



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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 22, 2024 | 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 honor of Clarence "Clay" Rogers McKemie given by Shelby Cramer, Kristy McKemie, Kyndall McKemie and John Robert McKemie.

*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 Voluntary in F Eric H. Thiman

Welcome & News of the Church Rev. Jack Varnell

Greeting & Call to Worship Chace Crowell

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

We gather this day as the people of God.

We gather to worship, to pray, to hear God's Word.

We come this day to give ourselves fully to God.

We come to open our hearts and lives to the Lord.

Set our hearts on fire, O God,

Set our hearts ablaze with love, joy, and gladness.

Come and do a new work inside of us,

Come and be our God!

* Opening Hymn No. 545 *The Church's One Foundation* AURELIA

* Affirmation of Faith *The Apostle's Creed* Chace Crowell

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

Matthew 5:10-16 (Pew Bible pg 786)

Chace Crowell

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. ¹³ You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴ You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

* Hymn

God, Our Mother, Nurtures Us
Please see insert

Anthem

I Am His Child

Moses Hogan

I may not be all that you are
I may not be a shining star
But what I am
I thank the Lord
For making me His child

Thank You Lord for hearing every prayer
Thank You Lord for just being there
Thank You Lord, Thank You Lord
For I am not worthy of Your love

I may not be all that you are
I may not be a shining star
But what I am
I thank the Lord
For making me His child
So, don't use me or abuse me
For I am His child
Don't tease me or mistreat me
For I am still His child
You can even talk about me
But I'm still His child

Second Reading

Jeremiah 1:4-10 (*Pew Bible pg 609*)

Rev. Jack Varnell

⁴ Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, ⁵ "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." ⁶ Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." ⁷ But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. ⁸ Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord." ⁹ Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

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

Sermon

"A Call to Mission"

Rev. Varnell

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

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

arr. Dale Wood

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. 402

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

Prelude and Fugue in F, BWV 556

J.S. Bach



News of the Church

Blessing of the Animals | Sunday, September 29 | 5:30 pm | Courtyard

Bring your furry friends for this special service, where we will bless them and thank God together for their presence in our lives! All creatures big and small are welcome, so join us on Sunday, September 29 at 5:30 in the Mulberry Courtyard!

Worship & Prayer | Wednesday, October 2 | 5:30 pm | Fellowship Hall

Wednesday Night Worship & Prayer begins again October 2! 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 6:00.

Fall Festival - Volunteer to Help! | Sunday, October 27

Our annual Fall Festival and Trunk or Treating is just around the corner! This event is a fun outreach for Mulberry to connect with our local community. There are so many ways you can help make this event happen: donating candy, having a trunk to pass out candy, managing a game, and so much more! To volunteer, visit bit.ly/mulfallfest24.

Keep up with us online!



Stay updated on the Mulberry community by subscribing to our weekly newsletter!

To sign up, visit bit.ly/mul-news 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

CHACE CROWELL

Lay Liturgist

WILL MAGDA

Crucifer

EMILY STANSFIELD & THOMAS DUNN

Candle Lighters

— *About Our Worship* —

Worship begins with God. When we gather for worship, God meets us and speaks to us, and we listen to God and respond. At Mulberry, our order of worship (liturgy) is divided into four movements.

In our “**Entrance and Praise**,” we come together in response to God’s invitation and prepare ourselves to hear God’s Word.

In our “**Proclamation and Response**” we are addressed by God through Scripture and our musical anthem; in this movement, we listen to readings from the Bible as well as a sermon, wherein God’s word is interpreted for the gathered community.

Once a month, we participate in “**Thanksgiving and Communion**.” In this movement, we come to the Table to celebrate what God has done in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit, and we’re nourished by the special outpouring of grace offered in this sacred act.

The fourth and final movement is the “**Sending Forth**,” where we are blessed and sent into the world to share the heart of God with a world in need.

— *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.



719 Mulberry Street

478.745.8601 | mulberrymethodist.org

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

God, Our Mother, Nurtures Us

Terre Johnson

Terre Johnson



1. God, our moth - er, nur - tures us, pro - vid - ing for our needs;
2. God, our fa - ther strength - ens us, pre - pares us for his world,
3. Christ, our bro - ther, came to be the way, the truth, the life;
4. Ho - ly Spir - it, from with - in us teach us how to live;



Heal - ing wounds and straight - ning paths, pre - par - ing us to be
And re - veals how pow - er - ful we are when first we serve
Teach - ing jus - tice, show - ing love, re - veal - ing how we might
We are lost with - out your pres - ence, all your guid - ance give



Like our moth - er, off - 'ring love to ev - 'ry child of God.
Like our fa - ther, God, who gave cre - a - ted life its form.
Like our bro - ther, Je - sus, be our neigh - bor's tru - est friend.
Like a com - fort in the night, pre - par - ing for the dawn.



And with thanks we give our lives to God, the Lord of all.
So, with thanks we give our lives to God, our on - ly Lord.
And with thanks we give our lives to Christ, both God and man.
We give thanks to Par - ent, Bro - ther, Spir - it, three in one.