



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

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 4, 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 artwork on the cover is "The Lamb" by Paul Klee.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56576>*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary *Prelude in G minor* Gabriel Pierné

Welcome & News of the Church Rev. Payton Stone

Greeting & Call to Worship Rev. Cile Mitchell

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

May your love and mercy be upon us today, O Lord.

Cleanse and refresh us from every transgression.

Let your joy and gladness dawn in our spirits,

and the recreating power of your Spirit make us new.

Have mercy upon us O God,

and let your Spirit lead us in truth and righteousness. Amen.

– from the Archives section of the **Lectionary Sermons** website. lectionarysermons.com

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.

* Opening Hymn No. 363 *And Can It Be that I Should Gain* SAGINA

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

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

**Glorify 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.**

Proclamation & Response

Anthem

He, Watching Over Israel

Felix Mendelssohn

He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps.
Should'st thou, walking in grief, languish, he will quicken thee.

- Adapted from Psalm 121: 4,7

First Lesson

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a (Pew Bible pg 248)

Rev. Stone

11 ²⁶ When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. ²⁷ When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son.

12 But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD, ¹ and the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. ² The rich man had very many flocks and herds, ³ but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb that he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare and drink from his cup and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. ⁴ Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." ⁵ Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; ⁶ he shall restore the lamb fourfold because he did this thing and because he had no pity."

⁷ Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; ⁸ I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your bosom and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah, and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. ⁹ Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰ Now, therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. ¹¹ Thus says the LORD: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house, and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in broad daylight. ¹² For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and in broad daylight." ¹³ David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. ³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. ⁴ Against you, you alone, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. ⁵ Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

⁶ You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. ⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

¹¹ Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.

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

Sermon

"Confession Is Good for the Soul"

Rev. Stone

Thanksgiving & Communion

Invitation to the Table

Rev. Stone

Confession and Pardon

Rev. Mitchell

All: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

One: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Offertory

O Lamb of God

J. S. Bach

Make your offering to God online by visiting mulberrymethodist.org/give or in the offering plate.

* The Great Thanksgiving

Rev. Stone

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sung Communion A (pages 17-18)

Celebrant says words appropriate to the season, then the congregation sings:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant says words appropriate to the season, then the congregation sings:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant says words appropriate to the season, then the congregation sings:

Amen. Amen. Amen.

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.**

Breaking the Bread

Please let an usher know if you wish to be served in the pew.

Gluten free bread is available on the pedestal at the base of the steps.

*An offering plate along the sanctuary wall is available for a communion offering,
which is designated for the pastor's discretionary fund.*

Sending Forth

* Closing Hymn No. 417

O For a Heart to Praise My God

RICHMOND

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Stone

Closing Voluntary

Sonata IV (1st mvmt)

Felix Mendelssohn



News of the Church

August Worship & Prayer | August 7 | 5:30 pm

Dinner at 5:30 & Programming at 6:00 | Fellowship Hall | Join us for our monthly Wednesday night worship & prayer service, where we will spend time together in both musical worship and prayer as we explore diverse ways of praying.

Back to School Sunday | August 11

We will celebrate the return to school on Sunday, August 11 during worship with a backpack blessing, Bible recognition, and a school supply drive. Following worship, we will have a special Second Sunday Lunch to celebrate our families and recognize our teachers of Sunday School, CCM, and school system!

School Supply Drive | Through Sunday, August 11

Our Family Ministries team is collecting school supplies to donate for The Methodist Home as part of our Back to School Celebration! Donated items can be dropped off in the marked bin in the atrium.

Items needed are: Wide-ruled notebook paper, composition notebooks, highlighters, crayons, markers, #2 pencils, pens (black or blue), and erasers.

New Book Study: 5 Marks of a Methodist | Begins August 21

Led by Flo Martin, this 6-week study will meet on Wednesday Nights from 5:30 - 7 pm to discuss *Five Marks of a Methodist: The Fruit of a Living Faith* by Steve Harper. This study, which reflects on the practices that confirm our identity as followers of Christ, is great for those looking to deepen their understanding of what it means to be a Methodist.

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. DR. JAY HARRIS
Senior Pastor

REV. PAYTON STONE
Associate Pastor

ELISA REECE
Director of Family Ministries

DR. TERRE JOHNSON
Director of Music

ZACHARY GOLDEN
Organist

MILLIE THOMPSON
Director of Communications

THE AINSWORTH CHOIR

REV. CILE MITCHELL
Liturgist

JIMBO AND MARTHA BERG
Communion Servers

— *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.


Mulberry Street
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

719 Mulberry Street
478.745.8601 | mulberrymethodist.org
Office Hours M-Th 8:30am - 5pm