



First United Methodist Church

MARCH 29, 2026 | 11:00 AM

PALM SUNDAY

The Church with a Heart in the Heart of Cheraw

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PALM SUNDAY – PURPLE

MARCH 29, 2026 | 11:00 AM

Welcome to worship at First United Methodist Church of Cheraw on Palm Sunday!
Whether you're visiting with us, long-time member, or looking for a church home, we are honored that you've chosen to join us for worship.
Please follow the order of worship carefully.
(†) Denotes all to rise in body or spirit.

PRELUDE

The Royal Procession of the King

Eugene Simpson

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY & INTROIT

The Palms

Jean Baptiste Faure

O'er all the way, green palms and blossoms gay are strewn today in festal preparation, where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away, E'en how the throng to welcome Him prepare: Join all and sing, His name declare, Let ev'ry voice resound with joyous acclamation. Refrain: Hosanna! Praised be the Lord! Bless Him, who cometh to bring us salvation! His word goes forth, and peoples by His might once more regain freedom from degradation, Humanity doth give to each his right, while those in darkness find restored the light. Refrain. Sing and rejoice, O Blest Jerusalem! Of all thy sons sing the emancipation, Thro' boundless love the Christ of Bethlehem brings faith and hope to thee forever more. Refrain.

WELCOME

Jimmie Williamson

†HYMN 278

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

ELLACOMBE

PASTORAL PRAYER/THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Kovas

Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jimmie Williamson

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 the 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.

†GLORIA PATRI

GREATOREX

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Kovas

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen. *Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.*

PSALTER 764 – PSALM 31: 1-16 R 1

Jimmie Williamson

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Kovas

†HYMN 277

Tell Me the Stories of Jesus

STORIES OF JESUS

OFFERTORY

The Holy City

Stephen Adams

SOLOISTS: SUE SKIPPER, SOPRANO; AMY ESCHENFELDER, ALTO; JOSHUA KING, TENOR
Joshua: Last night I lay a-sleeping, there came a dream so fair; I stood in old Jerusalem, beside the temple there; I heard the children singing, and ever as they sang, *Women:* Me thought the voice of angels from heav'n in answer rang! *Choir:* Jerusalem, Jerusalem! Lift up your gates and sing, Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna to your king. *Joshua:* And then me-thought my dream was changed, the streets no longer rang. Hushed were the glad hosannas the

little children sang; The sun grew dark with mystery, the morn was cold and chill, as the shadow of a cross arose upon a lonely hill, **Women:** the shadow of a cross arose upon a lonely hill. **Choir:** Jerusalem! Hark how the angels sing. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna to your king. **Sue & Amy:** And once again the scene was changed, new earth there seemed to be! I saw the holy city beside the tideless sea; the light of God was on its street, the gates were open wide, and all who would might enter, and no one was denied. No need of moon or stars by night, nor sun to shine by day; It was the new Jerusalem that would not pass away; **Women:** It was the new Jerusalem that would not pass away! **Choir:** Jerusalem! Sing for the night is o'er. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna to your King! Hosanna forevermore!

†DOXOLOGY

OLD 100th

ANTHEM

Ride On, King Jesus! Moses Hogan
Ride on, King Jesus, ride on, the conquering king. No man can a-hinder thee. I was but young when I begun. No man can a-hinder thee. But now my race is almost done. No man can a-hinder thee. O, Ride on, King Jesus, ride on, the conquering king. King Jesus rides a milk white horse. No man can a-hinder thee. The ribber of Jordan he did cross. No man can a-hinder thee. He's the King and the Lord of all. He's the first and the last. He's the Lord of Lord's. Jesus is the Prince of peace. No man can a-hinder thee. O, Ride on, King Jesus, ride on, the conquering king. Ride on! Ride on Jesus!

†SCRIPTURE READING *congregation stands*

Mark 11: 1-11

Rev. Kovas

SERMON

HOLY ANGER

Rev. Kovas

†HYMN 280

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

ST. THEODULPH

†DISMISSAL & PRAYER

Rev. Kovas

†CHORAL BENEDICTION

Jesus, Remember Me (SATB)

Taize Melody

Jesus, remember me, when you come into your kingdom.

This will be sung a capella four times, each time adding in another section of the choir.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Let us faithfully pray for Emily Marsh, Martha Griggs, Thomas & Sharon McKinnon, Frank Shutt, Pal Moore, Kaitlyn Freeman, Lesley Jean Watson, Pam Walter (*Angie Smith's cousin*), Wyatt Smith (*Gini Eddins MMO Child*), Nadia Harris, Gailya Wilson, John Trussell, James Thurman (*Angie Smith's dad*), Gayle Davis, Sandra Laney (*Sara Lee's Sister-in-law*), Wendy Sullivan Thomas (*Mickey & Gwen Sullivan's Daughter*), Edna Mills (*Joey Mills' mother*), the family of Vernice Steele (*David McLean's sister*), Debbie Elmore, Patti Rollins, Shelby Nolan (*on the loss of her beloved fur-baby, Missy*), Mae Winstead (*Amy Eschenfelder's friend*), and Don Dixon (*Judy Dixon's Brother-in-law*).

As members of God's family, remember those who are trapped in the cycle of addiction and those who walk with them. Remember the over-thinkers, the doubters, the worriers, the depressed, and those riddled with anxiety. Remember those who are grieving the loss of a friend or loved one. Remember the young and aged who struggle with chronic mental illnesses. Remember those who struggle with mobility impediments. Remember the other nations of the world. Remember those who serve in our military and defend our great nation. Remember our president, congress, governors, mayors, state & local employees, healthcare workers and doctors, EMTs, firefighters, law enforcement officers, and those who labor tirelessly with no relief. We also remember those who live with progressive neurological or immunological diseases and those who support them. During the spring months, remember those who are severely affected with the changing season as pollen is released into the air. Remember our farmers who begin their work in the fields after the cold. Remember those who struggle with change. Remember the oppressed and marginalized, those without food and water, those who are scorned, and those who are misunderstood or different from the rest. Remember those who continuously receive bad news. Finally, remember those who do not know the love of Jesus. Remember those who have been hurt by religion and have turned away from God that they might experience His great redeeming love once more. Remember those who are no longer involved in or with a church. Remember each ministry of our church and all churches that they may seek to glorify and honor God. Remember those who pray but find their prayers unanswered. Remember those who feel like giving up. Remember those who are persecuted in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and those who have died defending it.

LORD, IN YOUR MERCY: HEAR OUR PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SEASON OF LENT:

Lent is a solemn time in the Christian liturgical calendar, reflecting the 40 days Jesus fasted in the wilderness before beginning His public ministry (Matthew, Mark, and Luke). It is a season of spiritual preparation, inviting believers to draw closer to God through repentance, prayer, fasting, and acts of charity as they prepare for Easter. Purple paraments adorn the church, and a purple sash is placed on the cross outside. Purple symbolizes royalty, penitence, repentance, and solemnity.

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES CLASS:

Pastor Joseph will lead a spiritual disciplines class this Lenten season. There will be two class times offered on **Mondays at 10:00am** and **Wednesday Nights at 6:00pm** in the fellowship hall. The class will run from the week of February 22 and conclude the week of March 29. Please bring a Bible to the class. No additional material is needed.

LENTEN LUNCHESES:

Come join us this Lent for community Lenten Lunches! **First UMC** will host **April 1 at 12:00pm**. Rev. Joseph Kovas will be the guest preacher. If you are providing food for the April 1 Lenten Lunch, you may drop off your food on Tuesday, March 31 at 2:00pm in the fellowship hall or you may drop it off April 1 at 11:00am. Please bring food to the fellowship hall and if needed place it in the refrigerator. *Thank you so much, Gini Eddins.*

JOHN WESLEY'S DIRECTIONS FOR SINGING, RULE #7:

Above all sing spiritually. Have an eye to God in every word you sing. Aim at pleasing him more than yourself, or any other creature. In order to do this attend strictly to the sense of what you sing, and see that your heart is not carried away with the sound, but offered to God continually so shall your singing be such as the Lord will approve here, and reward you when he cometh in the clouds of heaven.
From John Wesley's *Select Hymns*, 1761

GRIEFSHARE:

GriefShare is the world's most trusted grief recovery program. Our church has offered this program to our community consistently since 2017. It provides comfort, relief, and stability for those walking through grief. There is no charge for participant materials, as our church has always provided. Currently this funding comes from Memorial funds. GriefShare meets each Wednesday at 10:30am in the Parlor. All are welcome. *Bonnie Cundiff & Amy Eschenfelder, Facilitators*

ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY:

This year, you have the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend the 250th celebration of America through music. The AC250 Community Choir of Cheraw and the surrounding counties will present a musical program celebrating America's history at FUMC on April 19, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. This special event is proudly sponsored by the Cheraw Arts Commission. Please mark your calendars and invite your friends and family as we come together to fill our church with music and celebration. The program will feature instrumental selections, choral works, congregational songs, and more! Don't miss this memorable event!

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES:

FUMC has an array of special services upcoming that you are cordially invited to attend.

+ **Maundy Thursday** is April 2, 2026, at 6:00pm in our sanctuary.

+ On **Good Friday**, FUMC has been invited by First Presbyterian Church to join them for their noon service at 12:00pm (April 3, 2026). There will not be a Good Friday service at FUMC. Please attend the FPC service.

+ **Easter Sunrise** will take place on the front steps of FUMC at 6:45am on April 5, 2026.

+ **Easter Sunday Service** will take place at 11:00am on Easter Sunday (April 5, 2026). Please make plans to attend this special service! **The FLOWERING OF THE CROSS** will take place on the front steps of the church as well. Please uproot your entire yard of flowers and place them on the cross out front before the Easter Service begins. It will be lovely!

FROM MISSIONS & EVANGELISM:

Birthday celebration! Please support our youth in celebrating everyone's birthday on Palm Sunday at 3:30pm in our fellowship hall. You will sit at your birthday table and enjoy dessert and fellowship with other Methodists. Bring a churn of homemade ice-cream if you wish.

ABBA'S House will celebrate Resurrection Monday on Monday, April 6. This is the dinner that all participating churches help in serving to those in need. FUMC is responsible for green beans. Please donate #10 size cans of green beans for this community outreach. We need people to help prepare the beans around 1:00pm on Monday, April 6. Thank you!

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS:

March 29 - Palm Sunday; children's processional with palms;
3:30pm egg hunt; church-wide birthday event;
5:30pm youth will eat out

April 5 - EASTER (no meeting)

April 12 - Regular meeting; rehearsal for Youth Sunday

April 18 (Sat.) - 10:00am-12:00pm Youth Sunday rehearsal

April 19 - Youth Sunday; youth are asked to meet at 10:00am

April 26 & May 3 - Regular meeting

May 10 - Mother's Day (no meeting); May 17 - Last regular meeting

IN MEMORY OF CURTIS JONES

MEMORIALS

by Ron & Bonnie Cundiff

IN MEMORY OF JACK VAN DEMAN

MEMORIALS

by Ron & Bonnie Cundiff

IN MEMORY OF SHEP STRAUGHN

MEMORIALS

by Ron & Bonnie Cundiff

IN MEMORY OF VERNICE STEELE

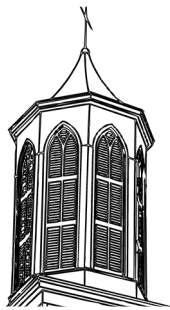
MEMORIALS

by Ron & Bonnie Cundiff

by Julia Jones

BEREAVEMENT

by Julia Jones



SUNDAY *March 29*

9:15am.....Choir

10:00am.....Sunday School

10:00am.....Youth call-time (Sanctuary)

11:00am.....Worship

3:30pm.....Birthday Event; Egg Hunt

5:30pm-7:00pm.....Fireflies & Youth

MONDAY *March 30*

9:00am-1:30pm.....Church open

10:00am.....Spiritual Discipline

TUESDAY *March 31*

9:00am-1:30pm.....Church open

10:30am-12:00pm.....Planning

12:00pm.....Bulletin Deadline

WEDNESDAY *April 1*

9:00am-1:30pm.....Church open

10:30am.....GriefShare (parlor)

12:00pm.....Lenten Lunch at FUMC

5:30pm-6:15pm.....Handbells

6:00pm.....Spiritual Discipline

6:30pm-8:00pm.....Choir

THURSDAY *April 2*

6:00pm.....Maundy Thursday Service

SUNDAY *April 5 Easter Sunday*

6:45am.....Easter Sunrise (Porch)

9:00am.....Choir

10:00am.....Handbells

10:00am.....Sunday School

11:00am.....Easter Worship

TITHE NEEDED WEEKLY.....	\$5,928.83
CONTRIBUTIONS MAR 22.....	\$5,078.00
SUNDAY SCHOOL MAR 22.....	40
WORSHIP MAR 22.....	84
LITURGIST.....	Jimmie Williamson
LITURGIST APR 5.....	Rhett Butler
GREETER.....	Ray Crouse
GREETER APR 5.....	Eric & Kelly Dusa
HEAD USHER MAR.....	David McLean
ALTAR GUILD MAR.....	Pat Barham & Erika Kollitz
ACOLYTE MAR.....	Norma Cobb
NURSERY.....	Michelle Rohde
NURSERY APR 5.....
MCARN FOOD BANK.....	Peanut Butter
ADDRESS.....	117 Third St, Cheraw SC, 29520

Minister | Rev. Joseph Kovas (803.374.1677; jdkovas@umcsc.org)

Administrative Assistant | Shelby Nolan (843.537.7002; fumcadassistant1@gmail.com)

Director of Music/Organist | Jackson Stone (845.506.4312; jacjstone14@gmail.com)