



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 THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

January 26, 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 memory of his mother, Rita Heger, given by Harold Downs.

*The artwork on the cover is "Seven Acts of Mercy" by Pieter Bruegel.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/ink.pl?RC=57786>*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary *All Creatures of Our God and King* arr. David H. Hegarty

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 Church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is his new creation,
by water and the Word;
From heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.
Praise God for his marvelous gifts!
We praise God for the Church!

* Opening Hymn No. 62 *All Creatures of Our God and King* LASST UNS ERFREUEN

* 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.

**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

Luke 4:16-21 (Pew Bible pg 835)

Rev. Stone

And Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and he went to the synagogue, as his custom was, on the sabbath day. And he stood up to read; and there was given to him the book of the prophet Isaiah. He opened the book and found the place where it was written, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.” And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

* Hymn No. 554

All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord

ARMENIA

Anthem

Every Time I Feel the Spirit
Luke Baker, soloist

Spiritual, Arr. Moses Hogan

Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.

On the mountain my Lord spoke,
Out his mouth came fire and smoke.
Down in the valley on my knees,
Asked my Lord, “Have mercy please.”

Refrain

Jordan River chilly and cold,
Chills the body, not the soul.
All around me looks so fine,
Asked my Lord if all was mine.

Refrain

Ain't but one train on this track,
Runs to heaven and right back.
St. Peter waitin' at the gate,
Said, 'Come on sinner, don't be late.'

Refrain

Second Reading

Acts 2:42-47 (Pew Bible pg 886)

Rev. Varnell

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And fear came upon every soul; and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common; and they sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they partook of food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

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

Sermon

"Becoming People of Presence"

Rev. Varnell

Morning Prayer

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.

Offering of our Tithes & Gifts

Offertory

*Non troppo lento from L'organiste:
7 Pieces in E Major & E Minor: No. 4, FWV 41*

César Franck

You can 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 No. 557

Blest Be the Tie that Binds

DENNIS

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

O For a Thousand Tongues

arr. Marilyn Arison



News of the Church

2024 Year-End Giving Statements

This past week, the Church Office sent out 2024 Year-End Giving Statements. If we have an email address for you, the statement was sent electronically via a link in the email. If we do not have an email address on file, a paper statement was mailed. If you did not receive an email with a link to your giving statement, or if you would prefer to have a printed copy mailed to you, please contact Hunter Godsey at the church office at 478-745-8601 or via email at hgodsey@mulberrymethodist.org.

Chili Cook-off & Apple Pie Contest | Feb 9 | after worship | Fellowship Hall

Our February Second Sunday Lunch will be the annual Chili Cook-off & Apple Pie Contest! Show off your baking skills or your best chili recipe - there will be prizes for our winners! Everyone is invited to join us after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

Georgia Southern University Southern Chorale to Perform at Mulberry | Feb 9

Mulberry will host the Southern Chorale from Georgia Southern University as our guests on Sunday, February 9. They will sing during the 11:00 worship service, and perform a short concert at 1:00 pm at which they'll preview their performance at an international competition in The Netherlands this summer. The Southern Chorale is the premiere choral ensemble in the Fred and Dinah Gretsch School of Music at Georgia Southern University.

Wednesday Night Worship & Prayer | Feb 5 | 5:30 pm | 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. We will meet at 5:30 for dinner, and worship begins at 6:00.

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

KATHERINE DENT

Crucifer

EMILY CARROLL &

RAMZI HARLEY

Candle Lighters

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:

Minutes from the Board of Stewards Meeting, August 4, 1950

The regular meeting for the First Quarter of the Board of Stewards was held Friday August 4, 1950 in the dining room of the church, after enjoying a delightful supper served by a committee of the ladies of the Church at 6:30 p.m. The Trustees reported sale of the parsonage at 963 High Street for the sum of \$14,302.68. Arrangements have been made for the Pastor to occupy an apartment, #30 North Garden Apartments in North Highlands until a new parsonage can be obtained."

On August 3, 1951, the Purchasing Committee for the Parsonage reported that a new parsonage had been purchased, located at 897 Nottingham Drive at a price of \$29,000. The church took delivery on July 2nd and paid for it in cash. The committee also reported that "before buying this house, the Committee looked at some twelve or fifteen houses that were offered for sale. The ones we found adequate, we were unable to buy. While we feel that we paid a high price for this Parsonage, we are thoroughly convinced that we could not have built on the present market for what we paid for it."



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

Season of Epiphany

The season of Epiphany is the period of time following Christmas through Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent. Epiphany represents the manifestation of Jesus Christ as a Savior for all. The color of the paraments is green to represent hope, peace & growth.