



MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



The Church at Worship

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 26, 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 and
in loving memory of Eden and Pink Persons and Eden Persons Perkins
given by Logan Persons Scheele.*

*The artwork on the cover is "Pharisee and the Publican" by Barent Fabritius.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57187>*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary Prelude on “Aberystwyth” arr. Healey Willan

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.

What mighty praise belongs to You, O God!

You are the hope of everyone on earth.

Even those who live at the farthest ends of the earth
stand in awe of your wonders.

From where the sun rises to where it sets,

You inspire shouts of joy.

What mighty praise belongs to You, O God!

* Opening Hymn No. 479 *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* ABERYSTWYTH

* Affirmation of Faith *The Apostle's Creed* Rev. Varnell

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 84:1-7 (Pew Bible pg 472)

Rev. Varnell

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints, for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. Even the sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise. *Selah* Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. As they go through the valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

* Hymn No. 156

I Love to Tell the Story

HANKEY

Anthem

The Majesty and Glory of Your Name

Tom Fettke

When I gaze into the night skies
and see the work of your fingers;
The moon and stars suspended in space.
Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?
You have given man a crown of glory and honor,
And have made him a little lower than the angels.
You have put him in charge of all creation:
The beasts of the field,
The birds of the air,
The fish of the sea.
Oh, what is man?
Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him?

O Lord, our God the majesty and glory of your name
Transcends the earth and fills the heavens.

O Lord, our God; little children praise You perfectly,
And so would we.

Alleluia!

The majesty and glory of Your name.

- Based on Psalm 8, adapted by Linda Lee Johnson

* Second Reading

Luke 18:9–14 (Pew Bible pg 853)

Rev. Stone

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

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

Sermon

“Disciples Don’t Judge”

Rev. Stone

Morning Prayer

Rev. Varnell

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

I Love to Tell the Story

arr. Dale Wood

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. 188

Christ Is the World's Light

CHRISTE SANCTORUM

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Stone

Closing Voluntary

Prelude in Classic Style

Gordon Young



News of the Church

Fall Festival Is This Afternoon! | 4-6 pm | Parking Lot

It's not too late to help out with Fall Festival! See Elisa to find out how you can help. The parking lot will close at 3:00, and volunteers & trunks will need to be set up and ready to go by 3:30.

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.

Stewardship Sunday | Sunday, November 9 | 11 am Worship

Our Stewardship Campaign theme this year is "Moving Into God's Future." As part of Stewardship, each of us is invited to make a pledge to support Mulberry Street financially in the coming year. During worship on Stewardship Sunday, we will have the opportunity to turn in our Commitment Cards as an act of worship. You can also submit a digital pledge through Realm, which allows you to easily set up a recurring gift, and track your giving throughout the year. Fill out a digital pledge at: bit.ly/mulpledge25.

November Worship & Prayer | Wednesday, November 5 | 5:30 pm

Start your month with this time of intentional contemplation, prayer, and music. Engage with prayer stations & activities, and meditate on scripture. We will meet at 5:30 for dinner, and the service begins at 6:15.

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

GEORGE DUNN

Crucifer

BAXTER JAMES

& THOMAS DUNN

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 the Minutes of Official Board Meeting, April 28, 1969:

The Official Board met in the Fellowship Hall for a supper meeting with Chairman, Cubbedge Snow, Jr. officiating. The main purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Fund Drive for the next fiscal year. Mr. Snow gave a report and complete discussion of their problems to date. The discussion concerned the need for raising the budget this year from \$144,000 to \$160,000 for the coming year. An explanation was given for the increase in Pastor's salary of \$1,000, the purchase of a bus \$5,000 and the need to relieve the note at the bank of \$18,000 by \$10,000 during the next fiscal year. The 25% increase in pledges was explained, increasing the pledges \$32,000.

Mr. Bill Fickling, Jr., Chairman of the Apportionment Committee, gave a review of the plans and needs for the drive which gets underway tonight. There will be two pledge dinners in mid May with follow up to the members who cannot attend of the dinners.

Pledge cards were given out to all members present to be signed. They were evaluated at the end of the meeting and it was noted that the stewards have been very generous and increased their pledges in the amount asked. This increase amounted to some \$7,000.

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.