



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 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 18, 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 Lord's table are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Roy L. Kennedy, Jr. by his family.

*The artwork on the cover is "Road to Emmaus" by Fritz von Uhde.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58167>*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary *Now Thank We All Our God* arr. James Pethel

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.

Welcome to this sacred time and space.

We come to worship the Lord our God.

Come and lay your burdens at his feet.

We give God all our worries and anxiety.

Seek a new heart and a new spirit in this place.

Lord Jesus, make us new, that we may always live for you!

* Opening Hymn No. 318 *Christ Is Alive* TRURO

* 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.**

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

Ezekiel 18:30-32 (Pew Bible pg 685)

Rev. Stone

“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of any one, says the Lord God; so turn, and live.”

* Hymn No. 700

Abide with Me

EVENTIDE

Anthem

Stay With Us

Egil Hovland

Stay with us, Lord Jesus,
Stay with us.
Stay with us, it soon is evening,
And night is falling.

Jesus Christ the world's true light!
Shine so the darkness cannot overcome it!
Stay with us, Lord Jesus, it soon is evening,
Stay with us, Lord Jesus, for night is falling.
Let your light pierce the darkness
And fill your church with its glory.

Stay with us, Lord Jesus,
Stay with us.
Stay with us, it soon is evening,
And night is falling.

- Luke 24:29, *Phos hilaron*

That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What is this conversation which you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" And he said to them, "What things?"

And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since this happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning and did not find his body; and they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb, and found it just as the women had said; but him they did not see." And he said to them, "O foolish men, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He appeared to be going further, but they constrained him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognized him; and he vanished out of their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven gathered together and those who were with them, who said, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

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

Adagio on Hyfrydol

arr. Charles Callahan

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. 396

O Jesus, I Have Promised

ANGEL'S STORY

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

Lift High the Cross

arr. John Leavitt



News of the Church

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.

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.

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

DREW MORRIS

Crucifer

**EMILY STANSFIELD
& RUTH STANSFIELD**

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:*

**Excerpts from the Board of Stewards minutes,
June 11, 1901:**

The special object of the meeting was to receive reports from The Stewards on their collections. The Stewards present made details reports covering their lists. Motion was made and carried, that the name of J. T. Holt be presented to the next church conference, with the charge against him that he has not for some times past attended the services of the Church, and that he has positively refused to recognize the claims of the Church upon him with reference to aiding in its support.

Treasurer's report was called for and read. Amount due and unpaid to date \$673.46. On motion the clerk was directed to see the absent stewards and get reports from them on their collections and to offer his assistance to such of them as desired it. The meeting was adjourned to Tues, June 19th at 6 p.m.

**Excerpt from the Board of Stewards minutes,
Oct 8, 1901:**

On the motion of Bro. W.S. Brooks, the action taken by the Board on June 12th, relative to charges against Bro. J. T. Holt, was taken up for reconsideration. On motion the action was then rescinded.

————— *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