

The background of the entire poster is a dramatic oil painting. It depicts a prophet, likely John the Baptist, with long dark hair and a beard, wearing a simple brown robe. He is shown from the waist up, in profile, pointing his right index finger towards a brilliant sunset over a body of water. The sky is filled with intense orange, red, and yellow light, with dark, swirling clouds. Several birds are seen in flight against the bright sky. The ocean below is dark with white-capped waves. The overall mood is one of anticipation and divine revelation.

Sunday at Edisto Island UMC

Prepare the way of the Lord...

Matthew 3:1-12

December 7, 2025

2nd Sunday of Advent

2nd Sunday of Advent

-Bach

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT #204 "Emmanuel"

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Patti Smyer & Mike Wyndham

Advent reminds us that we are people who share a story, the story of Jesus, who enacts peace by judging in favor of the poor and deciding with equity for the meek of the earth. We long for the day when “the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them” (Isaiah 11:6). Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God’s creation. We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to bring Light to the places the world seeks to hide until that day when all creation lives together in harmony and abundance.

***HYMN #211** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (v. 1, 2, 6, 7)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we hear the voice crying out in the wilderness, but we have not always listened. We have wandered through the of distraction, built up barriers of pride and fear, and let the crooked paths remain untouched. We confess the ways we resist your refining fire--clinging to comfort, avoiding truth, and forgetting that your kingdom draws near. Forgive us, O God. Level what is high in us, lift what is low, and make straight the paths of our hearts.

(Let us confess our sins in silence.)

Hear the good news: The One who comes is mightier than we can imagine, and his mercy is deeper than our sin. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, cleansed like wheat gathered into the barn and called to prepare the way with joy.

Thanks be to god. Amen

PRAYER OF ENLIGHTENMENT

God of light and truth, as we hear the voice crying in the wilderness, open our hearts to your Word. Clear away what is crooked, refine us by your Spirit, and prepare us to walk in your way. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

THE PSALTER #795

EPISTLE LESSON

***GOSPEL LESSON**

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 72: 1-7

Romans 15: 4-13

Matthew 1:1-12

SERMON

***HYMN #209** "Blessed Be the God of Israel" (Tune: Aurelia, UMH #545)

PASTORAL PRAYER

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

ANTHEM

***DOXOLOGY #95**

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious God, you call us to prepare the way of the Lord. With these gifts, we seek to make paths straight--feeding the hungry, comforting the weary, and proclaiming your good news. Bless our offerings, and bless us, that we may be faithful servants of Christ, in whose name we give and live. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION #15

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION

Gracious God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Having been fed at your table, send us now into the wilderness of the world to prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight the paths of justice and peace, refine us by your Spirit, and awaken us in hope, that all may see your salvation. Through Jesus Christ our coming Savior. Amen.

***HYMN #203** "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" (v. 1, 3, 4)

***SENDING FORTH & BENEDICTION**

We go now, prepared by God's mercy and the call of the prophet, to make straight the paths around you.

Carry the light you have received into the places of waiting and weariness; speak truth with gentleness and act with justice.

Serve your neighbors in hope, and let your lives proclaim that the Lord is near. **Amen.**



This morning's flowers are offered to the glory of God and
in honor of Christ's coming.

Participating in Worship Today:

Steve Strange, Margaret Green, and Lorraine Bonura

November 30, 2025:

Worship Attendance: 19 Online: 23 Last Week's Giving: \$790.00

Casey Ripley Landsittel, Kayne Gantt, Bob Spratlin,
Jane Loy, Connie Strange, Cheryl Van Metre, Evan
McMillan, Wayne Bond, Linda Steele, Donna Padgett,
Laura & Jim Emory, Ethelynn Boozer & Family, Nancy
Culclasure, Lauren (Donna's niece), Dale Steele,
Margaret Steele, Thomas Tindall, Buff Yelton, Dawn &
Berry Wren, Billy & Mary McCollum



Prayer
Requests



Nancie's Clothes Closet
(Mondays 10AM-1PM & 2PM-5PM)

Upcoming Events

Thursday, December 11, 11:30am Godwin-Pate Circle of Women in
Faith Christmas Luncheon

Saturday, December 13 Placement of wreaths at Beaufort National
Cemetery (Meet at church at 10:00am.)

Sunday, December 14 Fellowship Brunch following Morning Worship

Wednesday, December 24, 6:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
and Communion

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Pastor Len: (843) 343-8794
Email: lc Ripleyiii@umcsc.org
Church Website: EIUMC.org

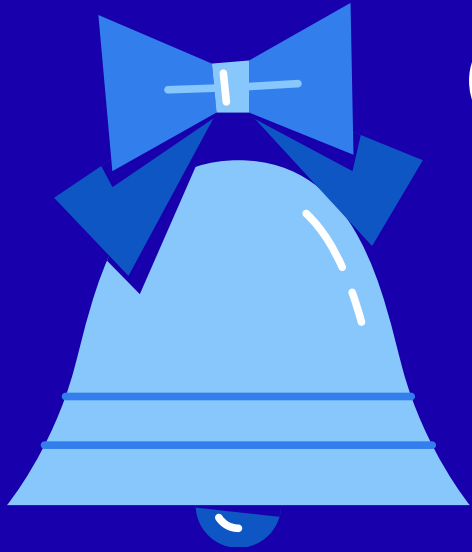
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Good Tide-ings

Edisto Island United Methodist Church
8193 Palmetto Road

The Second Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY MORNING
WORSHIP SERVICES – 10:00am

SATURDAY, DEC. 6
Decoration of the church – 10:00am

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8
Nancie's Clothes Closet
10:00am-1:00pm & 2:00pm -5:00pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11
Godwin-Pate Circle
Christmas Luncheon – 11:30am

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13
Placement of wreaths at
Beaufort National Cemetery
(Meet at the church at 10:00am)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14
Fellowship Brunch following
the service

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24
Christmas Eve Candlelight
Service and Communion

“Repent, for the Kingdom Is Near” Advent at Edisto Island United Methodist Church

Advent is more than candles and carols. It is a season of turning — of reorienting our lives toward the One who comes with Spirit and fire. In Matthew 3:1–12, John the Baptist cries out from the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.” His call is not just for ancient Israel; it is for us, here and now, on Edisto Island..

Our congregation knows what it means to live close to the elements — the tides, the storms, the fragile beauty of marsh and shore. We also know what it means to endure seasons of wilderness and renewal. Through it all, God has been faithful, and we have seen fruits of grace in meals shared, neighbors served, and lives touched by compassion.

This Advent, we invite you--whether you are a longtime member or a first-time visitor--to join us in preparing the way. Worship with us as we light the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love. Hear the good news that Christ is with us in every storm. Share in Holy Communion, where forgiveness and renewal are made tangible, and where all are welcome at the table.

Come and see what God is doing at Edisto Island UMC. Come and be part of a community that believes grace is free, but never cheap — a community called to bear fruit in love, service, and reconciliation.

– Rev. Len Ripley



GODWIN-PATE CIRCLE WREATH PLACEMENT

The Godwin-Pate Circle has lovingly purchased 70 wreaths to be placed at Beaufort National Cemetery on Saturday, December 13. This meaningful annual tradition is a special way for our church family to honor and remember those who served. All are invited to participate. We will meet at the church at 10:00am and carpool to the cemetery. We hope to see you!

Find us on Facebook: Edisto Island United Methodist Church.

*Stream our Sunday services LIVE on YouTube.
Subscribe to Edisto United Methodist Church for free.*



HELP US DECORATE FOR ADVENT!

We will be decorating the church and fellowship hall for the Advent season Saturday, December 6, at 10:00. All are invited to join in the fun and fellowship as we prepare our worship spaces to be warm, beautiful, and welcoming for this special season. Your helping hands and joyful spirits are greatly appreciated!



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Usher/Greeter/Acolyte
- Weekly flowers for the sanctuary
- Monthly fellowship brunch
- Monthly Communion server
- Monthly Scripture reader

Join us at **6:00pm on Christmas Eve** for a candlelight service with Communion. Ring in the celebration of Christ's birth with music and fellowship with your church family.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Casey Ripley Landsittel
Bob Spratlin
Jane Loy
Connie Strange
Cheryl Van Metre
Evan McMillan
Wayne Bond
Linda Steele
Donna Padgett
Laura & Jim Emory
Ethelynn Boozer & Family
Nancy Culclasure
Lauren (Donna's niece)
Dale Steele
Margaret Steele
Thomas Tindall
Buff Yelton
Dawn & Berry Wren
Billy & Mary McCollum

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Please submit prayer requests and information to include in the weekly bulletin and newsletter via email to UMCEdisto@yahoo.com by Thursday of each week.