



Edisto Island United Methodist Church



ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 5, 2026 - 6th Sunday after Pentecost

*= Please Stand, if you are able
Light Print=Lay Leader, Liturgist, or Pastor
Dark Print= Congregation

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #334 (*refrain*)

"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus says, *"Come to me, all you who are weary and carrying heavy burdens."*

We come, seeking rest for our souls.

Jesus sees the weight we carry—our quiet worries, our hidden griefs, our daily responsibilities.

We come, trusting the One who is gentle and humble in heart.

Jesus offers a yoke that is easy, a burden that is light, a way shaped by grace rather than perfection.

We come, ready to learn from him and walk in his peace.

Here, in this place, Christ welcomes the weary, strengthens the faint, and restores the broken.

We come to worship the God who gives rest, renewal, and life.

Let us lift our hearts to the Lord.

We worship with gratitude, hope, and open hands.

***OPENING PRAYER**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Holy and gracious God, You know the weight we carry— the burdens seen and unseen, the expectations we try to meet, the fears we try to hide.

You know how tired we become from trying to hold everything together. And still, you welcome us. You call us to lay down what is too heavy and to take up the yoke of grace.

In this hour, quiet our striving, steady our breathing, and open us to the rest only Christ can give.

Make this worship a place of renewal, a place where your gentleness meets our weariness, and your Spirit restores our souls.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN #696**

“America the Beautiful”

CONFESSION OF SIN & PARDON

With confidence in God’s Grace, let us now confess our sins.

Merciful God, we confess that we have tried to live by our own strength. We have carried burdens not meant for us, and we have resisted the rest you offer. We confess the ways we demand that you act on our terms, the ways we miss your wisdom because it comes in unexpected forms.

Forgive us for the pride that keeps us striving, for the fear that keeps us pretending, and for the weariness we refuse to name.

Gentle Savior, teach us again to come to you with open hands and honest hearts. Lord, in your mercy... hear our prayer.

(Let us confess our sins in silence)

Hear the good news: Christ is gentle and humble in heart. Christ sees the burdens you carry. Christ welcomes you with grace. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rest-giving God, as we hear your Word, lift the weight that keeps us from listening. Let your Spirit open our hearts to the surprising accessibility of your wisdom— wisdom revealed not to the powerful, but to those who come with humility and hope. Teach us to learn from Jesus, to trust his gentleness, and to follow his way of grace. Speak, Lord, for your weary people are listening. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67

PSALTER

Psalms 45: 10-17

Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house,

and the king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him; the people of Tyre will seek your favor with gifts, the richest of the people with all kinds of wealth. The princess is decked in her chamber with gold-woven robes; **in many-colored robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins, her companions, follow.**

With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.

In the place of ancestors you, O king, shall have sons; you will make them princes in all the earth.

I will cause your name to be celebrated in all generations;
therefore the peoples will praise you forever and ever.

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 7: 15-25a

*THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30

SERMON

“Rest for the Weary”

*HYMN #430

“O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee”

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE OFFERING

ANTHEM

*DOXOLOGY #95

“Praise God from All Blessings Flow”

PRAYER FOLLOWING THE OFFERING

Generous God, you meet us in our weariness and give us rest that renews our strength. Receive these gifts, given not from pressure or performance, but from gratitude and trust. Use them to lift burdens, to share grace, and to build a community where all find welcome and rest in Christ. Bless what we offer and bless the lives we carry into your service. In Jesus' name. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION #15 “A Service of Word & Table III”

*HYMN #133

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

*SENDING FORTH

Go now in the peace of Christ—the one who knows your burdens, the one who carries them with you, the one whose yoke is easy and whose burden is light.

We go as people who have found rest, and as people who help others find it.

We go in gentleness, humility, and grace.

And may the blessing of God— Father, Son, and Holy Spirit— remain with you and give rest to your souls.

Amen.

I'm gentle and humble in heart,



and you will find rest for your souls.

Participating in worship today:
Johnelle Mische and Kayne Gannt



Last Sunday:
June 21, 2026
Attendance: 49
(in person & online)
Offering: \$1,621

Edisto Island UMC



QR Code for Offering
& Special Giving



Violet McKenney, The Loy Family, Duncan Bunch, Reynolds Hayden, Alex Cone, Rev. Len Ripley, Tommy Keller, Donna Padgette, Brad Pressley, Butch Evans, Beth Warshaw, Bob Foster, Dylan Rearden, Ann Bond, Lacey Reeves, Bob Spratlin, Laura & Jim Emory, Ethelynn Boozer, Nancy Culclasure, Lauren (Donna's niece), Dale Steele, Margaret Steele, Thomas Tindall, Buff Yelton, Dawn & Berry Wren



OPEN MONDAYS:
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM



Edisto Island United Methodist Church



The flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in honor of our Nation's 250th birthday by Al and Kayne Gantt.

WIFI NETWORK:
EIUMCguest
Password:
25!Happy

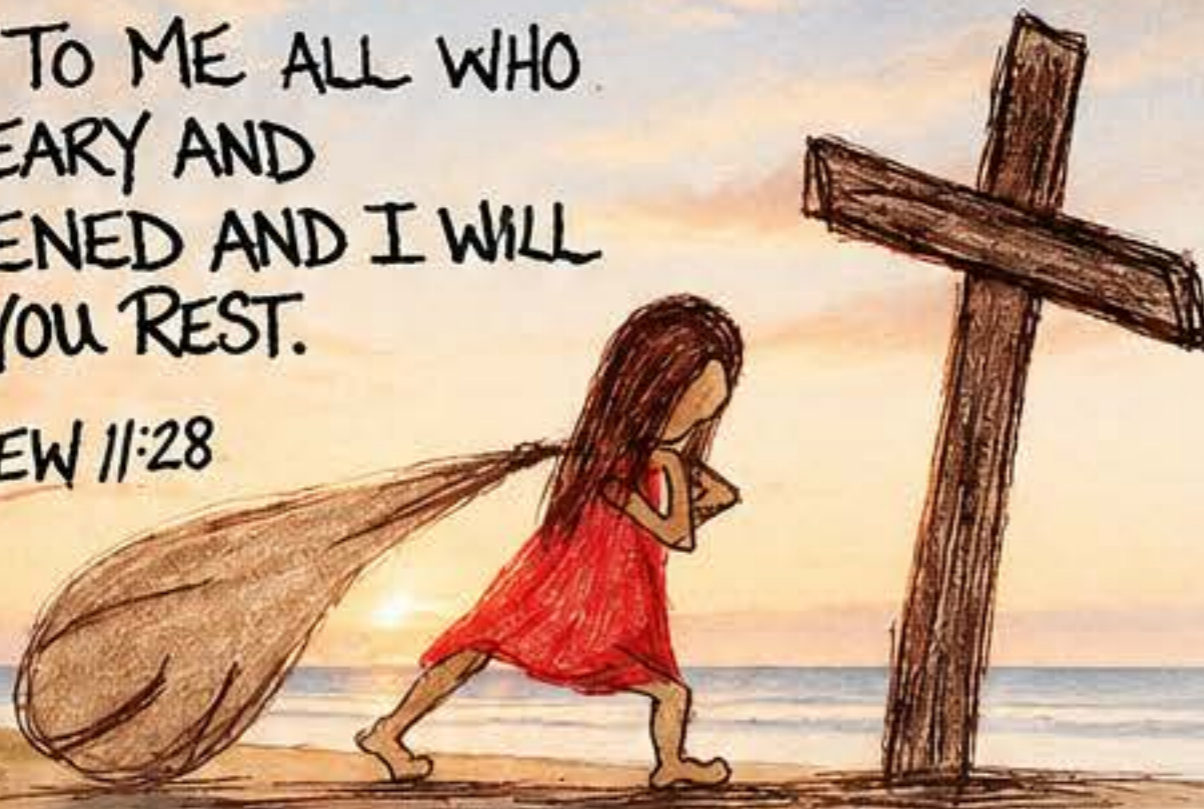
CONTACT INFORMATION:
Church Office: (843) 869-3456
Church Email: UMCEdis-
to@yahoo.com
Pastor Len: (843) 343-8794
Email: lcripleyiii@umcsc.org
Church Website: EIUMC.org



JULY 12, 2026 READINGS:
Genesis 25: 19-34
Psalm 119: 105-112
Romans 8: 1-11
Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

COME TO ME ALL WHO
ARE WEARY AND
BURDENED AND I WILL
GIVE YOU REST.

MATTHEW 11:28



Rest for the Weary

A Word for a Burdened People

6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 5, 2026
By Rev. Len Ripley

“Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.”

MATTHEW 11:28



WHEN WE GROW WEARY

We grow weary when we try to control how God should act, when we insist on our own terms, when we carry the pressure of being right, strong, or perfect. It is an exhaustion not of wrongdoing, but of trying so hard to do right.



GOD'S WISDOM LOOKS DIFFERENT

Jesus thanks the Father for revealing truth not to the powerful or the clever, but to “infants”—to those who are open, humble, and willing to receive. Divine wisdom comes not through achievement but through trust. God is not far off; God is startlingly accessible.



WHAT JESUS MEANS BY REST

When Jesus says, “I will give you rest,” he is not offering a spiritual spa day. Rest, in Scripture, is belonging. It is the deep peace of knowing you do not carry the world alone.



CARRYING THE RIGHT BURDEN

A yoke is a work instrument. Jesus is not inviting us to do nothing; he is inviting us to learn how to carry what truly matters. He removes the crushing weight of performance, perfection, and proving our worth. His yoke is grace—and grace is light because Christ carries it with us.



BURDENS WE KNOW ON EDISTO

Here on Edisto Island, we know the weight carried by caregivers, by workers who labor long hours, by parents/grandparents raising children in a complicated world, by neighbors who struggle quietly. We know the burdens carried by those who serve—because this church serves deeply.

But we also know the beauty of shared burdens. We know what it means to show up for one another, to offer a cup of cold water, to be a community where rest is not a luxury but a gift we give each other. Jesus' invitation is not only personal; it is communal. He is forming a people who embody grace.



LEARN FROM ME

Jesus says, “Learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart.” Gentleness is not weakness. Humility is not passivity. They are the posture of a Savior who bends low to lift us up.

There once was a man who said, “I'm not tired of life—I'm tired in life.” That is the weariness Jesus speaks to. And to that weariness, he offers rest, renewal, and a new way of living.



AT THE LORD'S TABLE

When we receive Holy Communion, Jesus' invitation becomes tangible. At the table, Christ does not ask us to impress him. He does not ask us to pretend we are not weary. He simply asks us to come. The bread is his body—broken for the burdens we carry. The cup is his blood—poured out for the sins we cannot fix. The table is his welcome—open to all who hunger for grace. Here, Christ gives rest. Here, Christ gives strength. Here, Christ gives himself.

COME

So come, all who are weary. Come, all who carry heavy burdens. Come, all who long for rest.

For Jesus says: “My yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”
And he promises: “You will find rest for your souls.”



Jesus does not ask us to arrive polished or impressive. He simply asks us to come.

Grace is light because Christ carries it with us.

You will find rest for your souls.



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE

Matthew 11:16–19, 25–30

KEY THEME

Rest

TAKEAWAY

Jesus doesn't remove every burden. He helps us carry what truly matters.



PRAYER

Lord, teach me to exchange striving for Your grace.

You Are Invited

If you're carrying heavy burdens...
If you're searching for peace...
If you're longing for rest...

Join us this Sunday.



EDISTO ISLAND
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY WORSHIP • 10:00 AM

ALL ARE WELCOME