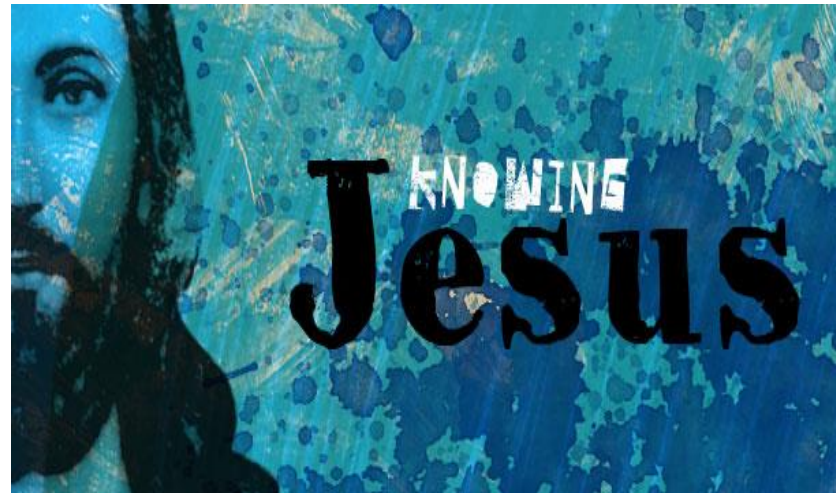


Salem United Methodist Church

1321 Salem Church Road
Irmo, South Carolina 29063
Established 1873



Series: Words for the Beginning
Today's Message: Knowing Jesus

December 29, 2024
1st Sunday After Christmas Day

December 29, 2024

1st Sunday After Christmas Day

The color white is used as an expression of joy and celebration in this season of Christmas.

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

Come and see!

The light of God has come into our world to proclaim God's justice and love; it has overcome the darkness and brought new life.

Come and follow!

Christ our companion has redeemed our world. He draws us into a loving family from every tribe and family and culture.

Go and tell!

The Spirit has equipped us for service to love our neighbors as we do ourselves, to bring God's salvation to the ends of the earth.

Come and see, come and follow, go and tell!

In God's Love the nations of the earth will put their hope.

Let us pray:

Holy God, you spoke the world into being, you illuminated the universe by your very speech, then filled the void with life. We look to you in the space between the world and the Kingdom, longing for the fulfillment of your word in the work of the Holy Spirit and the reign of Christ, our Creator and King. Amen.

*HYMN

Let Joy Be Your Companion
GO TELL IT ("Go Tell It on the Mountain")

Refrain:

Let joy be your companion, let laughter ring out everywhere. Let joy be your companion, for joy's a gift from God.

With eulogies and scriptures, the mourners say goodbye.

A story sparks the laughter, that interrupts their cries. (Refrain)

As protestors assemble, their grievances to bring.

Yes, even in their anger, they find a song to sing. (Refrain)

In anxious nights spent fretting, when changes feel immense.

The dawn is yet approaching, the sun will rise again. (Refrain)

When deep fatigue has settled, into your very bones. Let strength come from the memories, of all the joy you've known. (Refrain)

A TIME OF PRAYER and **LORD'S PRAYER**

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY 95

CHRISTMAS HYMN SING *(Have your requests ready!)*

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

INTRODUCTION TO THE LESSON

GOSPEL LESSON

John 1:1-18

*HYMN 246

Joy to the World

PROCLAMATION:

Series: *Words for the Beginning*
Today's Message: *Knowing Jesus*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, the creator and giver of life, who brought all creation to birth, our Heavenly Father, protecting, nurturing, and cherishing us.

We believe in Jesus Christ: God born among us as a fragile baby, embodying both love and the need for love, and calling us to rest in God as trustingly as a tiny child.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, breathed into us at our birth, always drawing us on to be born again, encouraging, exhorting, comforting, nourishing our growth and inspiring our living.

We believe in the reconciliation of the world to God, through Christ, who entered our fearful darkness so that we might enter his glorious light and share the life of his resurrection.

And we believe that each new child is a glimpse of the face of God, a sign of the life to come, and a call to live in peace and celebrate living together. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 238

Angels We Have Heard On High

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE 219

What Child Is This (verse 1)

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

*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

Due to the Christmas and New Year's holiday schedule, the December 15, 22 & December 29, 2024 Stewardship Report will appear in the January 12, 2025 bulletin.

Attendance	On Line Viewing
Worship 151 Sunday School 53	275

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER:

Brookdale — Millie Howard, Mary Skenes
Carroll Campbell Place — Barbara Rolin
Generations of Irmo — Joyce Cook, Dot Corley
Lowman Home — Gwen Parnell
Tyborne UCP — Jessica Gore
Special Prayers — Debra Ailes, E.L. Ayers, Amy Bundrick, Freddie Butler, Bob Davis, Faye Derrick, Frank Eargle, Mitchell Faulkenberry, Inez Hyatt, Joyce Lewis, Lee McMillan, Jonnie Mitchell, Marilyn O'Mellan, Margie Oswald, Barbara Pereira, Shannon Robertson, Mary Simon, Marty Spearman, Susan Spearman, Steve Smith, Terry Waites

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY:

Ushers:	Lead – Randy Hilliard Scott Butler John Hood Ted Hornsby Ron Joye
Sound Booth:	Dustin Tanner
Acolyte:	Peyton Baker
Nursery:	Susan Price, Thomas Brewton

Flower Ministry

The flowers which grace the Holy Altar today are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of Chris and Carrie Corley's anniversary by Keith and Donna Corley.

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!

Ladies Lunch Bunch

The Ladies' Lunch Bunch will take a break during the month of December. We look forward to getting back together in January after the holidays.

OASIS

Join us **January 21st at 11:30** in the fellowship hall for our next Oasis event. Our very own Jennifer Brewton, from the SC Department on Aging will be here to share the many opportunities and programs that are available within our county. We will additionally enjoy a hot dog luncheon complete with all the trimmings. Please call us by Thursday, January 16th to RSVP so that we can plan appropriately for our meal and program. We look forward to seeing you then!

2025 Flower Calendar

The 2025 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.***

Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes have arrived for 2025! They are in the Welcome Center.

Memorials in Loving Memory of

Carolyn Brower

by David & Martina Thomas – Missions Fund
by Salem United Women in Faith – Building Fund

Bill Rolin

by Brandon & Kim Stutts – Building Fund

Anita Weed

by Brandon & Kim Stutts – Building Fund

DSS SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

HENRY McMASTER, GOVERNOR
MICHAEL LEACH, STATE DIRECTOR



November 4, 2024

Tina Overton and Donna Corley
Salem United Methodist Church
1321 Salem Church Rd
Irmo, SC 29063

The Salem United Methodist Church,

On behalf of the Lexington County Department of Social Services, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Salem United Methodist Church for their generous donations of diapers and wipes for our foster children. We are truly grateful for your commitment to the welfare of the children in our community. Thank you for your continued support and benevolence.

Sincerely,

Greg A. Frohnappel, Director
Lexington County Department of Social Services

Olivia Woods, Foster Care Program Coordinator
Lexington County Department of Social Services

Jessica McLendon, Foster Care Supervisor
Lexington County Department of Social Services

LEXINGTON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 84129, LEXINGTON, SC 29073
PH: 803-785-7333

WWW.DSS.SC.GOV

*Happy New Year
from the Salem Church Staff*

***The Church Office will be closed December
31st and January 1st for New Years.***

THIS WEEK AT SALEM

Sunday, December 29

9:30 A.M. Sunday School
10:30 A.M. Morning Worship

Tuesday, December 31

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Wednesday, January 1

7:00 A.M. AA Meeting

Thursday, January 2

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

Saturday, January 4

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Sunday, January 5

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

Sharing God's Love

Current Pantry Needs: Cereal, Tea, Spaghetti Noodles, Elbow Pasta and Juices

Household Items: Diapers size 4,5 and 6. New Underwear and White Socks any size. Linens, Comforters and Blankets - All Sizes. Winter coats, all sizes.

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

340 items were delivered to Sharing God's Love on Dec. 16th.

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: saalemumcsc.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. Baker — Director of Children's Ministries

Sarah E. High — Director of Music Ministries

Angie Lain — Manager of Business & Finance

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 ([saalemumcofirmo](https://www.instagram.com/saalemumcofirmo)) 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.