



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 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 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 Lord's table are given to the glory of God
and in honor of Carolyn Kennedy Dominy by her family.*

*The artwork on the cover is "The Days Are Surely Coming" by Mike Moyers.
<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57515>*

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

Proclamation & Response

First Reading

Isaiah 12:2-6 (Pew Bible pg 558)

Rev. Stone

Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day:

Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name; make known his deeds among the nations, proclaim that his name is exalted.

Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

* Hymn No. 211

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (v. 1, 2, 5, 6, 7)

VENI EMMANUEL

Anthem

Jesus Christ, the Morning Star

Bradley K. Harris

When deep, deep darkness soaks the sky,
The pilgrim longs to shut his eye,
But lands it on a small, pale light
Whose twinkling faintly pricks the night.
This glow though slight when glimpsed a far
Is Jesus Christ, the Morning Star.

The light that grows with stretching rays
Is ever jealous for our gaze;
Though traveling stars may break our stare,
The light will not consent to share.
These glimmers of the morning are
The light of Christ, the Morning Star.

And when dark clouds of lies and sin,
Disease and death like fog creep in,
When every hopeful gleam is gone,
By faith, the pilgrim gaze is on.
Behind the clouds of darkness are
The glories of the Morning Star.

And when at last the day shall dawn,
The Morning Star becomes the Sun.
Before this light both quick and dead,
The hurt, the wounded bow their heads.
Then dazzling beams of brightness are
The reign of Christ, our Morning Star.

- Betsy Childs

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7 (Pew Bible pg 955)

Rev. Varnell

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

Sermon

“Joy to the World”

Rev. Jack Varnell

Journal Prompts

Morning Journal Prompts:

What are five things you are grateful for?

What is bothering me today?

What do I need to accomplish to make this a great day?

Evening Journal Prompts:

What were your three wins for the day?

What are your goals and plans for tomorrow?

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

Devotion on St. Thomas

arr. Dennis Janzer

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. 384

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

BEECHER

* Benediction & Sending Forth

Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary

Hymn to Joy

arr. Albert L. Travis



News of the Church

Second Sunday Lunch & Caroling | TODAY, December 8 | 12 pm

For our December lunch, we will have our usual potluck and then after we eat, we will go caroling at several local nursing homes again this year! Let's spread some holiday cheer singing some classic carols!

Macon Outreach Worship Service | December 11 | 10 am

Join us for a special worship service with Macon Outreach clients in the church sanctuary on Wednesday, December 11, at 10:00 a.m! After this meaningful time of song and Scripture, we will move downstairs to the Outreach dining room for a special holiday meal at 11:00! We hope many Mulberry members will be able to attend this special feast!

The Ainsworth Choir Music Sunday | December 15 | 11 am

The Ainsworth Choir will present a special musical performance as part of their Advent and Christmas observance. Come hear this celebration of the season during our 11:00 worship hour.

Christmas Eve at Mulberry

• The ABCs of Christmas | 11:00 am | Fellowship Hall

Join us for this kid-friendly service in the Fellowship Hall! This program is designed with children in mind, and everyone is invited to participate in this interactive service that invites us all to be a part of the Christmas story.

• Evening Candlelight Service | 5:00 pm | Sanctuary

A joyous occasion featuring communion and singing by candlelight. Mark the highlight of the Advent season by joining together in worship! Music of the season begins at 4:30 pm.

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

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:

On Sunday, July 13, 1930, the Board of Stewards appointed a committee to enter a protest to the Committee from the City Council against the erection of a master service station on the corner of First and Mulberry Streets, just across from our main auditorium.

On August 20, 1930, the Board of Stewards received a report from the committee that stated "the Council turned a deaf ear to our complaints and granted, by unanimous vote, to allow the Firestone people to erect the station.

Then by a formal motion, the Board passed a resolution to employ as counsel, Park & Strozier, to file an injunction proceedings against the Firestone people to prevent the erection of this master service station at this point so near our church, with the firm belief that such a plant there would prove a nuisance and interrupt our church work. A motion was also made and carried that both the Chairman of the Special Committee and the Chairman of the Board, write directly to Mr. Harvey Firestone declaring our opposition to the erection of this station and plainly stating our position in this matter.


Mulberry Street
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

Season of Advent

The season of Advent, which is the four Sundays leading up to Christmas, is a time of preparation and anticipation for the coming of Christ. It is also the beginning of the church year. The color of the paraments is blue to represent the hope and expectation that define Advent.