

Salem United Methodist Church

1321 Salem Church Road
Irmo, South Carolina 29063
Established 1873



Today's Theme:

As Holy Week begins, Peter is no longer front and center, and so we imagine he is with the rest of the disciples when Jesus enters Jerusalem on a colt. As they witness crowds shouting hosannas, the disciples are confused. When they look back on this experience, perhaps they will remember the songs. The singing is surely etched in their memories. As we imagine ourselves in the crowd on this day, may we remember that they are supposed to be praising Caesar, but instead they are shouting for the one entering the city on a donkey. Their singing is subversive, courageous, and contagious. Their praise shows the ripple effect of public displays of faith.

March 24, 2024
Palm/Passion Sunday

March 24, 2024
Palm/Passion Sunday

Purple is a color of penitence and is used to reflect the preparatory season of Lent.

THE GATHERING AND WITNESS OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING MEDITATION

Courage

written by: Rev. Sarah Speed | sanctifiedart.org

We summon every ounce of courage. We give ourselves pep talks and we call our friends. We dig deep within. We practice the words out loud, rolling them around in our mouths, imagining the response. We deal out every "what if" card our brain holds on to and spend absurd amounts of time imagining all the ways it could go wrong. And then finally, blessedly, we say it: I love you. To speak the truth of your heart takes courage. It always has. But please, summon your courage, join the parade, and speak with conviction. For God has been saying to the world since day one: I love you. What is your response?

*CHIMING OF THE HOUR and WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER**

Sing songs of loudest praise!

Hosanna!

Sing songs that are unashamed.

Hosanna!

Sing songs without being afraid.

Hosanna!

Sing for the God of tomorrow and today.

Hosanna!

Come and let us worship!

We worship the One worthy to be praised.

Let us pray:

Holy God, we want to run into the streets and sing your praise!

We want to be bold and unashamed of this good-news Gospel.

However, too often we find ourselves standing against the wall,

staying quiet, letting others carry the song. Show us which songs

are ours to sing. Show us which parades are ours to lead, and

then give us the courage and conviction to do both. With hope

and honesty, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN 278

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

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

ANTHEM

Rejoice! Your King is Coming!

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

INTRODUCTION TO THE LESSON

GOSPEL LESSON

John 12:12-16

*HYMN 279

Mantos y Palmas (Filled with Excitement)

PROCLAMATION:

Wandering Heart Series: *Songs of Loudest Praise*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

written by: rev. Sarah Speed | sanctifiedart.org

We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,

who rode through the streets of Jerusalem on a donkey.

We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,

who challenged Rome's oppressive power with peaceful protest.

We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,

who was surrounded by crowds of dreamers and believers.

We believe in Jesus of Nazareth,

so even today, we will sing songs of loudest praise.

Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 280

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

*BENEDICTION

Beloved wanderer, as you leave this place, may you carry your curious heart on your sleeve. May you look for God in every face. May you find the courage to get out of the boat, to run to the tomb, and to speak of your faith. And when the world falls apart, may you hear God's voice deep within, saying, "Take heart, it is I, be not afraid." You are called. You are blessed. In both your ups and your downs, you always belong to God. Go now in peace. Go trusting that good news. Amen.

*CHORAL RESPONSE 400 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing(verse 3)*

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

*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.*

STEWARDSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

Week of March 17, 2024

Needed each week to fund unified budget \$14,724.81

Unified budget received \$12,470.01

Needed to meet budget year to date (Inclg. bldg. fund) \$161,972.91

Unified budget received year to date (Inclg. bldg. fund) \$160,637.86

Attendance		On Line Viewing
Worship 149	Sunday School 71	178

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 — Amy Bundrick, Freddie Butler,

Bob Davis, Inez Hyatt, Bob & Mindy Kuenzli,

Lee McMillan, Barbara Pereira, Shannon Robertson,

Bill Rolin, Larry Salters, Claudia Smith, Terry Waites

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY:

Ushers: Lead – Bill Sills
Callie Dunn, Melinda Hydrick
Sherri Puette, Sandra Sills

Trustee: Eric Puette

Sound Booth: Dustin Tanner

Acolyte: Rachel Rhodes

Nursery: Ashley Anderson, Dawn Horton

Flower Ministry

The flowers which grace the Holy Altar today are given to the Glory of God by Rachel & Trevor Rhodes in honor of Pierce Rhodes on his 13th birthday.

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!

The flowers planted at our Cross and at the gathering room entrance were given and maintained to Glorify our Lord by Chano Reyes and Bill East.



Lent-Easter Sermon Series: *Wandering Heart*

This Lent, we are focusing on the life and faith of one of Jesus' most famous disciples. In Peter, we see a person who is both steadfast and unsteady, a dear friend and a betrayer, a follower and a wanderer. In Peter, we often see ourselves. Like many of us, Peter has a wandering heart. His journey is not polished, or linear, or perfect, but he is always tethered to the love of God. When you look closely at Peter's story, you find Jesus at each step along the way—offering him abundance, catching him when he begins to sink, challenging him when he stands in the way, washing his feet, predicting his betrayal, and offering him agapē love. This Lent, we're joining Peter in figuring out faith. We're not idolizing or vilifying him; instead, we're hoping to wander alongside him, open to what we might learn about Jesus (and ourselves) by stepping in his shoes.

Easter Sunday

We will hold two worship service opportunities on Easter this year. In addition to our **regular worship service at 10:30am**, Reverend Childress will lead a **sunrise service at the Church on the Lake site (Woodmen of the World) at 7:00am**. Additionally, the children will be flowering the cross during the Worship Service hour that day. If you have any flower donations to contribute to this event, please feel free to bring them. *Families are encouraged to take their family photos at the cross after our 10:30 worship hour.*

Ladies Lunch Bunch

Ladies Lunch Bunch will meet **Monday, March 25 at 11:30 at Carolina Wings in Ballentine.**

Maundy Thursday Service

There will be a Maundy Thursday Communion service at **6:30pm on Thursday, March 28**. We hope to see you there.

OASIS

Join us for our next Oasis event on **Tuesday, April 16th** at 11:30. Jennifer Weaver, Earth and Horticulture agent from Clemson Extension will be our guest speaker and the topic will be "Proper plant selection." We will also have a plant swap for anyone who wishes to bring a plant from their garden to trade. Our lunch will be catered by Moe's. More information will be provided in next week's bulletin regarding cost. Call the church office to **RSVP by Thursday, April 11th** so we may properly prepare. We look forward to sharing in this fun event together!

Church Directory!

We are excited to announce that a committee has been formed to work on a new church directory for our Salem family! The directory will be available online to all church members as well as members will have an opportunity to request a copy to keep on hand at home. We will have someone on site to capture pictures of your family (*no formal settings or pictures to buy*) on the following dates: **March 24, March 26, March 27 and March 31**. Please make plans to take advantage of one of these dates to have your picture made. A sign-up sheet of 5-minute interval time slots is in the Welcome Center! Please be sure to sign up for your spot as soon as possible and fill out an information sheet to bring with you. Feel free to call the church office for additional questions.

Outdoor Bazaar

Faith Circle is having an Outdoor Bazaar on **April 27th from 9 - 2**. There will be a food truck there too. If you know of anyone interested in setting up a 10 x 10 area please contact Millie Fore 803-920-5261 for more information. Also, please mark your calendars so you can come shop and eat! The money received from vendors goes to either local charities or needs in our church family. Thank you!

Spring 2024 Epworth Project

The Missions Committee of Salem UMC has set another Epworth work project for this spring. Last year was a large project working on their Recreational facilities. This year we will have a weekend project set for **April 19-21**. We will be deep cleaning and updating the Epworth Movie Theater and Craft Rooms. We also will be adding mulch to the beds outside of several cottages. We will work from 8am - 3pm on Friday, April 19; 8am - 4pm on Saturday April 20 and if work is still needed, we will work on Sunday, April 21 beginning at 1pm. Lunch will be provided for workers on Friday and Saturday. We ask everyone interested in working with this project to please sign up in the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings. If you have any questions, please contact Jim at jimmagann@gmail.com or Tommy at mclendta@aol.com.

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

Sunday, March 24

9:30 A.M. Sunday School
10:30 A.M. Morning Worship
11:30 A.M. Egg Hunt & Lunch
4:00 P.M. Kid's Quest
5:30 P.M. Youth Group

Monday, March 25

11:30 A.M. Ladies' Lunch Bunch @ Carolina Wings

Tuesday, March 26

9:30 A.M. Precept Bible Study
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Wednesday, March 27

7:00 A.M. AA Meeting
12:00 P.M. Blood Drive
7:00 P.M. Choir Practice

Thursday, March 28

6:30 P.M. Maundy Thursday Service
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Saturday, March 30

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Sunday, March 31

7:00 A.M. Sunrise Service @Church on the Lake
9:30 A.M. Sunday School
10:30 A.M. Morning Worship
4:00 P.M. Kid's Quest
5:30 P.M. **NO** Youth Group

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

Follow us on Instagram ([salemumcofirmo](https://www.instagram.com/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.

Sharing God's Love

Current Pantry Needs: Cereal, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Coffee, Spaghetti Noodles, Elbow Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Mac & Cheese, Pasta Dinners, Rice Dinners, SpaghettiOs, Ravioli, Canned Meats, Chili, Corn, Diced Tomatoes, Crackers (Ritz or Saltines), Snacks, Fruit Juices, Canned or Powdered Milk.

Household Items: New Underwear and Socks for Adults & Kids, 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.

Spring Yard Sale – April 20th 8:00-12:00

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

189 items were delivered to Sharing God's Love on March 4th.

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>