

MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



The Church at Worship

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 4, 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 "A Mother's Love Holds the World" by Mary Jane Miller.
<https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/59655>

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary *In Christ There is No East or West* arr. Dale Wood

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 is holy and God calls us to be holy.

Create in us a clean heart, O God.

God calls us to cast aside the ways of this world.

Put a new and right spirit within us.

God draws us together as one body.

Together, we are the church, we are one, let us worship the Holy 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 *The World Attends the Table (insert)* AURELIA

* 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

All That Hath Life and Breath
Katie Trotter, soloist

René Clausen

All that hath life and breath praise ye the Lord,
shout to the Lord, alleluia!
Praise the Lord with joyful song,
sing to the Lord with thanksgiving, alleluia, praise Him!

All that hath life and breath praise ye the Lord,
sing to the Lord a new-made song, praise His name, alleluia!

Unto thee, O Lord, have I made supplication,
and cried unto the rock of my salvation;
but thou hast heard my voice, and renewed my weary spirit.

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation.
O my soul praise Him for He is thy health and salvation.

All that hath life and breath praise ye the Lord,
shout to the Lord, alleluia!
Praise Him, Laud Him!
Alleluia!

- Adapted from Psalms 96 & 22

Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (*Pew Bible pg 933*)

Rev. Varnell

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Communion Meditation

Rev. Varnell

Thanksgiving & Communion

Invitation to the Table

Rev. Stone

Confession and Pardon

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

Prelude on "St. Peter"

arr. Healey Willan

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.*

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. 548 *In Christ There Is No East or West*

McKEE

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

"Praise to the Lord"

arr. Emma Lou Diemer



News of the Church

Blessing of the Pets | October 11 | 5 pm | Mulberry Courtyard

On Sunday, October 11 at 5 PM, bring your furry friends to the Mulberry courtyard for our annual Blessing of the Animals! We will have a brief service where we thank God together for our pets and their presence in our lives, and our pastor will offer a blessing over them. All creatures big and small are welcome!

Fall Festival | October 25 | 4 pm | Mulberry Parking Lot

Our annual Fall Festival will be Sunday, October 25 at 4 pm! Come show off your costume, and enjoy all the fun - trunk or treat, games, face painting, a food truck and so much more! This year we are partnering with two other downtown congregations, Centenary UMC & First Baptist Church of Christ. We will begin collecting candy for the trunk-or-treat next Sunday - bins will be in the Church Atrium & Narthex!

Charge Conference | Monday, October 19 | 6:00 pm | Fellowship Hall

Mulberry St. Charge Conference will take place Monday, October 19 in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 p.m. Our District Superintendent Rev. 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.

Second Sunday Lunch | October 11 | Fellowship Hall | 12:00 pm

We will meet on Sunday, October 11 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!

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.facebook.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

**LYNNETH WHITTEN
& KARIN PAYNE**
Lay Communion Servers

WILL MAGDA
Crucifer

**EMILY STANSFIELD
& RUTH STANSFIELD**
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

In 2009, a group of Mulberry members decided that our church needed a magazine and began to publish an eight-page colorful collection of articles called the “Mulberry Quarterly.” From 2009 to 2016, the editors and contributors worked diligently to create a publication that covered many subjects. The original editorial board included Dana Poole Kersey as editor and Mary Leonard Hurt as managing editor, with Freeda Chapman, Barbara Knight, Shirley Macklin, Ben Tate, Kay Wangen and Carolyn Kennedy. Mulberry members wrote on subjects such as artwork, music, humor, recipes, inspiration, memories, etc. All the magazine’s expenses were covered by donations from sources such as Sunday School classes and individuals.

Each cover featured an article “From The Editor’s Desk” written by Dana Kersey or Mary Hurt, as well as articles by other church members. One such article was on the Spring 2012 issue, written by Amy Griffith Dever titled “How Does ‘Mom’s Garden’ Grow?” about the Mulberry Outreach Garden. The history of the garden was outlined with information on the various volunteers who cared for the garden, crops grown, construction of vegetable beds, and a picture of Jack Head titled “Jack Head and Head Lettuce”.

Other articles over the years included “Pick-Up Trucks, Country Music and Angel Visits” by Sam Henley and “Reflections On The Open Table” by Margaret Brogdon – and the back page of issue always had a touch of humor from “Uncle Lester”.

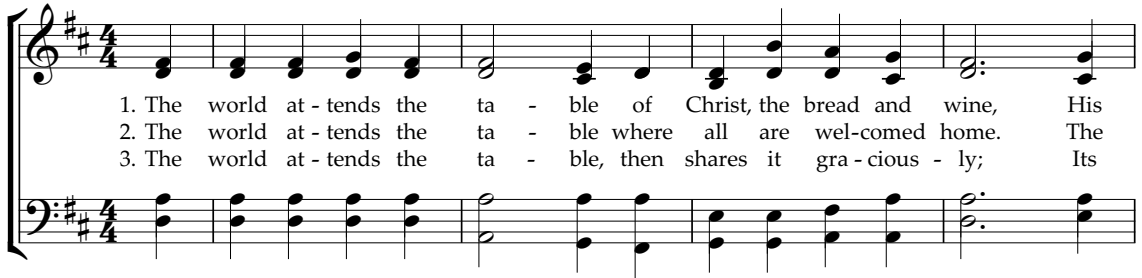
— *World Communion Sunday* —

The first Sunday in October is World Communion Sunday, where we experience Holy Communion in the context of the global community of faith. Today, we recognize that we are a part of a whole body of believers spanning continents, cultures, and languages, and we are united in Christ’s love.

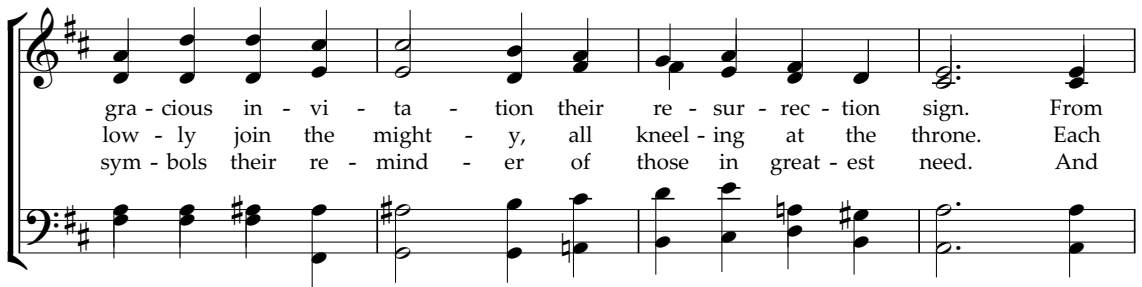
The World Attends the Table

Terre Johnson

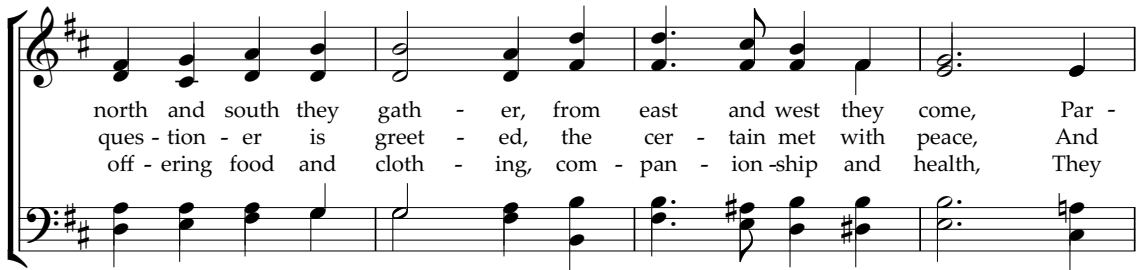
Samuel Wesley



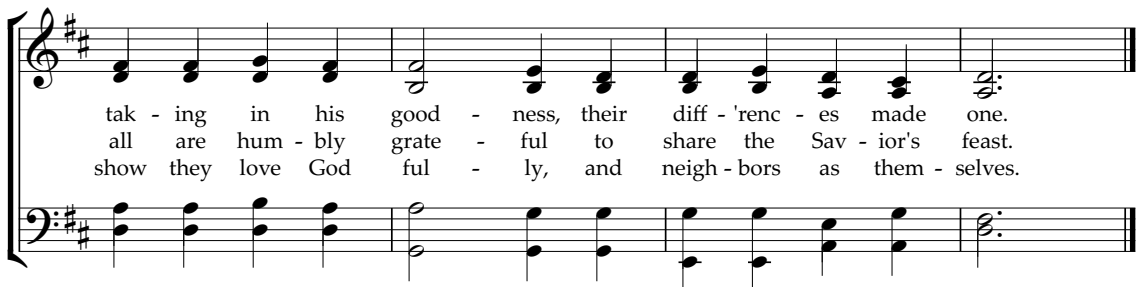
1. The world at - tends the ta - ble of Christ, the bread and wine, His
2. The world at - tends the ta - ble where all are wel - comed home. The
3. The world at - tends the ta - ble, then shares it gra - cious - ly; Its



gra - cious in - vi - ta - tion their re - sur - rec - tion sign. From
low - ly join the might - y, all kneel - ing at the throne. Each
sym - bols their re - mind - er of those in great - est need. And



north and south they gath - er, from east and west they come, Par -
ques - tion - er is greet - ed, the cer - tain met with peace, And
off - ering food and cloth - ing, com - pan - ion - ship and health, They



tak - ing in his good - ness, their diff - 'renc - es made one.
all are hum - bly grate - ful to share the Sav - ior's feast.
show they love God ful - ly, and neigh - bors as them - selves.