy Spirit on this corner since 1826.

You are invited to become a living part of this vital congregation.  
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.

If you are visiting with us for the first time, please find an usher to receive a welcome gift!

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. You can download the Sunday bulletin at [mulberrymethodist.org/worship/bulletins](http://mulberrymethodist.org/worship/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 on the altar are given to the glory of God in loving memory of her husband, Charles H McCrary, and his mother, Mary S McCrary, by Anne McCrary.*

*The artwork on the cover is "Village Choir" by Anton Ažbe.*  
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58162>

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



## *Entrance & Praise*

Opening Voluntary      *God, That Madest Earth and Heaven* arr. H. Alexander Matthews

Welcome & News of the Church      Rev. Jack Varnell

Greeting & Call to Worship      Rev. Varnell

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Friends, our days are precious, each one a gift from God.

**We will make the most of the time God gives us!**

Too often we hurry through life without noticing God's presence.

**Today we will slow down and look for God's hand at work.**

The world calls us to busyness and distraction.

**But Christ calls us to his purpose in love.**

Teach us, Lord, to number our days that we may gain wise hearts.

**We will live this day in gratitude, hope, and faith. Let us worship!**

\* Opening Hymn No. 62      *All Creatures of Our God and King*      LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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

**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's Moment

Megan Smith

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

Psalm 111 (Pew Bible pg 490)

Rev. Varnell

Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who have pleasure in them. Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures for ever. He has caused his wonderful works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and merciful. He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy, they are established for ever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness. He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for ever. Holy and awesome is his name! The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who practice it. His praise endures for ever!

\* Hymn No. 733

Marching to Zion

MARCHING TO ZION

### Anthem

Sometimes God Sings

Terre Johnson

Sometimes God sings  
in the beauty of a springtime day,  
in the freshness of the falling rain,  
in the ever-blooming world God made.

Sometimes God sings  
in the touch of one extending care,  
in the words of someone's thoughtful prayer,  
and the song makes me new again.

God's song is ever near me  
if I will be still and hear.  
Never a solitary tune,  
but melody, harmony, rhythm, expression  
in search of a choir to sing, to soar!

Sometimes God sings  
in the worry and the pain I feel,  
in the way I sometimes fail to kneel,  
but the song lifts me higher  
until I can see that by  
joining the song,  
lifting my voice,  
filling the world with beauty and grace,  
God's glorious song is singing in me.

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:15-20 (Pew Bible pg 952)

Rev. Varnell

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, always and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father.

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

Sermon

“Time Enough At Last”

Rev. Varnell

Morning Prayer

Rev. Varnell

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

No. 1 in G Major  
from 12 Short pieces for the Organ

by Samuel Wesley

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

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. 158

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

SPANISH HYMN

\* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

Come, Christian, Join to Sing

arr. Mary McDonald



### Results from Stewardship Sunday

Thank you so much for a wonderful Stewardship Sunday this past week! It was an amazing sight to see the church coming forward and presenting your pledges as an act of worship. Thank you for being such a generous church! If you have not turned in your pledge yet, you can bring it with you on Sunday, or bring it by the church office, or you can make your pledge online at [bit.ly/mulpledge25](http://bit.ly/mulpledge25). We are well on our way to 100 pledges, and we want everyone to be a part of that goal, as we move into God's future for Mulberry together!

Your Pastor,  
Jack

### Results from Sunday:

Number of pledges made: 73

Total Pledged: \$589,410

Number of new pledge units: 21

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## *News of the Church*

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### **Charge Conference | Wednesday, November 19 | 5:30 pm | Fellowship Hall**

Mulberry St. Charge Conference will take place Wednesday, November 19 in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m. Our District Superintendent Jeff Cook will be present to lead us as we celebrate the ministry of our church for another year. All elected leaders are encouraged to attend, and the meeting will be open to all others. Church Council members will need to stay for a brief discussion and vote after the Charge Conference.

### **Interfaith Thanksgiving Service | November 20 | 6 pm | St. Joseph Catholic Church**

The annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service held by the Downtown Tapestry will be Thursday, November 20 at 6 pm in the St. Joseph social hall. This year will include a potluck meal - bring a dish to share and join us in this gathering of Macon's downtown faith communities as we give thanks together.

### **UWF Coffee & Chocolate Sale | Sundays in the Atrium**

The United Women in Faith will be selling Equal Exchange products on Sundays in the Atrium. They will have Coffee, Chocolate Bars, Hot Cocoa Mix, & Tea. Help support small farmers & local agencies providing help & healing!  
Selling on November 16, November 23, & December 7.

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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**

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****WILL MAGDA**

Crucifer

**KATE EVANS  
& RAMZI HARLEY**

Candle Lighters

*A Bicentennial Moment*

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

**Th report of Women's Society Christian Service, November 1962 – May 1963:**

Number of members	240
Visits to shut-ins or sick	841
Visit to prospective members	124
Number of cards mailed	741
Special Memberships	\$ 149.00
Memorials	\$ 75.00
Number getting credit for books studied	42

## Social service work:

- Visits to MARC Workshop \$102.00
- Sewing bags made & filled for United Church Women - 43
- Rescue Mission - clothing & \$75.00
- To church members at Batey - \$10.00
- To Cuban students in Macon - \$30.00
- Flowers in sanctuary in memory of Mrs. Ainsworth - \$17.50
- Visits to school of Special Education - clothing & \$7.50
- Visits to Timmy Turtle - 1 dozen towels & 1 dozen washcloths
- Visits to Tinsley
- Visits to Juvenile Court
- Visits to Jail - song books (they had none)
- Baskets & gifts to needy at Xmas & Thanksgiving - \$90.00



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.