

### Visitors & Members

Please register your attendance on the pads located at the end of each pew. We are so glad you are worshipping with us today! Please find an usher or staff member if you have any questions.

### Church Information

If you would like to receive our weekly e-blast, please e-mail us at [hello@iopmethodist.com](mailto:hello@iopmethodist.com)

### Adult Sunday School Classes

**Anchor:** Uses Bible-based Cokesbury study material. Meets in the classroom across from the nursery.

**All Comers:** Uses Bible-based Cokesbury study materials. Meets in the classroom next to the kitchen on the first floor of the Sanctuary building.

For more information, call Nancy Wood. Cell: (843) 830-7365

**Boone Bowen:** A non-traditional approach to fostering a Christian faith. Meets in the Admin Building, first door on the left.

For more information, call Mary Chason. Cell: (843) 270-9092

**Advent Study:** Please join Suzan Phillips to study the Christmas Story, from Isaiah to the Gospels, throughout the season of Advent. Beginning November 2nd at 9:30am on Sundays OR 11:00am on Mondays in the Fellowship Hall.

### Children & Youth Sunday School Classes

**Pre-K—2nd Grade:** Meets in the classroom next to the kitchen.

**3rd—5th Grade:** Meets in classroom across from the nursery.

**6th—12th Grade:** Meets in the Youth Loft in the Admin Building.

### Announcements:

**Advent:** Every Sunday in Advent, beginning November 30th—December 28th, there will be ONE combined service at 10:30am in the Sanctuary.

**Live Nativity:** Join us TONIGHT, December 7th at 6:00pm, for a special Live Nativity led by First Church's youth.

**For Unto Us:** Join us for a hymn festival featuring FUMC IOP Choir, Charleston Symphony Orchestra, and Charleston Symphony Chorus on December 14th at 4:00pm in the Sanctuary for the "Messiah" and other works celebrating the coming of the Christ Child.

**ECCO (East Cooper Community Outreach):** This month, ECCO is in need of the following items. **Food Items:** Lima beans, beef stew, and lasagna noodles.

**Other Items:** Laundry detergent and assorted cleaners.

Donations can be dropped off in one of three locations: below the Narthex (next to the flower calendar), in the Fellowship Hall, or in the Admin building. Thank you for supporting our neighbors in need!

**HALOS:** Thank you for providing Christmas gifts to those children served by HALOS. Gifts should be brought to the church by December 7. If you would be interested in volunteering with the gift drive between December 7 - 13 call 843-304-2021 or email [ashley@charlestonhalos.org](mailto:ashley@charlestonhalos.org).

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

### Sunday, December 7

9:15 AM First Friends  
9:30 AM Sunday School Classes  
10:30 AM One Combined Service  
(In the Sanctuary)  
6:00 PM Live Nativity  
(on the Church yard)

### Monday, December 8

9:30 AM Devotional Beach Walk  
11:00 AM Advent Study  
(In the Fellowship Hall)  
4:00 PM Mahjong  
(In the Fellowship Hall)  
4:00 PM Star Gospel Mission Night  
& Christmas Party  
4:30 PM Trustee Meeting  
(Boone Bowen)

### Tuesday, December 9

10:00 AM Church Staff Meeting  
6:00 PM Disciple IV Bible Study

### Wednesday, December 10

10:00 AM Crafty Ladies  
(Fellowship Hall)  
10:00 AM MLBSG  
(Anchor classroom)  
5:00 PM Handbell Practice  
(Choir Room)  
6:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice  
(Choir Room)

### Thursday, December 11

9:30 AM Line Dancing  
(Fellowship Hall)

### Men of First Church:

The Men's Club of First Church needs you, and we would like you to join us as we chart a new course in Men's Ministry. We have developed a questionnaire to learn how we can encourage you to be part of the men of the church, and we want to know what you think! The questionnaires are in the narthex. Please fill one out and drop it in the basket or drop it off at the church office. See Mike Holman, Lindsay Walker, Cal McCombs, or Tom Scruggs for details.

### Our Commitment In Action Sunday, November 30

10:30 Combined Worship Service TOTAL 176

### Our Gifts As Of Sunday, November 30:

Annual Budget: \$755,000.00

Required each week: \$14,519.23

Required YTD: \$711,442.31

Received YTD: \$651,839.91

To give online, please scan the QR code or go to [www.iopmethodist.com](http://www.iopmethodist.com)



### OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Charles Phillips, Pastor

Jen Robertson, Director of Member Care and Development

Courtney Kraus, Director of Youth and Student Ministries

Julianne Wise, Office Manager

Alex Wilson, Director of Music and Worship Arts

Marcie Lesesne, Nursery Coordinator

[caphillips@umcsc.org](mailto:caphillips@umcsc.org)

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Originated 1950



Our mission is to discover, celebrate,  
and share God's love!



## Second Sunday of Advent

Ministers: All People

Pastor: Rev. Charles A. Phillips

E-Mail: [caphillips@umcsc.org](mailto:caphillips@umcsc.org)

12 21st Avenue, Isle of Palms, SC 29451

[www.iopmethodist.com](http://www.iopmethodist.com)

Color: Blue

December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

10:30am

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Gathering Music

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Ukuthula Traditional Zulu prayer

† The Processional Hymn UMH 213

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates TRURO

† Lighting of the Advent Wreath

† Musical Response

While We Are Waiting, Come WAITING

Musical notation for the hymn 'While We Are Waiting, Come'. The lyrics are: While we are wait - ing, come, while we are With power and glo - ry come, with power and With love un - end - ing, come, with love un - wait - ing come, Je - sus, our Lord, Em - glo - ry come, end - ing, come, man - u - el, while we are wait - ing, come

Receiving New Members

Presentation of Bibles to 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders

Griffin James Burgoyne  
Eleanor Frances Milcarek  
May Elizabeth Morris  
Lowell Bohdi McConnell

Children’s Message

Courtney Kraus

Anthem

Walk in the Light Andre Thomas

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit; that as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

Psalm

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

The Second Reading

Romans 15:4-13

† The Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

The Message “When Heaven Comes Near” Pastor Charles

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

† Hymn of Response TFWS 2157 (x4)

Come and Fill Our Hearts CONFITEMINI DOMINO

Musical notation for the hymn 'Come and Fill Our Hearts'. The lyrics are: Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly. Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al-le - lu - ia!

† Invitation to the Table and The Passing of the Peace UMH 12

Offertory

† The Doxology UMH 472

LASST UNS ERFRUEUN

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (with Advent text)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Lift up your hearts in Advent hope!  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God who sends the promised One,  
The dawn of peace, God’s radiant Son—  
O praise Him! O praise Him!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

† The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing... And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you... And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit... Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

Amen.

† Sharing the Bread and Cup

Today we will receive the Bread and Cup of our Lord by intinction. As you are able, come down front to one of the communion stations to receive a small bit of bread. You are welcome to dip the bread lightly in the cup as you receive. After you have received communion, you may remain in prayer at the rail, or you may return to your seat as others receive.

† Prayer after Communion

Eternal God,

we give you thanks for this holy mystery

in which you have given yourself to us.

Open the world to the joy of your gift of Jesus Christ

that all might know and believe.

Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

† Hymn of Dedication TFWS 2085

He Came Down HE CAME DOWN

† Words of Blessing and Choral Benediction

Christ, Be Our Light, V2.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless

Longing for warmth, many are cold

Make us your building, sheltering others,  
Walls made of living stone

Refrain: Christ, be our light! shine in our hearts,  
shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light!  
shine in your church gathered today.

† Postlude

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright Hal Hopson

Serving Today:  
Ushers—Dolly Cannon and Barbara Scarboro  
Lay Reader—Teresa McKenzie  
Advent Candle Lighters—Bowen Family

Altar Flowers:  
Today's flowers are to the glory of God  
in loving memory of Mack and Anne Lassiter  
given by Louanne.