



# 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 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*June 1, 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 artwork on the cover is "Resurrection" by Albrecht Dürer.  
<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/361992>*

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



## *Entrance & Praise*

Opening Voluntary      *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*      arr. Marilyn Arison

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

Greeting & Call to Worship      Rev. Stone

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

The Lord welcomes all to this holy place.

**We gather to worship God with joy.**

You are loved by the Creator of all things.

**Fill our hearts with gratitude and peace.**

God's restoration power is here today.

**Renew us, make us whole, and empower us for holy living!**

*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. 327      *Crown Him with Many Crowns*      DIADEMATA

\* 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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*Proclamation & Response*

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Anthem

Christus Paradox

Alfred Fedak

You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd.  
You, Lord, are both prince and slave.  
You, peacemaker and swordbringer  
Of the way you took and gave.  
You the everlasting instant;  
You, whom we both scorn and crave.

Clothed in light upon the mountain,  
Stripped of might upon the cross,  
Shining in eternal glory,  
Beggared by a soldier's toss,  
You, the everlasting instant;  
You, who are both gift and cost.

You, who walk each day beside us,  
Sit in power at God's side.  
You, who preach a way that's narrow,  
Have a love that reaches wide.  
You, the everlasting instant;  
You, who are our pilgrim guide.

Worthy is our earthly Jesus!  
Worthy is our cosmic Christ!  
Worthy your defeat and victory.  
Worthy still your peace and strife.  
You, the everlasting instant;  
You, who are our death and life.  
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.  
You, who are our death and our life.

- Sylvia Dunstan (1955-1993)

\* Scripture Reading

John 11:25-27 (*Pew Bible pg 874*)

Rev. Varnell

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world."

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

Communion Meditation

"A Resurrection Story"

Rev. Varnell

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## Thanksgiving & Communion

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Invitation to the Table

Rev. Stone

Confession and Pardon

Rev. Stone

**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.**

Offertory

*Pax Vobiscum*  
(Latin for "Peace Be with You")

by Franz Schubert  
arr. Charles N. Boyd

*"Peace be with you!" That was your parting blessing.  
And so, from the circle of kneeling believers,  
From the victory rays of the glowing deity,  
You flew to the eternal homeland.  
And peace entered their true hearts,  
And rewarded them for their greatest pains,  
And strengthened them in the face of fatal martyrdom.  
I believe in you, oh great God!*

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

\* The Great Thanksgiving

Rev. Varnell

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)*

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**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.**

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

...all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

**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

*Children are welcome to receive communion at the discretion of parents.*

*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.*

### Prayer after Communion

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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## *Sending Forth*

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\* Closing Hymn No. 165

*Hallelujah! What a Savior*

HALLELUJAH! WHAT A SAVIOR

\* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Arr. Don Hustad



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## *News of the Church*

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### **Wednesday Night Worship & Prayer | June 4 | Fellowship Hall**

Ancient prayer practices meet modern styles of worship. Join us as we explore what it means to pray in many different ways, including prayer stations, guided meditations, journaling and more. Dinner starts at 5:30 pm and worship begins at 6:15.

### **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! There will be a Safe Sanctuaries training for VBS volunteers after lunch.

### **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).

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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.instagram.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**

**MAVIS TRICE & CANDACE WOOD**  
Lay Communion Servers

————— *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:*

**Excerpts from the Administrative Board Meeting, October 23, 1971:**

A dinner meeting was held in the Fellowship Hall which was attended by member of the Administrative Board and their wives and escorts.

After dinner, Mike McAfee introduced the Wesleyan Washboard Band, which entertained the gathering with fun and songs. Tim Couch announced details on the Halloween Carnival, October 29th, to be sponsored by the youth of the church. Dr. Hancock gave the Pastor's Report and noted the following:

1. All conference obligations for the calendar year apparently will be met.
2. Mulberry had the largest number enrolled and to receive certificates at the recent Christian Enrichment School held at Vineville Church.
3. The Lay Institute of Evangelism will meet at Epworth November 1 through 3.
4. Committee on Evangelism is working on a geographical division of the church membership.

Dr. Ridley personally presented Certificates of Appreciation to living past chairmen of the administrative board. James Thompson announced his resignation from the Board due to job transfer. The meeting was closed with a benediction by Dr. Hancock.

————— *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](http://mulberrymethodist.org)

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