



# MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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*Sharing the heart of God from the heart of downtown  
Macon by fostering healing for the broken places of life.*



## The Church at Worship FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*July 13, 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.**

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. You can download the Sunday bulletin at **mulberrymethodist.org/worship/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.

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*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 "Good Samaritan" by Vincent van Gogh.  
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54697>*

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



## *Entrance & Praise*

Opening Voluntary                      Prelude on *Lauda Anima*                      arr. Robert Buckley Farlee

Welcome & News of the Church    Rev. Payton Stone

Greeting & Call to Worship    Harold Chapman

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

We come together this morning,  
not always sure where grace will be found.

**But we trust that God is already here, in the stranger,  
in the story, in the stillness.**

The world teaches us to stay on the safe side,  
but Christ walks the road of mercy and love.

**God calls us to see with new eyes, to love with open hearts,  
to kneel at the side of our wounded neighbor.**

Come, let us worship the One who rescues us with unexpected grace.

**We come to worship the God who meets us on the road  
and sends us out with love.**

*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. 66                      *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*                      LAUDA ANIMA

\* Affirmation of Faith                      *The Apostle's Creed*                      Harold Chapman

**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.**

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*Proclamation & Response*

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First Reading

Colossians 1:9–14 (*Pew Bible pg 956*)

Harold Chapman

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

\* Hymn No. 386

*Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown*

CANDLER

Anthem

*Devotion*

John Ness Beck

I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice,  
and it told thy love to me.

But I long to rise in the arms of faith  
and be closer drawn to thee.

Consecrate me now to thy service, Lord,  
by the power of grace divine.

Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope,  
and my will be lost in thine.

Draw me nearer, nearer blessed Lord  
to the cross where thou hast died.

Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer blessed Lord  
to thy precious bleeding side.

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,  
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer blessed Lord.  
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

- Fanny Crosby; *traditional Spiritual*

\* Second Reading

Luke 10:25-37 (Pew Bible pg 844)

Rev. Stone

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

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

Sermon

"Grace from the Wrong Side of the Street"

Rev. Stone

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.**

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## *Offering of our Tithes & Gifts*

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Offertory

Offertory on Nettleton

arr. Harold DeCou

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

\* Doxology

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

**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. 400    *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

\* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Stone

Closing Voluntary

*Jubilation*

Jason D. Payne



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## *News of the Church*

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### **Second Sunday Summer Salads Lunch | Today after Worship | Fellowship Hall**

Join us immediately following worship for our July Second Sunday Lunch, which is a fundraiser for United Women of Faith Missions! Everyone is invited to eat with us - we'll have plenty of salads to try, as well as a Make-Your-Own Sundae Bar!

### **Purchase Macon Bacon Tickets! | July 25 | 7 pm game**

Mulberry is headed back to the ballgame - join us on July 25 for Country Night at the Macon Bacon! Each ticket includes free hamburgers, chips and a drink. Tickets are \$17 each, and for every ticket purchased here, the church will receive \$5 back for our Family Ministries! Support our kids & youth while cheering on the Bacon! Purchase at [bit.ly/mulbacon25](https://bit.ly/mulbacon25) or scan the QR code.



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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](https://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](https://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**

**HAROLD CHAPMAN**  
Lay Liturgist

———— *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:*

**Excerpts from The Board of Stewards meeting  
July 10, 1905:**

The subject of engaging a choir for the coming year was brought before the board. Bro. W. R. Rogers, Jr., made a brief statement by which he recommended that a choir be elected as follows:

Organist – 12 mo. – \$25.00 per mo.	\$300
Soprano – 8 mo. – \$25.00 per mo.	\$200
Alto – 8 mo. – \$12.50 per mo.	\$100
Tenor – 8 mo. – \$12.50 per mo.	\$100
Bass – 8 mo. – \$12.50 per mo.	\$100
Cornetist– 12 mo. – \$10.00 per mo.	<u>\$120</u>
Total .....	\$920

Or, if the music committee thought better, to make the contracts with singers for nine months instead of eight, which would make a total cost of \$982.50. He suggested the names of Prof. Ezerman and Miss Wheeler of Wesleyan College Faculty for the petition of organist and soprano singer, and on his motion, the Board requested that the Music Committee confer with the Pastor and elect a choir along these lines.

On the motion of Bro. Park, the Pastor was granted a vacation beginning August 1st.

The matter of improvements to the front of the church was brought up but after some discussion, it was decided to let it go over until the fall.

———— *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.

  
**Mulberry Street**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

719 Mulberry Street  
478.745.8601  
mulberrymethodist.org  
Office Hours M-Th 8:30am - 5pm