

Sunday's @ 8:40 AM



Monday's 10:00 AM–1:00 PM;
2:00 PM–5:00 PM



Given By: Harriet & Henry Tindall

Worship Participants:
Donna Padgette, Johnelle Mische, Steve Strange

1st Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

Advent Study Books Are In!
Stop By The Office To Pick Up Yours!

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Wi-Fi Network:
EIUMCguest
Password:
25!Happy

Last Sunday:
November 15 2026
Attendance: 84
(in person & online)
Offering: $1,650

QR Code for Offering & Donations

OR Text EIUMCGIVE to 73256

Prayer Requests

The Steele Family, Bob Spratlin, Jim Whitesell, Patti Smyer, Haley Davis, Violet McKenney, The Loy Family, Duncan Bunch, Reynolds Hayden, Alex Cone, Tommy Keller, Donna Padgette, Butch Evans, Beth Warshaw, Bob Foster, Dylan Rearden, Ann Bond, Lacey Reeves, Laura & Jim Emory, Ethelynn Booser, Nancy Culclasure, Lauren (Donna's niece), Thomas Tindall, Buff Yelton, Dawn & Berry Wren, Morgan Family









EDISTO ISLAND
United Methodist Church

OPEN HEARTS · OPEN MINDS · OPEN DOORS



CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

"Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

MATTHEW 25:40

NOVEMBER 22, 2026

Living Christ's Love on Edisto Island and Beyond

Christ the King Sunday

November 22, 2026

PRELUDE “Thanks Be to Thee” - Handel
GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
***SHARING THE PEACE**
You are invited to share the Peace of Christ with your neighbor. You may say: “The Peace of Christ be with you.” And they may answer, “And also with you”.
***CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #328** “Surely the Presence”
CALL TO WORSHIP
Come, let us worship Christ our King, whose throne is glory and whose kingdom is love.
We come to worship the One who reigns with mercy and justice.
Christ comes among us in unexpected places: in the hungry and thirsty, the stranger and forgotten, the sick and the imprisoned.
Lord, open our eyes that we may recognize you.
Come, people of God. Let us worship the King whose grace makes all things new.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, our Savior and King!
***OPENING PRAYER**
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.
Gracious God, we come to worship Christ our King. Open our eyes today.
When we look for Christ in majesty, teach us also to see him in mercy.
When we look for Christ upon the throne, teach us also to recognize him in the hungry,
the stranger, the sick, the lonely, the imprisoned, and the forgotten.
Give us grace not only to confess that Christ is King, but to live as though Christ is King. Make us a people who welcome, who serve, who listen, who notice, and who love.
By your Holy Spirit, let the reign of Christ become visible in us and through us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and King. Amen.
***HYMN #694** “Come, Ye Thankful People Come”
PRAYER OF CONFESSION & PARDON
With confidence in God's grace, let us confess our sins.
Merciful God, we confess that we have not always recognized Christ among us. We have overlooked the hungry, avoided the stranger, forgotten the lonely, and passed by those who needed compassion. We have spoken of your kingdom without always living as its people. Forgive us. By your grace, open our eyes, transform our hearts, and teach us to love our neighbors as faithfully as you have loved us. Amen.
(In silence, let us now confess our sins)
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!
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.
PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION
Holy Spirit, open our minds and hearts to your Word. Give us ears to hear the voice of Christ our King and eyes to recognize him among the least of these. Let your Word take root within us, that what we hear may become the life we live. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
PSALTER #823 Psalm 100
EPISTLE LESSON Ephesians 1:15-23
***GOSPEL LESSON** Matthew 25: 21-36

SERMON **“*The Least of These*”**

***HYMN #432** “Jesu, Jesu” v.1,3,4,5
AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
We believe in God, Creator of heaven and earth, whose love gives life to all creation.
We believe in Jesus Christ, God's Son and our Savior, who proclaimed the kingdom of God, welcomed the stranger, fed the hungry, touched the suffering, and gave himself in love for the world.
We believe Christ was crucified and raised from the dead, and that Christ reigns over every power of sin, injustice, fear, and death.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, who fills the Church with grace and sends us into the world to seek justice, practice mercy, and love our neighbors.
We believe that when we serve the least of these, we encounter Christ in our midst.
We await the day when God's kingdom shall come in its fullness and all creation shall be made new.
Until that day, by God’s grace, we will follow Christ our King. Amen.
GLORIA PATRI #70 “Glory Be to the Father”
PASTORAL PRAYER
THE LORD’S PRAYER #895
OFFERING
ANTHEM
***DOXOLOGY #95** “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
OFFERING PRAYER
Generous God, all that we have is a gift of your grace. Receive these gifts and use them to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, care for the suffering, and bring hope to those who are forgotten. And receive us as well, that through our giving and our living, the love of Christ our King may be made visible in the world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***HYMN 131** “We Gather Together”
***SENDING FORTH & BENEDICTION**
Go now as people of Christ’s kingdom. Look for Christ in the faces of those around you.
We go to see, to serve, and to love.
Feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, care for the suffering, and remember those whom the world forgets.
By God’s grace, we will follow Christ our King.
Go in peace to love God and serve your neighbor.
Thanks be to God. Amen.
***BENEDICTION**
May the blessing of Almighty God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you always.
Amen.

“The Least of These”
Matthew 25:31–46

Christ the King Sunday proclaims that Jesus Christ reigns over all creation. Yet Matthew 25 reveals a surprising truth about this King: Christ chooses to be encountered among people who are hungry, thirsty, sick, imprisoned, forgotten, or treated as strangers. The central question is not simply, **“Do we believe Christ is King?”** It is also, **“Can anyone tell by the way we live?”**
Read Matthew 25:31–46, paying particular attention to verses 37–40. Both the sheep and the goats are surprised. Neither group realized that encounters with vulnerable people were also encounters with Christ. The difference is that one group had learned to respond with mercy.
Jesus names ordinary acts:

- Giving food and water
- Welcoming the stranger
- Providing clothing
- Caring for the sick
- Visiting the imprisoned

These actions do not purchase salvation. They reveal what God’s transforming grace looks like when mercy becomes a way of life.

Questions for Reflection

1. Why do you think both groups ask, **“Lord, when did we see you?”**
2. Where do you naturally expect to encounter Christ?
3. Who are “the least of these” in our community today?
4. Which act of mercy named by Jesus feels most natural to you? Which one challenges you most?
5. What is the difference between completing a charitable checklist and developing a transformed way of seeing people?
6. How might the life of Edisto Island United Methodist Church demonstrate that Christ truly reigns?

The Sermon’s Invitation

The sermon asks us to recognize that Christ may be closer than we think. Christ meets us not only in worship, Scripture, prayer, Baptism, and Holy Communion, but also in the neighbor who needs food, welcome, companionship, dignity, or care.
The reign of Christ becomes visible when the church begins to live like its King.

A Practice for the Week

Each morning, pray:
“Lord Jesus, give me eyes to recognize you today.”
Then choose one intentional act of mercy:

- Notice someone others overlook.
- Listen without rushing.
- Offer food or practical assistance.
- Contact someone who is sick, grieving, or isolated.
- Welcome someone who may feel like a stranger.
- Remember someone whose circumstances have caused others to forget them.

At the end of the day, ask: **"Where did I meet Christ today?”**

Closing Prayer

Christ our King, give us eyes to recognize you in the hungry, the stranger, the sick, the imprisoned, the lonely, and the forgotten.By your grace, transform the way we see and teach us to love you in the neighbor before us. May our lives quietly but clearly announce:
Christ reigns. Amen.

Rev. Lyn Ripley