

# MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



## The Church at Worship FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*May 11, 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.

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*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by Martha and Jimbo Berg in loving memory of their grandchild James "Bo" Anderson Berg IV, and their parents Anne & James Berg and Mary & Tom Williams.*

*The artwork on the cover is a Shaw Butte School Mosaic.  
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57009>*

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



## *Entrance & Praise*

Opening Voluntary                      *New Every Morning Is Thy Love*    arr. H. Alexander Matthews

Welcome & News of the Church                      Rev. Jack Varnell & Rev. Payton Stone

Greeting & Call to Worship                      Katherine Dent

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice.  
I know them, and they follow me."

**We follow after you, Lord Jesus.**

Jesus said, "I give them eternal life.  
No one will snatch them out of my hand."

**We find our rest and comfort in you, Lord Jesus.**

Jesus said, "My Father is greater than all else,  
and no one can snatch them out of the Father's hand."

**We worship you, Heavenly Father,  
fill us with love, joy, peace, and grace.**

\* Opening Hymn No. 100    *God, Whose Love Is Reigning O'er Us*                      LAUDA ANIMA

\* 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.**

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*Recognition of Seniors*

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Introduction of Graduates

Elisa Reece

Presentation of Awards & Honors

Rev. Varnell & Rev. Stone

Recognition of Senior Acolytes

Martin & Julia Magda

Senior Reflection

Stebin Horne

Congregational Prayer for Graduates

Rev. Stone

God of our beginnings, we thank you for the excitement, the wonder, curiosity, and energy of these, our graduates.

**Their contributions have blessed and challenged us, and we are a richer and more diverse community because of them.**

As they take their next steps into a waiting world accompany them with the full knowledge of your divine presence.

**Strengthen their resolve to follow Jesus. Give faith to guide them, hope to sustain them, and love to enrich them.**

Be for them the way of life. Save them from the pitfalls of darkness. Call them to lead church and society in paths of righteousness.

**In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

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*Proclamation & Response*

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Anthem

*Laudate Dominum*  
Katie Trotter, Soprano

W. A. Mozart

*Sung in Latin; English translation:*

Praise the Lord, all ye nations,  
praise him, all ye peoples.

For his loving kindness has been bestowed upon us,  
and the truth of the Lord endures forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.

Amen.

- Psalm 117

Scripture Reading

Psalm 37:23-24 (NIV)

Elisa Reece

The Lord makes firm the steps  
of the one who delights in him; though he may stumble, he will not fall,  
for the Lord upholds him with his hand.

Scripture Reading

Proverbs 16:9 (NIV)

Elisa Reece

In their hearts humans plan their course,  
but the Lord establishes their steps.

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

Homily

Elisa Reece

Morning Prayer

Anna Respass

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.**

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*Offering of our Tithes & Gifts*

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Offertory

Jack Carter, piano

You can make your offering to God online by visiting [mulberrymethodist.org/give](http://mulberrymethodist.org/give)  
or in the offering plate.

\* Doxology

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

**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.**

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*Sending Forth*

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\* Closing Hymn No. 140

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

FAITHFULNESS

\* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

**May the Lord bless you and keep you;  
May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
May the Lord lift up his countenances upon you and give you peace.**

Closing Voluntary

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*  
by Peter C. Lutkin

arr. Daniel McIntosh

*In honor of the Mulberry Street Youth Fellowship Benediction  
based on Numbers 6:24-26*



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## *News of the Church*

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### **Discover Mulberry New Member Luncheon | May 18 | after Worship | Parlor**

If you're new to Mulberry or considering joining, we'd love to welcome you at our New Member Welcome Lunch. Come hear from Jack, Payton, and others about their stories and the story of Mulberry. There will be an in-depth tour of the church, opportunities to meet lay leaders and learn how they serve, and time to connect with representatives from the Children's Center at Mulberry and Macon Outreach. This is a great opportunity to ask questions, get to know our church family, and explore ways to get involved. Please RSVP at [bit.ly/discover-mul](https://bit.ly/discover-mul) —we can't wait to see you there!

### **Vacation Bible School 2025 | June 16-20**

9:00am - 12:00pm M-F | PreK (4) - 5th Grade | This year for VBS, we're going on a Road Trip! Together with the Navigator and his buddy Scout, kids will learn that God is always with them, based on Joshua 1:9 - "The LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Discover God's presence everywhere as we explore new places, make new friends, and experience God's goodness together. Contact Elisa Reece with questions or to volunteer! Register kids at [bit.ly/mulvbs25](https://bit.ly/mulvbs25).

### **Save the Date - Macon Bacon Game This Summer | July 25 | 7 pm**

Save the date for July 25, when Mulberry is headed to the ball field for a night with the Macon Bacon! Tickets are \$17 each, and a portion of each ticket sold goes back to Mulberry Street. Your ticket will include: game admission, free Macon Bacon hat, all-you-can-eat food and drinks, and more! If you'd like to purchase your tickets now, contact Elisa Reece at [ereece@mulberrymethodist.org](mailto:ereece@mulberrymethodist.org)

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## *Keep up with us online!*

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

To sign up, visit [bit.ly/mulnews](https://bit.ly/mulnews) or scan the QR code.

You can find us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube at [@MulberryMethodist](https://www.facebook.com/MulberryMethodist)

Visit our website at [mulberrymethodist.org](https://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**

**ELLIS BRIDGES**

*Crucifer*

**SANFORD HORNE**

**& WILL MAGDA**

*Candle Lighters*

**KATE EVANS,**

**EMILY STANSFIELD,**

**RUTH STANSFIELD,**

**& EMILY CARROLL**

*Greeters & Ushers*

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*A Bicentennial Moment*

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

**Excerpts from minutes of the Board of Stewards,  
Sept 9, 1901.**

Board met in the annex at 7:30 p.m., Chairman Solomon presided. 19 members were present. On the motion of the Chairman was requested to make further investigation into the matter of having our Church represented in a certain Church directory which was been gotten up to be placed in the principal hotels of the city, and given special authority to contact on their behalf of the Board for the same if he thought it best.

The Pastor then read a letter which had been received from Bro. W. A. Hemphill, a noted singer and choir master, then same being in effect an inquiry as to what his chances were to secure employment along these lines with our Church. Chairman Solomon then made a review of the entire musical situation, calling particular attention to the fact that we would soon have to engage an organist for the coming year, and also secure one as choir master and called for action on the matter. On the motion of Bro. W. R. Rogers., Jr. the pastor was requested to take up correspondence with Bro. Hemphill and ascertain upon what terms his services can be secured.

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*Eastertide*

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The Easter Season begins on Easter Day and ends on Pentecost. It focuses on Christ's resurrection and ascension and the sending of the Holy Spirit. The paraments in the sanctuary are white to represent purity & joy.

  
**Mulberry Street**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

719 Mulberry Street

478.745.8601

[mulberrymethodist.org](http://mulberrymethodist.org)

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

## *Celebrating Our Graduating Seniors*

Congratulations to these young men and women whose hard work, dedication and faith have brought them to this incredible milestone.

Seniors, as you move into this next chapter of your lives, we pray that you continue to seek God's voice and walk confidently in your faith.

From your Mulberry family, we are so proud of you!



### **Catharine Caldwell**

Parents: Hazel Struby Caldwell and Butler Caldwell

High School: Stratford Academy

College Attending: University of Georgia

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### **Franklin Stebin Horne IV**

Parents: Christi & Baxter James

Stebin & Roos Horne

High School: Stratford Academy

College Attending: University of Georgia

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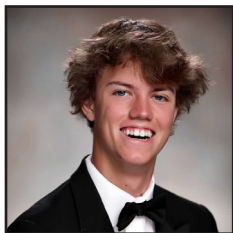
### **Katherine Elizabeth Dent**

Parents: Gary & Anne Dent

High School: Stratford Academy

College Attending: University of Georgia

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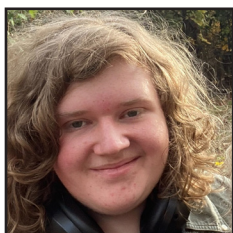


### **John (Jack) Hampton Carter**

Parents: Austin & Karen Carter

High School: Academy for Classical Education

College Attending: Georgia College & State University



### **Jackson Kinross**

Parents: Steve & Brooke Kinross

High School: Howard & Hutchings Career Academy

College Attending: Piedmont University

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## *Graduates of Higher Education*

### **Daisy Daniels**

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Wesleyan College

### **Katie Grace Trotter**

Master of Education in Library and Information Sciences

Georgia College & State University

### **Thomas Reed Nation**

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

Mercer University