

MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



The Church at Worship SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 27, 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.

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Lolita and Carey Rutland.*

*The artwork on the cover is "Festival of Lights" by John August Swanson.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56546>*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary Partita on “Hyfrydol” arr. Daniel McIntosh

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.

The place is set, and you are welcome here.

We come to worship the Lord our God.

You are invited and you are wanted here.

We come to give ourselves to God fully.

You are called and you are known here.

We come to know God in all his goodness and glory!

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. 127 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah CWM RHONDDA

* 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.

* 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.**

Proclamation & Response

First Reading

Psalm 25:1-10 (*Pew Bible pg 436*)

Rev. Stone

To thee, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in thee I trust, let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me. Yea, let none that wait for thee be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. Make me to know thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me, for thou art the God of my salvation; for thee I wait all the day long. Be mindful of thy mercy, O Lord, and of thy steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth, or my transgressions; according to thy steadfast love remember me, for thy goodness' sake, O Lord! Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

* Hymn No. 616

Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast

HURSLEY

Anthem

Lamb of God, What Wondrous Love

Based on "Pavane"

by Gabriel Fauré

Arr. Allan Robert Petker

Lamb of God, what wondrous love,
 what wondrous love, O my soul.
 Love, such love, that thou shouldst die,
 that thou for me shouldst die.
 Lord of grace, what matchless love,
 what matchless love, O my soul.
 Son of God, thou loving sacrifice,
 thou loving sacrifice for me.

Here, O Lord, am I,
 fearful sinful man,
 guilty and condemned,
 thy death is surely mine.

Cross of God, I would to turn away,
yet love, it bids me stay, O my soul.
Can it be the very death I fear
is that which draws me near, Lord, to thee?

Lamb of God, thou died for me.
Lamb of God, thou died for me.
Lamb of God, what wondrous love.

- Russell A. Kane and Allan Robert Petker

* Second Reading

Luke 14:15-24 (Pew Bible pg 849)

Rev. Varnell

When one of those who sat at table with him heard this, he said to him, "Blessed is he who shall eat bread in the kingdom of God!" But he said to him, "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.'"

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

Sermon

"The Great Banquet Call"

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

Adoration

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

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

Sharing Christ, We Stand Together
Please see insert

HYFRYDOL

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

Hymn to Joy

arr. Albert L. Travis



News of the Church

School Supply Drive for Back-to-School Sunday | through August 10

As part of our Back-to-School celebrations, our Family Ministries team is holding a school supply drive! Donations can be dropped off in the marked bins in the atrium. Supplies include: composition notebooks, wide-ruled paper, copy paper, #2 pencils, colored pencil packs, glue sticks, pink erasers, Sharpies, highlighters. A complete list of supplies can be found in the online newsletter.

Help Feed College Students at Wesley! | Tuesday, September 2

Mulberry friends, we have a great opportunity to support the Wesley Foundation of Macon as their students kick off a new semester of worship and community! On Tuesday, September 2, we're providing dinner for their weekly gathering. There are lots of ways to help:

- Donate money to help cover the cost of food
- Bake or cook something delicious
- Join Payton and hang out with the Wesley students that evening

Payton will also be preaching that night, as incoming Wesley director Rev. Hannah Pye will be on maternity leave.

If you'd like to contribute or come along, please contact the church office or reach out to Payton directly. Let's show these students some Mulberry love!

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**

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

Excerpts from Board of Stewards meeting on November 6th, 1906

The Board met in regular monthly session in the Annex, Chairman Solomon presiding. The Pastor spoke a few words on the subject of mission work and stated that he could rent a building at the corner of 4th and Oglethorpe Street for \$15 a month in which to hold meetings. On motion, Bro. Ellis* was asked to secure an option on the building so that active mission work could be started immediately after Annual Conference.

Board of Stewards meeting on February 5, 1907

Bro. Ellis outlined his work at the mission** on 4th St. and stated that the work was growing so rapidly that he found it necessary to secure assistance and had obtained the services of Bro. Claude Bridges. Bro. Ellis also stated that he had missed the stewards at the Mission and asked them to attend as often as possible. Bro. Solomon spoke at length on the subject of the mission and by a rising vote, the stewards pledged their cooperation support to Bro. Ellis.

*Pastor, Thomas David Ellis, 1905-1909

** Grace Chapel Mission

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

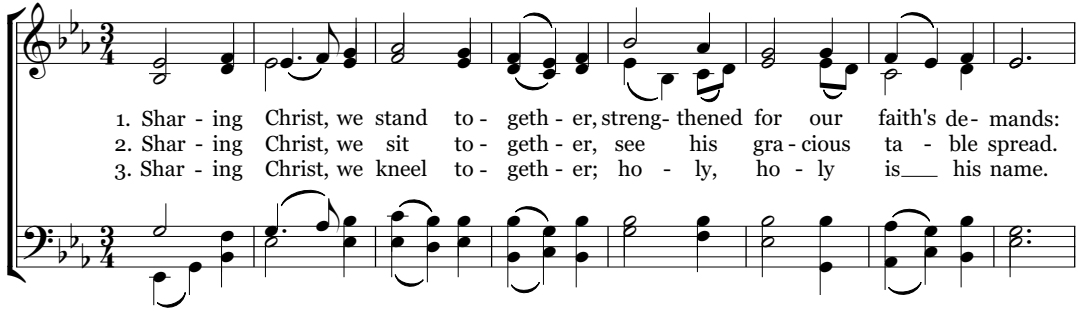
mulberrymethodist.org

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

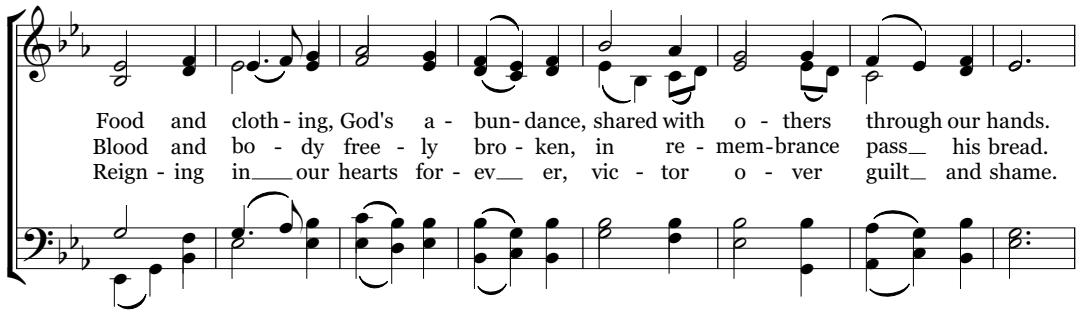
Sharing Christ, We Stand Together

Terre Johnson

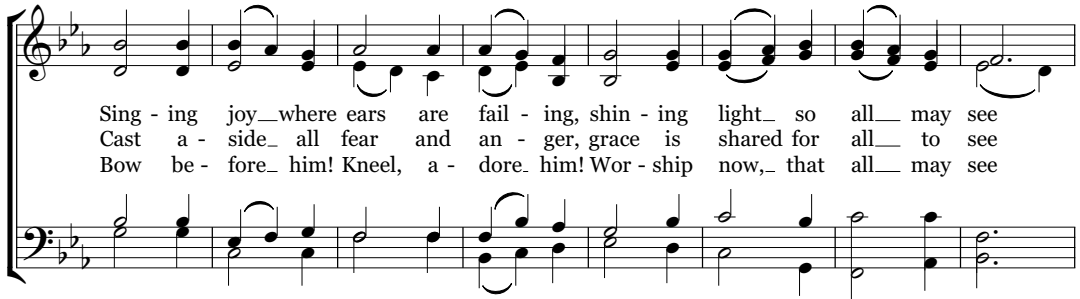
HYFRYDOL



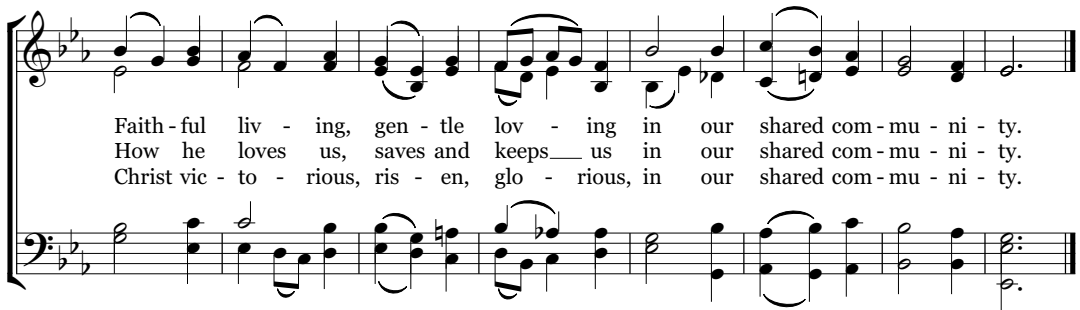
1. Shar - ing Christ, we stand to - geth - er, streng - thened for our faith's de - mands:
2. Shar - ing Christ, we sit to - geth - er, see his gra - cious ta - ble spread.
3. Shar - ing Christ, we kneel to - geth - er; ho - ly, ho - ly is his name.



Food and cloth - ing, God's a - bun - dance, shared with o - thers through our hands.
Blood and bo - dy free - ly bro - ken, in re - mem - brance pass his bread.
Reign - ing in our hearts for - ev - er, vic - tor o - ver guilt and shame.



Sing - ing joy where ears are fail - ing, shin - ing light so all may see
Cast a - side all fear and an - ger, grace is shared for all to see
Bow be - fore him! Kneel, a - dore him! Wor - ship now, that all may see



Faith - ful liv - ing, gen - tle lov - ing in our shared com - mu - ni - ty.
How he loves us, saves and keeps us in our shared com - mu - ni - ty.
Christ vic - to - rious, ris - en, glo - rious, in our shared com - mu - ni - ty.