



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 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 25, 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.

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
J.V. "Buncie" and Mary Miller Skinner*

*The artwork on the cover is "Apple Blossoms" by Charles-François Daubigny.
<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/436085>*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary Prelude on *Beach Spring* arr. Dale Wood

Welcome & News of the Church Rev. Payton Stone

Greeting & Call to Worship Lyman Hinson

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Come, people of God, let us gather to worship the One
who opens hearts and homes.

**We come, seeking the Spirit's guidance,
ready to be transformed by God's love.**

Let us come with hearts ready to receive and lives ready to welcome,
trusting that the Spirit is already at work among us.

**May our hearts be receptive, our minds be willing,
and our doors be open to all.**

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for God's justice and peace are for all people.

**Let us worship God, who calls us to love,
to welcome, and to live in peace.**

* Opening Hymn No. 584 *Lord, You Give the Great Commission* ABBOT'S LEIGH

* Affirmation of Faith *The Apostle's Creed* Lyman Hinson

**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 67 (Pew Bible pg 460)

Lyman Hinson

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us. May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

* Hymn No. 581

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

BEACH SPRING

Anthem

Who Is This?

Terre Johnson

Katie Trotter, Violin

Water and wind raging ‘round me on every side,

Sunlight is hidden as I fear the swelling tide.

And even though nothing is heard but the threatening noise,

Somehow the storm responds to a still, small voice.

Who is this, that the winds and waves obey?

Who can speak with a voice of comfort and send the storms fleeting away?

Who is this that can turn my fear and dread into wonder and joy?

Who protects through the storm?

Jesus, my Lord!

We were excited and didn’t eat breakfast at all.

We listened all day on the hillside, and we were enthralled!

But he saw our hunger, and said that we all should be fed.

Blessing one basket, there soon was enough to be shared.

Who is this, that the thousands could share enough food?
Who can bless one small and generous gift, and use it for everyone's good?
Who is this that can turn my hunger and need into plenty to share?
Who is bread for the world?
Jesus, my Lord!

Hunger and storms didn't only occur long ago,
And knowing these stories, I'm hungry and scared even so.
But he offers me comfort and joy, abundance and care,
Somehow my needs become blessings because he is there.
Who is this, that would find me and make me his own?
Who can take all my hunger and fear and show me I'm never alone?
Who is this, that can create in me and person who's willing share?
Who protects through the storm?
Who is bread for the world?
Who is King of my heart?
Jesus, my Lord!

Second Reading

Acts 16:6-15 (Pew Bible pg 900)

Rev. Stone

They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

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

Sermon

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors"

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.

* 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.**

Offering of our Tithes & Gifts

Offertory

Here I am, Lord

Dan Schutte
arr. Marianne Kim

*You can make your offering to God online by visiting mulberrymethodist.org/give
or in the offering plate.*

Sending Forth

* Closing Hymn No. 593

Here I Am, Lord

HERE I AM, LORD

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

Prelude in Classic Style

Gordon Young



News of the Church

Annual Conference Opening Worship | Sunday, June 1 | 6:30 pm | Wesleyan College

The South Georgia Annual Conference will hold the Opening Worship Service with Holy Communion in the Porter Auditorium of Wesleyan College on Sunday, June 1. Bishop Robin Dease will preach, and the special offering for the service will go to the South Georgia Disaster Relief Fund. Everyone is invited to attend this service.

June Second Sunday Lunch & Service Project | June 8

For our June Second Sunday Lunch, we will meet for our usual potluck lunch, and then after we eat, everyone is invited to help our Family Ministries Team prepare for Vacation Bible School! Projects will include preparing kits for the craft station, preparing decorations, and more!

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.

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

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

LYMAN HINSON

Lay Liturgist

————— *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:

At the Board of Stewards meeting, November 21, 1946, Ted English, chairman of the property committee, presented the following report:

During the past year \$5,347.16 has been spent on our properties. Of this \$600.77 was spent on the parsonage and \$4,686.39 on the church.

At the church the following repairs and improvements were made:

- The roof was put in first class condition at \$1,376.85.
- The pews were braced and repaired at \$112.44.
- Venetian blinds were placed in the Porter room, also heating facilities installed, cost \$242.70.
- \$209.60 has been spent on the church grounds, replacing boxwoods, azaleas and other improvements.
- Tables cloths and additional dishes purchased, cost \$55.22.
- The parlor and adjoining room have been refinished, cost \$646.50.
- An entrance light has been installed cost \$43.00.
- Work on the pianos in addition to the regular contract for tuning, \$79.50.

Your Committee is glad to report that the properties are being looking after and are in better condition than for many years.

————— *Eastertide* —————

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

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