

March 23, 2025

3rd Sunday of Lent



EDISTO ISLAND
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

ORDER OF WORSHIP
March 23, 2025 - 3rd Sunday of Lent

PRELUDE Come, We That Love the Lord"
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
INTROIT 349 "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Come, all who are thirsty for grace,
We come, seeking the living water.

Come, all who hunger for righteousness,
We come, seeking the bread of life.

Turn away from sin and embrace repentance,
For God is patient, tending us with care.

Let us worship the One who nurtures us, that we may bear the fruit of love and mercy.

We worship the God who calls us to grow: in grace, in hope, and in compassion. Amen.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Gracious and patient God, You have called us to this holy season of Lent, a time to turn back to You, to reflect, repent, and be renewed.

As we gather in Your presence this day, nurture the soil of our souls, that we may bear fruit worthy of Your grace. Open our hearts to Your Word, and guide us in the ways of love and mercy, through Jesus Christ, our hope and Redeemer. Amen.

***HYMN #127** "Guide Me, O Though Great Jehovah"

Prayer of Confession

Patient and nurturing God, We confess that we often fall short of Your call to bear good fruit. We allow fear, distraction, and pride to wither our growth. Too often, we see the suffering of the world and respond with judgment instead of compassion. Forgive us for our hardened hearts and for neglecting the work of repentance. Help us to turn to You, to trust in Your grace, and to seek renewal in this season of Lent. May Your care for us inspire us to bear fruits of love, justice, and mercy. Through Christ, our Redeemer, we pray.

Amen.

(Let us confess our sins in silence)

Words of Assurance

Even when we falter, God does not give up on us. God is the patient gardener, tending to our lives with care and hope. Through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, nurtured, and called to new life. Know this truth and live into it: In Christ, we are made new, and with God's grace, we will bear good fruit. Thanks be to God!

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 55: 1-9

PSALTER 788

Psalm 63: 1-8

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 10: 1-13

***THE GOSPEL LESSON**

Luke 13: 1-9

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We believe in God, whose mercy knows no bounds, who calls all people to repentance and new life, and who patiently tends the soil of our hearts, nurturing us to bear good fruit in love and justice.

We trust in Jesus Christ, who reminds us of God's call to turn back to the ways of life, who tells the stories of the barren fig tree, teaching that even in seasons of struggle, grace still holds us, and hope grows.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, working within us, empowering our repentance, renewing our strength, and calling us forward into God's holy work.

As people of faith, we confess that we are like the fig tree, sometimes failing to bear fruit. Yet we proclaim the gardener's care, believing in God's steadfast love and unending invitation to grow and flourish.

On this Lenten journey, we commit to lives of repentance, cultivating love, justice, and compassion. By the grace of God, we will bear fruit. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI 70**JOYS & CONCERNS****PASTORAL PRAYER****THE LORD'S PRAYER****GOD'S GIFTS AND OUR TITHE****ANTHEM*****DOXOLOGY****PRAYER FOLLOWING THE OFFERING**

God of abundant grace, You are the gardener of our lives, nurturing us with love and calling us to bear fruit. As we bring these gifts before You, we offer not only our resources but our very lives. Bless what we give today, that it may nurture hope, justice, and compassion in Your world. Through Christ, the source of all life, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN #421**

"Make Me a Captive, Lord"

***SENDING FORTH & BLESSING**

God has nurtured us with love and grace.

We are called to go and bear fruit in the world.

Repent, turn to God, and trust in the patient care of the gardener.

We will go forth renewed, tending to lives of compassion and mercy.

May the seeds of God's Word grow within you,

And may our lives reflect the love of Christ, now and always. Amen.

Go forth with hope, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***POSTLUDE**



The flowers today are given in honor of Steve Strange for his Birthday by Connie Strange

Participating in Today's Worship

Johnelle Mische

Last Sunday - March 2, 2025

Worship Attendance - 30 Online - 35



**CHURCH
FINANCES**

Needed Weekly-	\$3,491.00
Budget Giving-	\$865.00
Needed to Date-	\$38,801.00
Received to Date-	\$27,271.00

Nancy Culclasure (1110 Marshall Rd. Apt 6409 Greenwood, SC 29646), Jane Loy, Donna Padgett, Lauren (Donna's niece), Dale Steele, Thomas Tindall, Ethelynn Boozer, Buff Yelton, Linda Windish, Dawn & Berry Wren, Evan McMillan, Billy & Mary McCollum, Jeannie Roberts, Molly Shaw



Prayer Requests



Nancy's Clothes Closet

(Monday's 10AM-1PM and 2PM-5PM)

Godwin-Pate Circle is collecting toothbrushes, hairbrushes, & combs for the month of March for the Christmas shoe boxes. There is a box in the Church for donations.

Salkehatchie Service

For the 3rd year in a row, a Salkehatchie Summer Service camp is being held on Edisto Island. This year's camp will be held the week of July 5-12. We are seeking volunteers to help with several tasks regarding the meals for the group. For more info contact Marilyn Bowman at 843-603-0966

Upcoming Events

- Wednesday, March 26 Lenten Bible Study 2pm
- Saturday, March 29 Walk for Water Water Mission Fundraiser
- Monday, April 1 Administrative Council Meeting 11am
- Sunday, April 6 Communion

Edisto Island United Methodist Church

CONTACT INFORMATION

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