

Salem United Methodist Church

1321 Salem Church Road
Irmo, South Carolina 29063
Established 1873

January 7, 2024 Baptism of the Lord Sunday Season of Epiphany

*The color white is used today as a celebration of the season of
Epiphany and Baptism of the Lord Sunday.*

THE GATHERING AND WITNESS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CHIMING OF THE HOUR and WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*THE CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER

In the beginning...

**God swept over waters, spoke light into existence, created day
and night and called it good.**

As the days and nights of creation filled with life,
**God made humanity out of the dirt to love and tend creation,
to be loved and tended by God.**

As we lost our way,
God sent Jesus, Love Incarnate, to show us the way back.

On the day Jesus came to the banks of the Jordan River to be
baptized,
**God declared, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am
well pleased."**

Let us, then, follow Jesus into the waters, remembering our
baptism in which...

God claims us as beloved children, the family of God.

Let us pray:

**Holy God, Eternal Spirit, we thank you for baptizing us into one
body in Jesus the Christ. Wash over us with your Spirit, that, like
Jesus, we may serve you in serving humanity. Baptize us with
the fire of your truth, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*HYMN 252 *When Jesus Came to Jordan*

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*Children ages 3 through 5th grade will be dismissed following the Children's
Moment to attend Kid's Worship. Parents may pick up their children
downstairs following the conclusion of the service.*

A TIME OF PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY 95

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *Genesis 1:1-5*

ANTHEM *Shall We Gather at the River*

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

INTRODUCTION TO THE LESSON

GOSPEL LESSON *Mark 1:4-11*

*HYMN 2123 *Loving Spirit*

PROCLAMATION: *And There Was Morning*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 885 *A Modern Affirmation*

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church,
apostolic, and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare:

**We believe in God the Father, Infinite in wisdom, power, and
love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever
directed to his children's good.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of Man, the gift
of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the
promise of our deliverance from sin and death.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives,
whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of
Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.**

**We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of
love as set forth in our example of our blessed Lord, to the end
that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth, Amen.**

SENDING FORTH

BAPTISM REAFFIRMATION

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 145 *Morning Has Broken*

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE 3164 *Down to the River to Pray (verse 5)*

*As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good ole
way and who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me
the way. O sinners, let's go down. let's go down, come on down,
Come on, sinners, let's go down, down to the river to pray.*

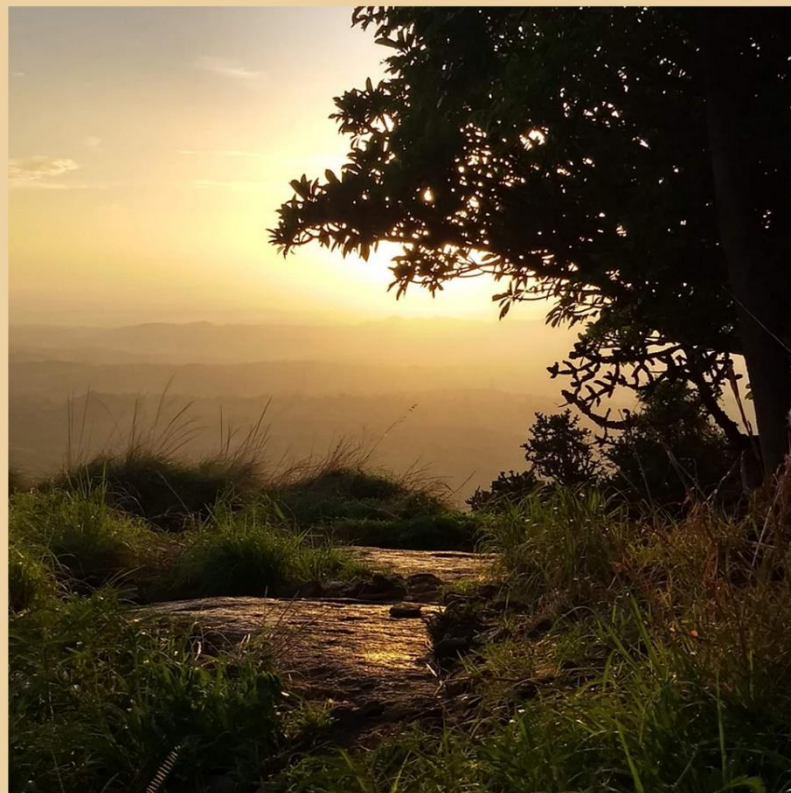
*WE FOLLOW THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

*THE CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*POSTLUDE AND DEPARTING

**Indicates that the congregation stands. If standing is uncomfortable, please
remain seated and continue with your participation. **Bold titles** indicate
congregation participation.*

BAPTISM OF THE LORD // AND THERE WAS MORNING



BECOMING THE PEOPLE OF GOD WORSHIP SERIES

January 7, 2024
Baptism of the Lord Sunday
Season of Epiphany

STEWARDSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

Week of December 31, 2023

Attendance	On Line Viewing
Worship 119	Sunday School 47
	157

EOY 2022

Salem UMC received \$62,091.70 in financial contributions during the period of December 17-31, 2023.

All 2023 operating invoices are paid.

All 2023 Conference Apportionments are paid.

All 2023 operating accounts have a positive balance as of December 31, 2023.

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER:

Brookdale — Mary Skenes

Carroll Campbell Place — Barbara Rolin

Generations of Irmo — Carolyn Brower,
Joyce Cook, Dot Corley

Lowman Home — Gwen Parnell, Anita Weed

Tyborne UCP — Jessica Gore

Special Prayers — Peyton Baker, Freddie Butler,
Donna Cole, Bob Davis, Sandra Durst, Inez Hyatt,

Bob & Mindy Kuenzli, Lee McMillan,

Barbara Pereira, Shannon Robertson, Bill Rolin, Terry Waites

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY:

Ushers:	Lead – Ted Hornsby Will Bowers Randy Hilliard Kevin Meetze
Trustee:	Steven Smith
Sound Booth:	Dustin Tanner
Acolyte:	EV Horton
Nursery:	Martina Thomas, Kenzie Griner

Flower Ministry

The flowers which grace the Holy Altar today are given to the Glory of God by Mary Ann Gibson in memory of Leroy.

A Welcome to our Guests!

We are honored that you are worshipping with us. Please complete the "red book" registration to record your presence. Also, please introduce yourself to those around you and visit our Welcome Center. We have a welcome gift for our first-time guests in the welcome center. Please stop by the desk at the close of the worship service. We hope you will return to join us again in Worship!

Youth Info

Youth Group kicks back off this Sunday after a break for the Holidays. We have a lot coming up with Mission Projects, Ski Trips, Youth Sunday, Pancake Suppers and much more. This week we will begin a study in Sunday School on "Making Changes in the New Year" This week will be making changes in how we pray. **Sunday Night we will meet at 5:00 p.m.** for all wanting to be a part of Youth Sunday. Please join at that time so we can fill all the parts and begin preparation.

At 5:30 p.m. we will begin Youth Group. The theme for January is "Strange Stories from the Bible we can Learn from". This week we will be in Numbers 22-23 studying about talking donkeys. We hope to see everyone there.

Youth/Mission

The Youth Ministry and Missions Team will be bringing a church-wide mission project to Salem UMC. We will bring "**Rise Against Hunger**" to the church on Sunday, March 3. On this day we hope to have many church members of all ages from 4-99 helping pack meals for those in need in Africa. There will be three packing shifts and all participating will have a blast taking part in this. The youth took part in the project when they were in Florida this past summer. However, before this date comes, we will be collecting money that will determine how many meals Salem UMC will provide. For example, \$4000 will provide 10,000 meals. **We will promote and take donations and sign-ups each week through Feb. 11.** Please join us at the Rise Against Hunger table after the morning worship services to take part or ask questions. www.riseagainsthunger.org

OASIS

Each year, millions of elderly Americans fall victim to some type of fraud. One of the roles of the FBI is to identify and investigate these perpetrators and to also educate people on the latest "fraud/scam trends", specifically in our state. Salem has teamed up with our local FBI headquarters to come and provide an informative session on **Elder Fraud on Tuesday, January 16th**. While the event is hosted by our OASIS group, **we are extending the invitation to our entire church family and guests.** We will gather for a chili cook off in the fellowship hall at 11:30 and the program will begin shortly thereafter, around 12:15 in the sanctuary. If you interested in this event, please call the church office to **RSVP for one or both opportunities by January 11** and additionally if you are interested in making chili for the event, please let us know (church office or Tina Overton) as soon as possible so that we may adequately prepare. We hope you will make plans now to come and share in this informative event!

Thank You Salem Family!

Delaine and I want to thank all of you that contributed to the financial gift we received from Salem for Christmas! We truly appreciate your spirit of generosity and ongoing support. It means a lot to us. Thank you all!

Blessings,
Pastor Jeff

Ladies Lunch Bunch

Ladies Lunch Bunch will not meet in December. We will meet **January 29th at 11 a.m. at Roxanne's Market, 2900 Dreher Shoals Rd. Irmo.**

Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes have arrived for 2024!
They are in the Welcome Center.

Sharing God's Love

Urgent Pantry Needs: Oatmeal, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Spaghetti Noodles, Pasta Sauce, Pasta Dinners, Rice Dinners, Lunch Combos (SpaghettiOs, Ravioli, etc.), Chili, Pork & Beans, Canned Beans, Dry Beans, Crackers (Ritz or Saltines), Snacks, Powdered Milk, Macaroni & Cheese, Jello, Elbow/ Shells/ Penne Pasta, Tomato Sauce/ Tomato Paste, Canned Tomatoes, Chef Boyardee Lunches, Beanie Weenies, Chicken & Dumplings, Stew, Instant Potatoes, Instant Grits, Canned Fruit, Coffee, Tea and Fruit Drinks.

Household Items: New Underwear and Socks for Adults & Kids, Full, Queen and King Sheets Bed Linens and Comforters, Blankets - All Sizes, Hand Towels, Bath Towels, Wash Cloths, Pots, Pans, Plates, Glasses, Cookware, Bakeware, Kitchen Linens, Small Appliances, Diapers all sizes, but especially larger sizes.

Drop-off containers are located in each Sunday School Room, Church Office and in the hallway next to the Fellowship Hall entrance.

451 items were delivered to Sharing God's Love on Dec. 8th.

2024 Flower Calendar

The 2024 Flower Calendar has been placed in the Welcome Center. Cost is **\$96 for two arrangements** and is a thoughtful way to honor or memorialize someone special. The arrangements are yours to take following the service. If you would like to donate the flowers, they will be arranged into several different vases to be delivered to shut-ins and the sick. **Please help support the church in this meaningful manner.**

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

Sunday, January 7

9:30 A.M. Sunday School
10:30 A.M. Morning Worship
4:00 P.M. Kid's Quest
5:00 P.M. Youth Sunday Preparation
5:30 P.M. Youth Group

Monday, January 8

6:00 P.M. Girl Scouts

Tuesday, January 9

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Wednesday, January 10

7:00 A.M. AA Meeting
7:00 P.M. Choir Practice

Thursday, January 11

6:30 P.M. LMA Meeting
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Saturday, January 13

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Sunday, January 14

9:30 A.M. Sunday School
10:30 A.M. Morning Worship
4:00 P.M. Kid's Quest
5:00 P.M. Youth Sunday Preparation
5:30 P.M. Youth Group
5:30 P.M. Confirmation Class

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook (salemumcofirmo) weekly for Pastor Jeff's *Wednesday in the Word*. It's a great midweek encouragement to get you through the rest of your week until we meet again on Sunday.

E-Giving

Please prayerfully consider giving to Salem United Methodist Church through our e-Giving program. Scan the QR code below to be taken to Salem's donation page to present your offering.



You can also visit the link:

<https://giving.ncsservices.org/App/Giving/ncs-2365>

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
1321 Salem Church Road, Irmo, SC 29063
CCLI #1562077

Website: salemumcsc.com

E-mail: smethodist@aol.com

Phone 803-781-1626

*In case of an emergency,
call 864-985-2456 or 803-422-9400*



OUR MINISTRY TEAM

Jeff Childress — Pastor

William Byrd — Pianist

P. J. Garrett — Director of Children's Ministries

Sarah E. High — Director of Music Ministries

Angie Lain — Director of Accounting

Miriam Y. Lovett — Organist

Jim Magann — Coordinator of Children/Youth
and Missions Ministries

Tina Overton — Director of Creative Ministries

Dustin Tanner — Coordinator of A/V Tech and Communications

Marie Wicker — Administrative Coordinator