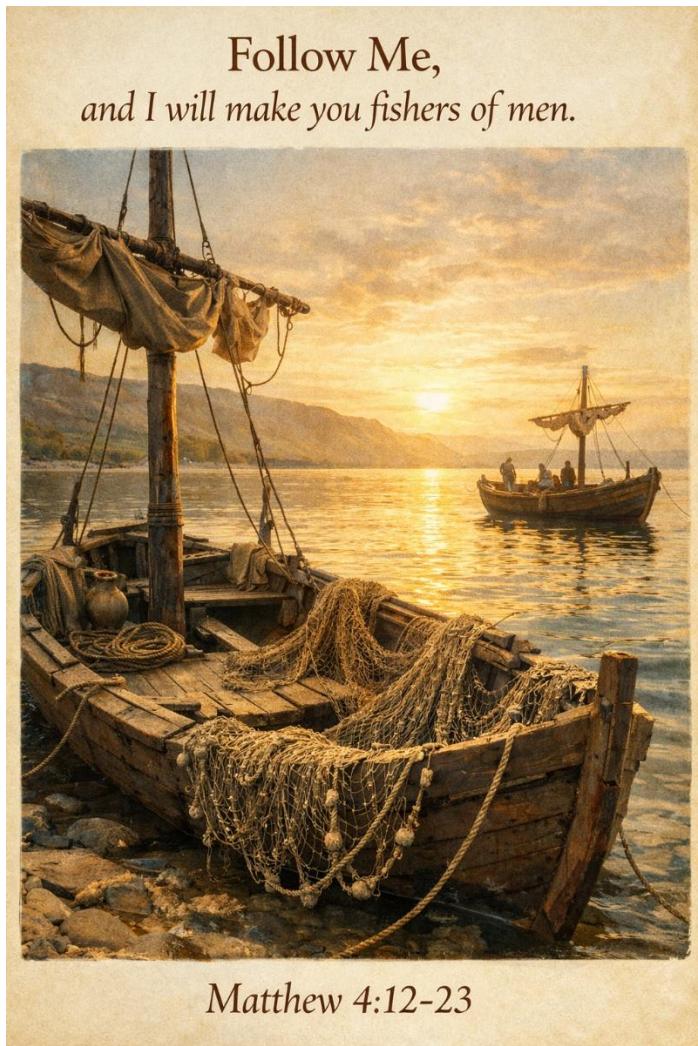


Salem United Methodist Church

1321 Salem Church Road
Irmo, South Carolina 29063
Established 1873



Teaching Narrative for The Five Sundays
From December 28 – January 25

Seek → Trust → Claim → Meet → **Follow**

January 25, 2026
3rd Sunday After the Epiphany

January 25, 2026
3rd Sunday After the Epiphany

The color green is used to denote growth, reminding us of our journey of growing in discipleship and faith.

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

The light of Christ has dawned, shining into the shadows of our world.

We come seeking that light, longing for hope and direction.

As he did long ago, Jesus still calls ordinary people to extraordinary purpose, to learn His ways, share His love, and serve His kingdom.

We come ready to follow, ready to grow, ready to be transformed.

Let us worship the One who calls us still.

With joy and trust, we lift our lives to Christ, our Teacher and Lord.

Let us pray:

Holy God, you call us to follow your Son with open hearts and willing spirits. As Jesus invited the first disciples, invite us again today. Give us courage to leave behind what holds us back and faith to walk wherever you send us. Shape our hearts in this time of worship so that we may learn from Christ, serve in His name, and live as people of His kingdom. Amen.

*HYMN 430

O Master Let Me Walk with Thee

A TIME OF PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY 95

ANTHEM

Here Comes Heaven

Peyton Baker

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

INTRODUCTION TO THE LESSON

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 4:12-23

*HYMN 348

Softly and Tenderly

PROCLAMATION

Following Jesus

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 396

O Jesus I Have Promised

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE 347

Spirit Song (verse 1)

O let the son of God enfold you with his Spirit and his love. Let him fill your heart and satisfy your soul. O let him have the things that hold you, and his Spirit like a dove will descend upon your life and make you whole. Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs. Jesus, O Jesus, come and fill your lambs.

*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.*

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!

STEWARDSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

Week of January 11, 2026

Unified budget received \$5,834.00

Week of January 18, 2026

Needed each week to fund unified budget \$15,042.40

Unified budget received \$11,600.09

Needed to meet budget year to date (Incldg. bldg. fund) \$45,243.14

Unified budget received year to date (Incldg. bldg. fund) \$39,359.09

Attendance

Worship 114 Sunday School 66

On Line Viewing

152

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY REMEMBER:

Brookdale — Millie Howard, Mary Skenes

Carroll Campbell Place — Barbara Rolin

Generations of Irmo — Joyce Lewis

Lowman Home — Gwen Parnell

Tyborne UCP — Jessica Gore

White Oak Manor (Newberry) — Debra Ailes

Special Prayers — E.L. Ayers, Amy Bundrick,

Freddie Butler, Bob Davis, Emma Davis,

David Dunn, Mary Ann Gibson, Peggy Gooch,

Dawn Haltiwanger, Vicky Harris, Inez Hyatt,

Johnnie Metts, Lee McMillan, Jonnie Mitchell,

Margie Oswald, Mike Owen, Barbara Pereira,

Lucretia Seigler, Dustin Tanner, Gail Van Valkenburg,

Jim Van Valkenburg, Terry Waites, Marie Wicker

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY:

Ushers:

Lead — Ryan Cole

Will Bowers

John Hood

Sherri Puette

Dustin Tanner

Steven Smith

Molly Vyskocil

Katie Vyskocil

Dawn Horton

Flower Ministry

The flowers which grace the Holy Altar today are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of Dawn and Furkan's birthdays by Francis Haltiwanger.

Our Christian Sympathy

We would like to express our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Joyce Cook upon her passing.

Memorials in Loving Memory of Joyce Cook

by Lou Holmes — Building Fund

by Dan & Carla Jennings — Pew Fund

by Jim & Marie Lewis — Pew Fund

by Salem OASIS — General Fund

by Salem United Women of Faith — Building Fund

Alan Wells

by Lou Holmes — Building Fund

Rise Against Hunger is Returning

One of the most popular church wide service projects Salem UMC has done in the last few years is returning again this year. For the third year we will be raising money for and hosting a food packing event for Rise Against Hunger. We will be raising money beginning **Jan 11 through Feb 8** to determine how much we will be packing. Last year we raised over \$13,000 and packed thousands of meals and also donated several thousand dollars to the Philippines. The packing date this year will be on Sunday, March 1 with two packing times. More details will come as time goes and signups will be in the Welcome Center each week through Feb 8. Please prayerfully give for this mission once again and join us for a really fun afternoon of packing.

2026 Flower Calendar

The 2026 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.**

Al-Anon Group

Salem UMC welcomes a newly forming Al-Anon group in the Journey Classroom (green room # 202) on **Thursdays at 1 PM**. The group welcomes all family and friends who have been affected by the problems of alcohol or drug abuse and addiction in a loved one. If you have questions, please call 803-465-1609.

Salem UMC Over 50's PROM 2026

Salem UMC youth are going to host a PROM on Saturday, **March 21 from 5:00 - 7:00pm** for anyone and everyone 50 and over!!! Dress in your best and fanciest outfit and join for a blast to the past by walking down the red carpet to a night of dancing, dinner, pictures and more. This is a fundraiser hosted by the youth going to *Youth 2027* in Dallas TX. This PROM will be held in our fellowship hall and will be a night to remember. Tickets will go on sale beginning Monday, Feb 9. They will be \$50 per couple or \$30 per individual. Any questions please contact Jim Magann at jimmagann@gmail.com

Sweetheart of A Lunch

Join us for one "sweetheart of a lunch" on **Sunday, Feb. 8** in the fellowship hall after our morning worship service. Family Ministries will provide lasagna, salad, bread and cheesecake, so bring your appetite and enjoy a time of fellowship with us. The only thing we ask of you is to **RSVP by calling the church office no later than Wednesday, February 4th** so that we can properly prepare.



THIS WEEK AT SALEM

Sunday, January 25

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

Monday, January 26

6:30 P.M. Missions Meeting

Tuesday, January 27

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Wednesday, January 28

7:00 A.M. AA Meeting

Thursday, January 29

1:00 P.M. Al-Anon Group
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Saturday, January 31

7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Sunday, February 1

9:30 A.M. Compass Kids
9:30 A.M. Discovery
9:30 A.M. Sunday School
10:30 A.M. Morning Worship
4:00 P.M. Kid's Quest
5:00 P.M. Youth
6:00 P.M. Community Outreach Zoom Meeting

Sharing God's Love

Urgent Pantry Needs: Pancake Mix, Syrup, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Can Soup, Canned Fruit, Diced Tomatoes, Coffee, Tea, Chili, Crackers (Ritz or Saltines), Fruit Juices, Cranberry Sauce, Canned or Powered Milk.

Household Items: King & Queen-sized sheets and comforters (new or gently used). New underwear for adults & kids, Winter coats, New socks all sizes, blankets all sizes, wash cloths, hand & bath towels, pots, pans, plates, glasses, cookware, bakeware, kitchen linens, small appliances.

Santa's Shop: Toys for Ages 1-18, Christmas PJ's, Stocking Stuffers, Candy, Games, Books, Personal Care Gift Sets, Gift Cards, Gift Wrap or Bags, Older Teen Boy & Girl Gift Items.

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

297 items were delivered to Sharing God's Love on Jan. 13th.

91 items were from the Seekers Christmas Party

**Special thanks to the Sunday school classes for the donations and
Booking It Club for their cash donation.**

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: salemumesc.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
P. J. Baker — Director of Children's Ministries
Ben Beam — Pianist
Angie Lain — Manager of Business & Finance
Miriam Y. Lovett — Organist
Jim Magann — Coordinator of Children/Youth
and Missions Ministries
Christopher Moore - Director of Music Ministry
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.

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>