



# 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 TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

*March 2, 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 "Transfiguration" by Raphael & Guilio Romano .  
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54165>*

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



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## *Entrance & Praise*

Opening Voluntary                      *Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise*                      arr. Daniel McIntosh

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 reigns; let the peoples tremble.

**God sits enthroned in glory and majesty.**

Our God loves justice and establishes righteousness.

**God is exalted over all the earth.**

Let us worship here in his presence.

**Holy is the Lord our God.**

*From Psalm 99*

*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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\* First Reading

Luke 9:28-36 (*Pew Bible pg 843*)

Rev. Stone

Now Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And as he was praying, the appearance of his countenance was altered, and his raiment became dazzling white. And behold, two men talked with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, and when they wakened they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is well that we are here; let us make three booths, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah"— not knowing what he said. As he said this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silence and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

Anthem

*Write Your Blessed Name*

K. Lee Scott

Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart,  
there to remain so indelibly engraved  
that no prosperity,  
that no adversity  
shall ever move me from your love.  
Be to me a strong tower of defense,  
a comforter in tribulation,  
a deliverer in distress,  
and a faithful guide to the courts of heaven  
through the many temptations and dangers of this life.  
O Jesu, my only Savior!  
Write your blessed name, O Lord, upon my heart,  
there to remain so indelibly engraved  
that no prosperity,  
that no adversity  
shall ever move me from your love.  
- *Thomas à Kempis (1380-1471)*

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 11:27-29 (*Pew Bible pg 932*)

Rev. Varnell

Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord.

Let a man examine himself, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For any one who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself.

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

Sermon

“Examine Yourselves”

Rev. Varnell

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*Thanksgiving & Communion*

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Invitation to the Table

Rev. Varnell

Confession and Pardon

Rev. Varnell

**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

*A Pleasant Thought*

Florence Price

*Make your offering to God online by visiting [mulberrymethodist.org/give](http://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)*

...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

*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.*

## Communion Anthem

### Come, Ye Disconsolate

Arr. Terre Johnson

Come, ye disconsolate, where'er you languish;  
Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel.  
Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish;  
earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.

Joy of the desolate, light of the straying,  
hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure!  
Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying,  
"Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot cure."

Here see the bread of life; see waters flowing  
forth from the throne of God, pure from above.  
Come to the feast of love; come ever knowing  
earth has no sorrow but heaven can remove.

- Thomas Moore (1779-1852)

## 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. 185

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

LAUDES DOMINI

\* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*

arr. Dale Wood



## *News of the Church*

### **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper | March 4 | 6-8 pm | Fellowship Hall**

Our Youth Ministries is holding a Pancake Supper fundraiser for Shrove Tuesday on March 4 from 6-8 pm in the Fellowship Hall! Our youth will be serving up pancakes and sausage, and Mulberry organist Daniel McIntosh will be playing us some tunes on the piano. We'll see you there!

### **Ash Wednesday Service of Ashes | March 5 | Dinner at 5:30 | Service at 6:30**

Join us for our annual service of ashes to mark the beginning of Lent, where we come before God recognizing our humanity, repenting of our sin, and remembering who we are and who we can be.

### **Weekly Worship & Prayer Service for Lent | Starting March 12**

Join us as we continue our monthly Worship and Prayer service with a special weekly Lenten series from March 12 to April 9. This five-week journey will provide an opportunity to deepen our faith through prayer, contemplative practices, and worship. Each week, we will gather for a fellowship dinner at 5:30 pm, followed by a time of scripture, song, and guided prayer at 6:15 pm. Whether you are seeking a new Lenten discipline or simply longing for a space to draw closer to God, we invite you to make the most of this season with us.

### **New Baby/Toddler Nursery | Opening March 5**

Elisa, Brian, and the Family Ministries team have been hard at work setting up the new nursery space on the 2nd floor in the Children's Wing. The new nursery will open on March 5 for the Ash Wednesday service and begin on Sundays on March 9.

## *Keep up with us online!*



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**

**VAUGHAN & BETH SMITH**

*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:*

**Minutes from the Board of Stewards Meeting,  
November 10, 1915**

As per resolution passed at last meeting, an extra session of the Board was held in the usual place beginning at 7:30 pm and lasting for an hour and half. Chairman A. O. Parks presided, observing at the beginning devotional exercises. ... It was estimated by the stewards present with assessment lists and by the Book-keeper for those absent that a total of about \$1000.00 was available on accounts showing an aggregate of \$2200.00 due for the year and unpaid to date.

By motion of Dr. R. Holmes Mason another meeting of the Board was set for November 17... Referring to the recommendations of the Pastor at the meeting of September 22, the Board voted in favor of making another annual "Every Member" canvass Sunday afternoon, November 26. The appointment of an assessment committee... was obviated, since the canvass would result in securing pledges from the church membership toward expenses of the coming year.

The remainder of the hour and a half was devoted to a general discussion of fire, but with references to the temperature of the church auditorium rather than dogmatically.

————— *Transfiguration Sunday* —————

Transfiguration Sunday marks the last Sunday in Epiphanytide and is a celebration of the revelation of Jesus' eternal glory and divinity to three of his disciples (Peter, James, and John). The color of the paraments is white to mark one of the pivotal moments in the life of Christ.



**Mulberry Street**

*UNITED METHODIST CHURCH*

719 Mulberry Street

478.745.8601

[mulberrymethodist.org](http://mulberrymethodist.org)

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