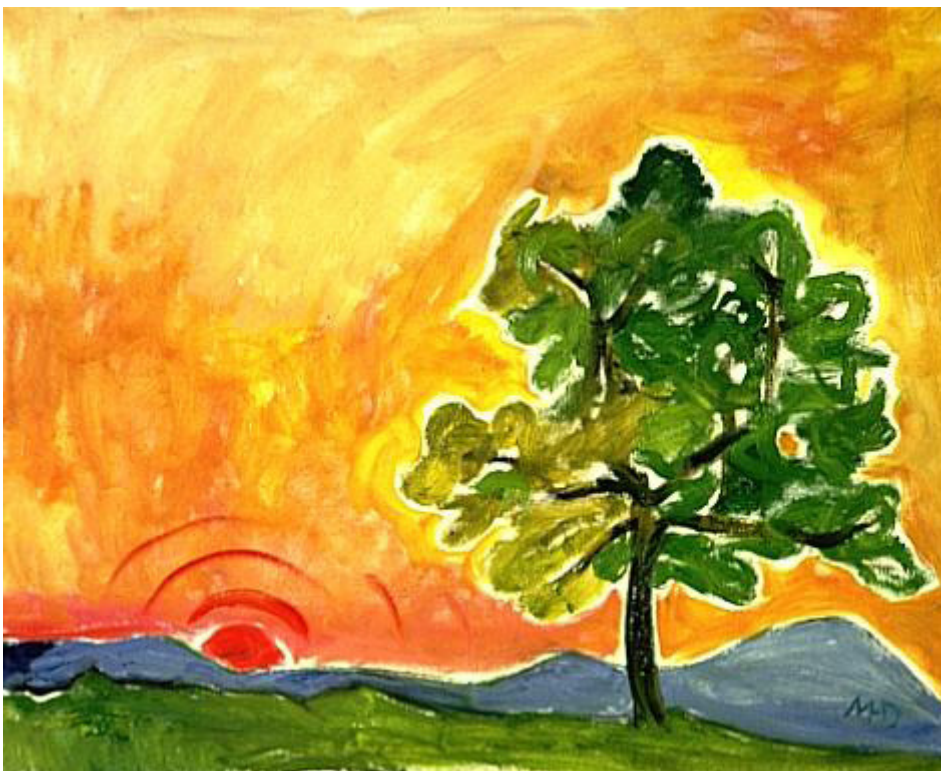


MULBERRY STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Sharing the heart of God from the heart of downtown
Macon by fostering healing for the broken places of life.*



The Church at Worship FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 1, 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 artwork on the cover is "Sunrise" by Margret Hofheinz-Döring.
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=55530>*

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



Entrance & Praise

Opening Voluntary Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland BWV 659 J.S Bach

Welcome & News of the Church Rev. Jack Varnell & Rev. Payton Stone

Lighting of the Advent Candle Frannie, Billy, Neva and Jack Fickling

*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. 203 *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* ELLACOMBE

* 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

The Glory of the Father

Egil Hovland

The word was made flesh and dwelt among us.
We beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth.
In the beginning was the word. The word was with God.
In him was life, and the life was the light of men.
He came to his own, and his own received him not.
The word was made flesh and dwelt among us.
We beheld the glory of the Father, full of grace and truth.
- John 1

Scripture Reading

Romans 13:11-14 (*Pew Bible pg 923*)

Rev. Jack Varnell

Besides this you know what hour it is, how it is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

Sermon

“Time to Wake Up”

Rev. Varnell

Thanksgiving & Communion

Invitation to the Table

Rev. Stone

Confession and Pardon

Rev. Stone

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

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

arr. Jacobus Kloppere

Make your offering to God online by visiting mulberrymethodist.org/give or in the offering plate.

* The Great Thanksgiving

Rev. Varnell

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)

Celebrant says words appropriate to the season, then the congregation sings:

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.

Celebrant says words appropriate to the season, then the congregation sings:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Celebrant says words appropriate to the season, then the congregation sings:

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.

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.

Sending Forth

* Closing Hymn No. 196 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* HYFRODOL

* Benediction & Sending Forth Rev. Varnell

Closing Voluntary Improvisation on *Hyfrydol* arr. Daniel McIntosh



News of the Church

Worship & Prayer | Wednesday, December 4 | 5:30 pm | Fellowship Hall

Start your month with this time of intentional contemplation, prayer, and music. Engage with prayer stations & activities, and meditate on scripture. We will meet at 5:30 for dinner, and the service begins at 6:00.

Wesley Glen Christmas at the Cross | December 6-8

Wesley Glen is hosting their 3rd annual Christmas at the Cross event! This is a free community event with a beautiful, mile-long light display. Lights and luminaries will be glowing around the entire Wesley Glen neighborhood. On Friday, Dec. 6th from 6:30pm-8:30pm, the residents will take part in the live nativity. Learn more at wesleyglenministries.com.

Second Sunday Lunch & Caroling | 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!

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.

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

JOHNNY & CHARLOTTE KENNINGTON

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:

On August 8, 1947, Rev. M. E. Peavy wrote a letter to Fathers and Mothers of Mulberry's Kindergarten children announcing that "the church has secured the service of a most capable kindergarten worker, Mrs. Cecil Kelly, as head teacher for the next year. She will be under the direction of Church Director of Christian Education. The kindergarten will only have morning sessions from 9:00 until 12:00 and the fee will be \$10.00 per kindergarten month, payable in advance. There will be no refund when the child is absent." And Rev. Peavy added "perhaps you have a friend who has a child of kindergarten age, tell them about our kindergarten. We will have to limit the number of children accepted; the first applicants will be given precedence."

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.


Mulberry Street
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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