



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

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 20, 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 in loving memory of John Faulk Kennington by his parents, John & Charlotte Kennington.

*The artwork on the cover is a mural entitled "Laborers in the Vineyard".
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57594>*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary Partita on *The God of Abraham Praise* arr. Alfred V. Fedak

Welcome & News of the Church Rev. Jack Varnell

Greeting & Call to Worship Luke Baker

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, we gather to worship our gracious God.

We come to give ourselves to you, O Lord.

Lay your burdens down at the feet of our God.

God, we give you our worries and our cares.

Take this time to slow down and rest.

We find our peace and rest in you, God.

Allow the busy days and the stress of life to melt away.

Come and fill us with your Holy Spirit.

God's Spirit is at work in this place.

And so, we walk in the newness of life this day and forever.

* Opening Hymn No. 117 *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* ST. ANNE

* Affirmation of Faith *The Apostle's Creed* Luke Baker

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 103 (Pew Bible pg 482)

Luke Baker

The Lord works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger for ever.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor requite us according to our iniquities.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

* Hymn No. 400

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

Anthem

Hope In Me

Terre Johnson

Katie Trotter, Violin; Rebecca Cooke, Clarinet

Have you not known me from the beginning?
Have you not heard it since I began?
I am the everlasting Creator,
Heaven and earth sprang forth from my hand.
Hope in me and you will be strengthened,
Run every race and I will revive.
Walk without fainting, mount up as eagles;
Hope in me, for I am God.

Look at the sky and try to imagine
Who could have formed the stars and the sun.
All you can see, and more that is hidden,
I chose their orbits, I named each one.
Hope in me and you will be strengthened,
Run every race and I will revive.
Walk without fainting, mount up as eagles;
Hope in me, for I am God.

Although it seems your pathways are hidden,
I will bring peace to the future you dread.
I made the earth, the seas and the heavens;
I can give strength for what lies ahead.
Hope in me and you will be strengthened,
Run every race and I will revive.
Walk without fainting, mount up as eagles;
Hope in me, for I am God.

- Terre Johnson, based on Isaiah 40:21-31

Second Reading

Genesis 1:1-5 (*Pew Bible pg 1*)

Rev. Jack Varnell

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the face of the waters. And God said, "Let there be light;" and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day.

Third Reading

Matthew 20:11-15 (*Pew Bible pg 801*)

Rev. Varnell

And on receiving it they grumbled at the householder, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you, and go; I choose to give to this last as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?"

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

Sermon

The God Jesus Reveals: "God Is Generous"

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

This Is My Father's World

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. 129

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

FESTAL SONG

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

arr. J. Bert Carlson



News of the Church

Tour the Mulberry Organ with Daniel | October 20 | Following worship

Today after worship, our organist Daniel McIntosh will be leading a tour of Mulberry's organ. Meet at the front of the sanctuary following worship to get a behind-the-scenes view of our beautiful organ!

Fall Festival - Candy Donations & Volunteers Needed | Sunday, October 27

Our annual Fall Festival and Trunk or Treating is just around the corner! 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. Candy can be dropped off the bins in the Atrium & Narthex.

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

Join us for an evening filled with the spooky sounds of the season! Mulberry organist Daniel McIntosh will perform a selection of pieces that evoke the spirit of All Hallows' Eve. Come hear music from *Interstellar*, *Oppenheimer*, Bach, and more - you won't want to miss this fun night of music!

TheoEd Macon | November 9 | 6:30 pm | Douglass Theatre

TheoEd, an initiative of Emory's Candler School of Theology, will be hosting an event in Macon that brings together leading thinkers in the church and academy to give brief, TED-style talks on God, mental health & spiritual wellness. This will be a great chance to hear from some leading religious voices from the Macon community and beyond! Mulberry is a sponsor of the event alongside several other Macon faith communities.

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

LUKE BAKER

Lay Liturgist

GEORGE DUNN

Crucifer

RAMZI HARLEY

Candle Lighter

— *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