



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

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 11, 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
and in loving memory of Mrs. Andrew J. Lyndon.*

*The artwork on the cover is a picture of a stained glass window
in Mulberry Street UMC's Sanctuary.*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary Hunter Godsey, organ

Welcome & News of the Church Rev. Payton Stone

Greeting & Call to Worship Sherwood James

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Bless the Lord at all times.

Let everyone bless God.

Praise the Lord continually.

Let everyone praise Christ.

Our souls boast in the Lord.

We boast in the Spirit's greatness.

With one voice, we magnify and exalt the Lord,

for God has delivered us and made us whole.

Exalt our God, the Lord of life.

-Written by Jamie Greening for Ministry Matters.

* Opening Hymn No. 206 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* HOUSTON

* 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.**

Proclamation & Response

Anthem

Be Not Afraid

Taylor Davis

Be not afraid, for I have redeemed you.
Be not afraid, I've called you by name.
My love for you is everlasting,
My love for you shall have no end.
When you pass through the waters, I will surround you.
When you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o'er.
When you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed.
You are my child, you are my child,
You are so precious to me.

You are my child and I'll love you always,
Just hold my hand and I'll lead you home.
When you feel lost always remember,
I am right here, just call out my name.
When you pass through the waters, I will surround you.
When you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o'er.
When you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed.
You are my child, you are my child,
You are so precious to me.

- based on Isaiah 43:1-7

First Reading

1 Kings 3:5-14 (Pew Bible pg 266)

Baxter James
& Thomas Dunn

⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today." ⁷ And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word.

Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you. ¹³ I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life; no other king shall compare with you. ¹⁴ If you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your life.”

Back to School Blessing

Elisa Reece & Rev. Stone

When prompted, the congregation responds:

And so we ask: Bless us with understanding!

Bless us with understanding!

And so we ask: Bless us with your joy!

Bless us with your joy!

And so we ask: Bless us with your peace!

Bless us with your peace!

And so we ask: Bless us with your love!

Bless us with your love! Amen!

* Hymn No. 430

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

TUNE

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.

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:25-5:2 (Pew Bible pg 951)

Rev. Dr. Jay Harris

²⁵ So then, putting away falsehood, let each of you speak the truth with your neighbor, for we are members of one another. ²⁶ Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and do not make room for the devil.

²⁸ Those who steal must give up stealing; rather, let them labor, doing good work with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy.

²⁹ Let no evil talk come out of your mouths but only what is good for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. ³⁰

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. ³¹ Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice. ³² Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

5 ¹ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, ² and walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

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

Sermon

“Growing in Wisdom and Grace”

Dr. Harris

Morning Prayer

Walden Weatherford

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

Hunter Godsey, organ

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

Go, My Children, With My Blessing
(Please See Insert)

AR HYD Y NOS

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Dr. Harris

Closing Voluntary

Hunter Godsey, organ



News of the Church

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

Led by Flo Martin, this 6-week study will meet on Wednesday nights in the church Conference Room 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. Sign up and purchase the book at bit.ly/mul-5marks.

Mulberry Book Group August Meeting | August 18 | 10 am | Parlor

The Mulberry Book Group will meet on August 18 at 10 am in the Parlor. We will read *What If Jesus Was Serious?: A Visual Guide to the Teachings of Jesus We Love to Ignore* by Skye Jethani, which takes a look at some of Jesus' most demanding teachings in the Sermon on the Mount and pushes us to ask whether we're really hearing what Christ is saying. Available on Amazon or your favorite bookseller.

Lending Library for the Children's Center

The Family Ministries Team is excited to begin the Lending Library for the 3K class at the Mulberry Children's Center for this school year. There are many ways you can help with this ministry, including book and Bible story donations, financial support, and volunteering with book check out and story time.

If you would like to join our team or help out in any way, please contact Nita Smith at smithevelyn248@gmail.com or 478-361-3928. We will have a planning meeting on Thursday, August 22 at 10:00 a.m. in the Children's Blue Room on the 2nd Floor and we invite you to join us.

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

HUNTER GODSEY

Organist

MILLIE THOMPSON

Director of Communications

THE AINSWORTH CHOIR

— *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

Go, My Children, With My Blessing



1. Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2. Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3. Go, my chil - dren, fed and nou - rished, clo - ser to me;
4. I the Lord will bless and keep you and give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.
I the Lord will smile up - on you and give you peace;



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er,
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here his ten - der com - fort stilled you.
I the Lord will be your Fath - er, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er and Broth - er.



go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nou - rished joy - ful and free.
Go, my chil - dren; I will keep you and give you peace.