



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 19, 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.

For information or comments on accessibility, contact Hunter Godsey at **hgodsey@mulberrymethodist.org.**

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God in memory of our son, John Faulk Kennington, by John & Charlotte Kennington.

*The artwork on the cover is "Look up for Faith, Hope and Love" by Edie Mae Herrel.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59848>*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary Voluntary No. 5 in G Major William Walond

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.

People of God, enter into this time with a spirit of worship.

We come to worship God and to give him our best.

Enter into this time with a spirit of humility.

We come with humility to learn and grow in our faith.

Enter into this time with a spirit of joy.

We come with joyful hearts to follow Christ wherever he leads!

Let us worship God!

* Opening Hymn No. 731 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* AUSTRIAN 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.

* Gloria Patri GREATOR EX

**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 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 119:97-105 (Pew Bible pg 495)

Rev. Stone

Oh, how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day. Thy commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, for thy testimonies are my meditation. I understand more than the aged, for I keep thy precepts. I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep thy word. I do not turn aside from thy ordinances, for thou hast taught me.

How sweet are thy words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!
Through thy precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.
Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

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

* Hymn No. 534

Be Still, My Soul

FINLANDIA

Anthem

Saints Bound for Heaven

Spiritual,

Arr. Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

Our bondage it shall end,
By and by, by and by;
Our bondage it shall end, by and by;
From Egypt's yoke set free,
Hail the glorious jubilee,
And to Canaan we'll return,
By and by, by and by,
And to Canaan we'll return by and by.

Our Deliverer, he shall come,
By and by, by and by;
Our Deliverer, he shall come, by and by;
And our sorrows have an end,
With our threescore years and ten,
And vast glory crown the day,
By and by, by and by,
And vast glory crown the day, by and by.

And when to Jordan's floods
We are come, we are come,
And when to Jordan's floods we are come;
Jehovah rules the tide,
And the waters He'll divide,
And the ransomed host shall shout
We are come, we are come,
And the ransomed host shall shout, we are come.

Then with all the happy throng
We'll rejoice, we'll rejoice;
Then with all the happy throng we'll rejoice;
Shouting glory to our King,
Till the vaults of heav'n ring,
And thro' all eternity,
We'll rejoice, we'll rejoice,
And thro' all eternity, we'll rejoice.
Shouting glory to our King,
Till the vaults of heav'n ring,
And thro' all eternity,
We'll rejoice, we'll rejoice,
And thro' all eternity, we'll rejoice.

Second Reading

Leviticus 26:12-13 (*Pew Bible pg 100*)

Rev. Varnell

And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and you shall be my people.
I am the Lord your God, who brought you forth out of the land of Egypt, that
you should not be their slaves; and I have broken the bars of your yoke and
made you walk upright.

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

Sermon

"Are We God's People?"

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

Andante Tranquillo

Percy W. Whitlock

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. 732

Come, We That Love the Lord

ST. THOMAS

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

Postlude on “Hyfrodol”

arr. Daniel McIntosh



News of the Church

Offering a Blessing to the Teachers & Staff of the Children's Center at Mulberry

After many wonderful years of service in ministry, the Children's Center at Mulberry will soon be closing, and we want to honor the teachers & staff who made it so special through a severance gift. If you would like to contribute toward this gift, please do so by October 22. You may give in worship, bring your gift by the church office, or give online. You can make it out to the church and then note it is for the CCM Severance on your check or envelope. Give online at mulberrymethodist.org/give and select "CCM Severance" in the Fund drop-down.

Annual Community-wide Fall Festival | Sunday, October 26 | 4 - 6 pm

Our annual community-wide Fall Festival & Trunk-or-Treat will be Sunday, October 26 from 4-6 pm. Come show off your costume, and enjoy all the fun - trunk or treat, games, face painting and so much more!

We're collecting candy between now and Fall Festival - bring bags of individually-wrapped candy to the church to drop off in the marked bins in the Atrium & Narthex! Looking to volunteer? We are still looking for people to host Trunks, help with set up & more. Sign up here: bit.ly/mulfallfest25

All Hallows Eve Organ Concert | October 31 | 7:30 pm | Sanctuary

Join us on the evening of Friday, October 31 for a special Halloween organ concert! Mulberry organist Daniel McIntosh and guest organist Chase Douthit will perform a selection of music that will get you in the spirit of the season, including pieces from Bach, Vierne, and John Williams. The concert will begin at 7:30 pm, followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall.

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

HENRY CARTER

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

**Excerpts from Report of Educational Assistant
Office, July 13, 1970:**

This has been a busy summer of activities for the children and youth of Mulberry. Vacation Bible School had an average attendance of over 100, conducted by a staff of dedicated teachers and workers. Children's activities week reached 27 children and 5 of the youth helped with the program. They worked with plastics, beadwork and other crafts projects, visited The Hay House, attended a movie at the Museum and played games here at the church as well as sharing in some worship experiences.

Junior Camp had 22 children and 4 youth. There were planned program activities with free time for swimming, games. These children enjoyed the worship experiences at our worship center on the hill facing the lake.

As this report is being typed, Youth Activities Week has begun and much work has been done for the various phases of this week of activities. The youth have given many hours in cleaning the coffee house area and getting ready to decorate for the banquet.

Children's activities on Saturday mornings have been fairly well attended until school was out, but since then attendance has been small making it difficult to do group activities.

———— *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.