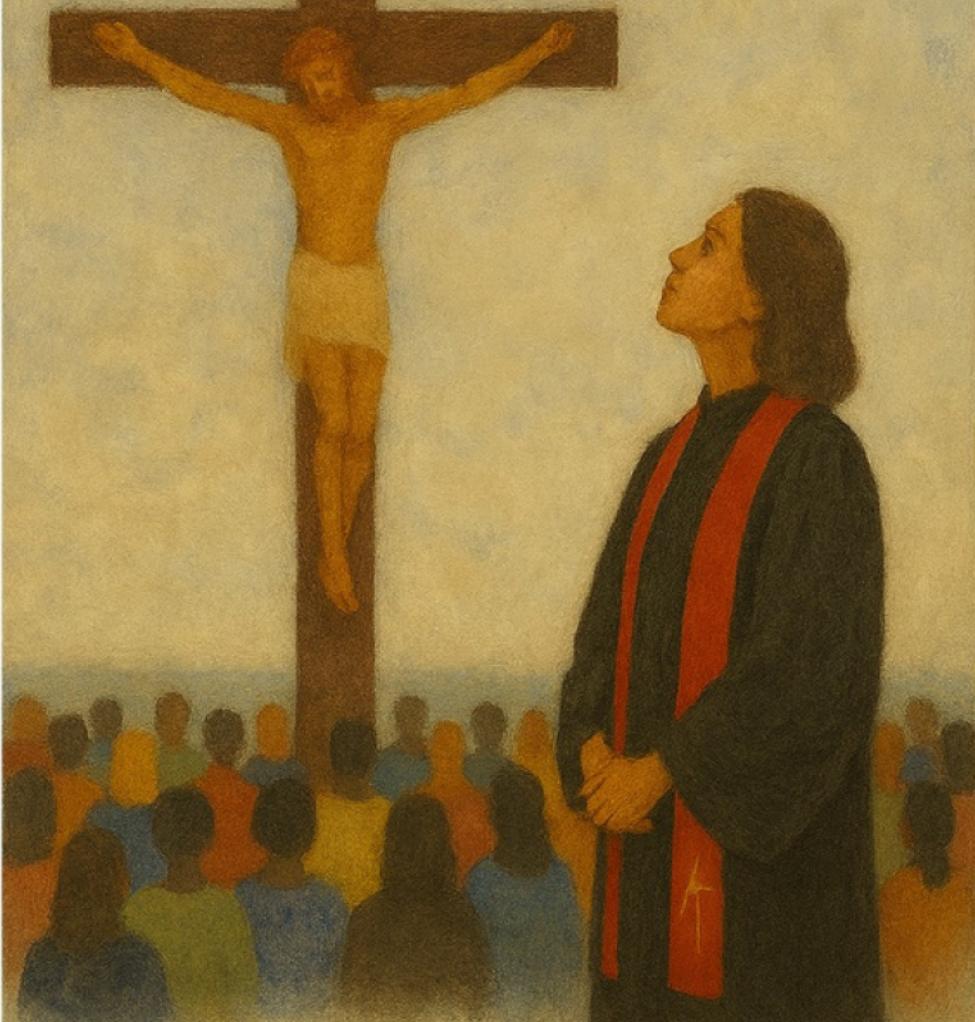


EDISTO ISLAND
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



For the message about
the cross is foolishness to those
who are perishing, but to us who
are being saved it is the power of God.

1 Corinthians 1:18

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026
5TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT #393 “Spirit of the Living God”

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

The world calls strength a sign of success.

But God meets us in our weakness.

The world prizes the wise, the powerful, the impressive.

But Christ blesses the poor in spirit, the meek, the merciful.

The message of the cross seems like foolishness to many.

But to us who are being saved, it is the power of God.

Come, people of God—

Let us worship the One who chooses the lowly, lifts up the humble, and blesses the world through love.

***OPENING PRAYER**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Holy God, you turn the wisdom of the world upside down.

You bless the poor in spirit and call the meek your children.

You reveal your power in the weakness of the cross and your glory in the lives of ordinary people. Open our hearts today to your surprising grace. Strip away our pride, our self-sufficiency, and our need to appear strong. Make us ready to receive your blessing and eager to walk in the way of Jesus—the way of mercy, humility, and peace. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN #166 “All Praise to Thee, for Though, O King Divine” (v. 1,2,3,5)**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON

God of the Cross and the Beatitudes, we confess that we have chased after the world’s wisdom. We have admired strength more than compassion, achievement more than obedience, status more than service. We confess that we resist the way of the cross—the way that asks us to trust you, to let go of our pride, to love when it costs us something. Forgive us, Lord. Level our hearts again at the foot of the cross. Shape us into a people who hunger for righteousness, who practice mercy, who make peace, and who follow Jesus with humility and joy. Amen.

(Let us confess our sins in silence.)

Hear the good news: God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong. God chose what is low and despised to reveal divine love. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and made new.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

As the Scriptures are read and proclaimed, let the foolishness of the cross become our wisdom and the way of Christ become our way. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

Micah 6: 1-8 (Pew Bible OT, p. 816)

THE PSALTER #747

Psalm 15

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 Corinthians 1: 18-31 (NT, p. 155, 156)

***GOSPEL LESSON**

Matthew 5: 1-12 (NT, p. 4)

SERMON "The Wisdom of God's Upside Down Kingdom"

***HYMN #451** "Be Thou My Vision"

PASTORAL PRAYER

GOD'S GIFTS AND OUR TITHES

ANTHEM

***DOXOLOGY #95**

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Generous God, take these gifts, and take our lives, and use them in ways that may look foolish to the world but reveal the wisdom of your love. Make us a blessing to those who hunger, to those who mourn, to those who long for peace. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION #15

***HYMN #568** "Christ for the World We Sing"

***SENDING FORTH & BENEDICTION**

May Christ go before you, the Spirit strengthen you, and the love of God surround you, this day and always. Amen.

*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward
is great in heaven, for in the same way they
persecuted the prophets who were before you.
Matthew 5:12*

Participating in Worship Today:

Steve Strange, Harriett Tindall, and Al & Kayne Gantt

January 25 , 2026:

Worship Attendance: 29 Giving: \$2,235.00

Ann Bond, Lacey Reeves, Mike Wyndham, Kayne Gantt,
Bob Spratlin, Jane Loy, Loved Ones of Cheryl Van Metre,
Evan McMillan, Donna Padgette, Laura & Jim Emory,
Ethelynn Boozer & Family, Nancy Culclasure, Lauren
(Donna's niece), Dale Steele, Margaret Steele, Thomas
Tindall, Buff Yelton, Dawn & Berry Wren



Prayer Requests



Nancie's Clothes Closet

Mondays 10:00am-1:00pm & 2:00pm-5:00pm

Thursday, February 12

Godwin-Pate Circle Meeting

Fellowship Hall 9:30am Social Time, 10:00am Meeting

Tuesday, February 17

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Fellowship Hall 6:00pm

Wednesday, February 18

Ash Wednesday Service

Sanctuary 10:00am

Thursday, February 19

1st Lenten Study

Fellowship Hall 2:00pm

CONTACT

INFORMATION

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Pastor Len: (843) 343-8794

Email: lcripleyiii@umcsc.org

Church Website: EIUMC.org

QR Code for Offering
& Donations



OR Text EIUMCGIVE
to 73256

WIFI Network:

EIUMCguest

Password:

25!Happy



Good Tide-ings

Edisto Island United Methodist Church
8193 Palmetto Road

5th Sunday after The Epiphany
February 8 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

SUNDAY MORNING
WORSHIP SERVICES – 10:00am

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8
Fellowship Brunch
Fellowship Hall
(after service)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9
Nancie's Clothes Closet
10:00am-1:00pm & 2:00pm -5:00pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12
Godwin-Pate Circle Meeting
Fellowship Hall
9:30 Social Time, 10:00 Meeting

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
Fellowship Hall
6:00pm

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18
Ash Wednesday Service
Sanctuary
10:00am

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19
1st Lenten Study
Fellowship Hall
2:00pm

Holy Communion: A Means of Grace at the Lord's Table

Holy Communion is one of the two Sacraments practiced by the United Methodist Church, alongside Holy Baptism. In this sacred meal, we encounter the living Christ, who invites all people to the table of grace. United Methodists understand Holy Communion not merely as a memorial of the past, but as a means of grace—a channel through which God's love, forgiveness, and transforming presence are offered to us here and now.¹

At the Lord's Table, we remember Christ's life, death, and resurrection, give thanks for God's saving work, and anticipate the heavenly banquet yet to come. The bread and cup are outward signs of an inward grace, through which the Holy Spirit nourishes our faith and strengthens us for lives of discipleship. While United Methodists affirm the real presence of Christ in Holy Communion, we do not attempt to define how Christ is present. Instead, we trust the mystery of God's action and receive the sacrament with reverence and gratitude.²

United Methodists practice open communion, meaning that all who seek to live in peace with one another are welcome at Christ's table. Membership in the church or prior instruction is not required. This practice reflects our

(continued on page 2)

*(Holy Communion: A Means of Grace
at the Lord's Table, continued from page 1)*

belief that the table belongs to Christ, not to the church, and that Holy Communion is a gift offered freely to all who hunger for God's grace.³

We celebrate Holy Communion regularly because it shapes us as a community of faith. As we receive the bread and cup, we are reminded that we are one body in Christ, called to love God and neighbor. The sacrament sends us forth to live what we have received—bearing Christ's love into the world through acts of mercy, justice, and compassion.

At Edisto Island United Methodist Church, Holy Communion is a joyful and sacred moment in our worship life—a time when we gather as God's people, receive grace anew, and are renewed for faithful living.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Len Ripley

1. The United Methodist Book of Discipline, ¶104; *This Holy Mystery: A United Methodist Understanding of Holy Communion* (Nashville: United Methodist Publishing House, 2004), 16–17.
2. *This Holy Mystery*, 18–19.
3. The United Methodist Book of Discipline, ¶341; *This Holy Mystery*, 55–57.

*Find us on Facebook:
"Edisto Island United
Methodist Church"*

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

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

8th: Patsy Ackerman
25th: Lorraine Bonura

**FEBRUARY
ANNIVERSARIES:**
1st: Scott & Nina Epps

PRAYER REQUESTS

Lacey Reeves
Mike Wyndham
Kayne Gantt
Bob Spratlin
Jane Loy
Connie Strange
Evan McMillan
Donna Padgette
Laura & Jim Emory
Ethelynn Boozer & Family
Nancy Culclasure
Lauren (Donna's niece)
Dale Steele
Margaret Steele
Thomas Tindall
Buff Yelton
Dawn & Berry Wren

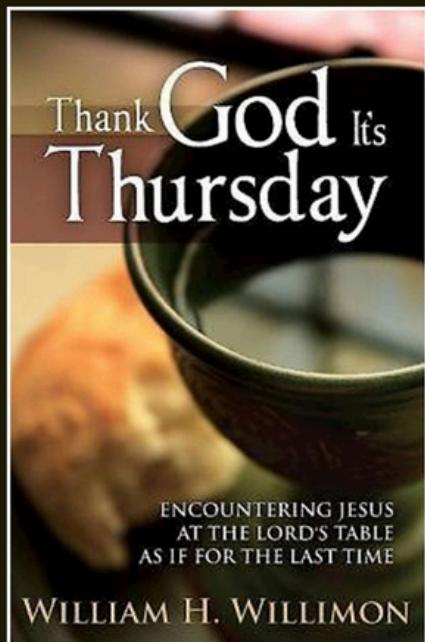
CONTACT INFORMATION

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Pastor Len:
(843) 343-8794
LCRipleyIII@umcsc.org

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

LENTEN STUDY BEGINS FEBRUARY 19

EDISTO ISLAND United Methodist Church Lenten Study



Dates and Time
Thursdays at 2:00 PM
February 19, 26
March 5, 12, 19

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

Our Lenten study begins on Thursday, February 19, at 2pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be reading from *Thank God It's Thursday* by Will Willimon.

He is the Professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry at Duke University Divinity School, retired bishop of the North Alabama Conference of The United Methodist Church, and former Dean of the Chapel at Duke University.

Copies are available for pickup in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend. If you plan to attend, please read the introduction and Chapter One prior to the study.

IMPORTANT WEATHER REMINDER

It looks like we are in the clear for the foreseeable future. But be sure to continue to check your emails from the church for weather updates as they might possibly be needed!