



MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



Resurrection of the Lord

EASTER SUNDAY

April 5, 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 Lord's Table are given to the glory of God and in honor of Rev. Jack Varnell and Rev. Payton Stone by Bill and Cindy Jarrard

The flowering of the Cross in the courtyard is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dustin Ivey Fordham by his family.

The artwork on the cover is a Manuscript Leaf with the Resurrection, from a Psalter.
<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/466624>

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today” (Llanfair) arr. Albert L. Travis

Welcome & News of the Church Rev. Jack Varnell

Greeting & Call to Worship Rev. Varnell

One: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Death is defeated, love has won, and grace abounds.

We come to worship the God who makes all things new!

Open your hearts to the power of God’s love this morning.

**We give thanks to God, who gives us his love, mercy, and grace,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let us worship!**

Introit *Easter in Us* Terre Johnson

Let him Easter in us,
Be a dayspring to the dimness of us,
Be a crimson-cresseted east,
More brightening as his reign rolls.
Let him Easter in us,
Alleluia, Amen.

- Gerard Manley Hopkins

* Opening Hymn No. 302 *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* (st. 1-4) EASTER HYMN

* 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.**

Children's Moment

Elisa Reece

*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.*

Proclamation & Response

First Reading

Psalm 30 (Pew Bible pg 439)

Rev. Stone

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up, and have not let my foes rejoice over me. O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you healed me. O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit. Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning. You turned my mourning into dancing; you loosed my sackcloth and girded me with gladness, that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you for ever.

* Hymn No. 304

Easter People, Raise Your Voices

REGENT SQUARE

Anthem

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Arr. Gilbert Martin

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ, my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

- Isaac Watts

* Second Reading

John 20:11-18 (Pew Bible pg 882)

Rev. Varnell

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Mary Magdalene went and said to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

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

Sermon

"Resurrection Is Everything"

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

Easter Hymn

arr. John Ferguson

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. 303

The Day of Resurrection

LANCASHIRE

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

Organ Sonata No. 4 in B-flat Major
I. Allegro Con Brio

Felix Mendelssohn





Found Faithful at Mulberry & First: Celebrating 200 Years

This year we are celebrating 200 years of this Church worshiping and serving our community on this corner of First and Mulberry. To learn more about our Bicentennial year and how we're honoring our past, celebrating our present, and envisioning our future together, visit mulberrymethodist.org/bicentennial.

200 Remarkable Years: A 1-Hour History Stroll

Uncover Mulberry's holy and hidden, faith-filled and forgotten history.

Saturday, April 25 • 11 am • Begins on Mulberry's front steps.
Reservations encouraged - call the church at 478-745-8601.

The Mozart Requiem: A Concert in Memory of Our Methodist Forebears

Featuring Mulberry's Ainsworth Choir, the Georgia Southern Chorale and full orchestra
Saturday, April 25 • 7 pm • MSUMC Sanctuary

Bicentennial Celebration Sunday

Celebrating 200 years through prayer, song and praise! Bishop Robin Dease, preaching
Sunday, April 26 • 11 am Sanctuary Worship • Luncheon following in Fellowship Hall

Church Office Closed | Monday, April 6

The Church Office will be closed this Monday in observance of Easter.
Regular office hours will resume Tuesday.

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

EMILY STANSFIELD

Paschal Candle Bearer

WILL MAGDA

Crucifer

KATE EVANS

& RUTH STANSFIELD

Candle Lighters

————— *A Bicentennial Moment* —————

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

Carolyn Kennedy Dominy, Church Historian

Music at Mulberry continued:

On Thursday, May 16, 1957, Virgil Fox presented a concert at Mulberry in the sanctuary at 8:30 p.m. Fox was a well-known American organ virtuoso, celebrated as one of the 20th century's most accomplished and flamboyant organists. He was famous for his technical mastery, emotional performances of Bach and "Heavy Organ" concerts. To some he was considered the "Liberace" of the organ. His program included the works of Bach, Grovlez, Durufle, Vierne, Reger and Vaughn Williams's well known "Greensleeves". As per the Macon Telegraph's report on the event, the sanctuary at Mulberry was packed for the evening.

In March, 1958, Jeanne Demessieux, famous organist and composer of Paris, France performed in Mulberry Sanctuary with music of Bach, Mozart, Cleramhault, Liszt, Messiaen and her own composition "Attende Domine." Mulberry's organist during those years was Bernard Smith.

During the 1960s, music continued to flourish at Mulberry Methodist. April 1961, a Festival Hymn Service was performed at the City Auditorium with the theme being "God In Nature" and featured choirs from 10 local churches. It was part of Macon's first Spring Arts Festival sponsored by the Civic Improvements Committee of the Macon Chamber of Commerce. In May, 1964 a dedication of memorial handbells was held with anthems by the Ainsworth Memorial Choirs, John Tremaine was director of music. *(to be continued)*

————— *An Easter Prayer* —————

Resurrecting God, you conquered death and opened the gates of life everlasting. In the power of the Holy Spirit, raise us with Christ that we, too, may proclaim healing and peace to the nations. Amen.



Mulberry Street

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

719 Mulberry Street

478.745.8601

mulberrymethodist.org

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