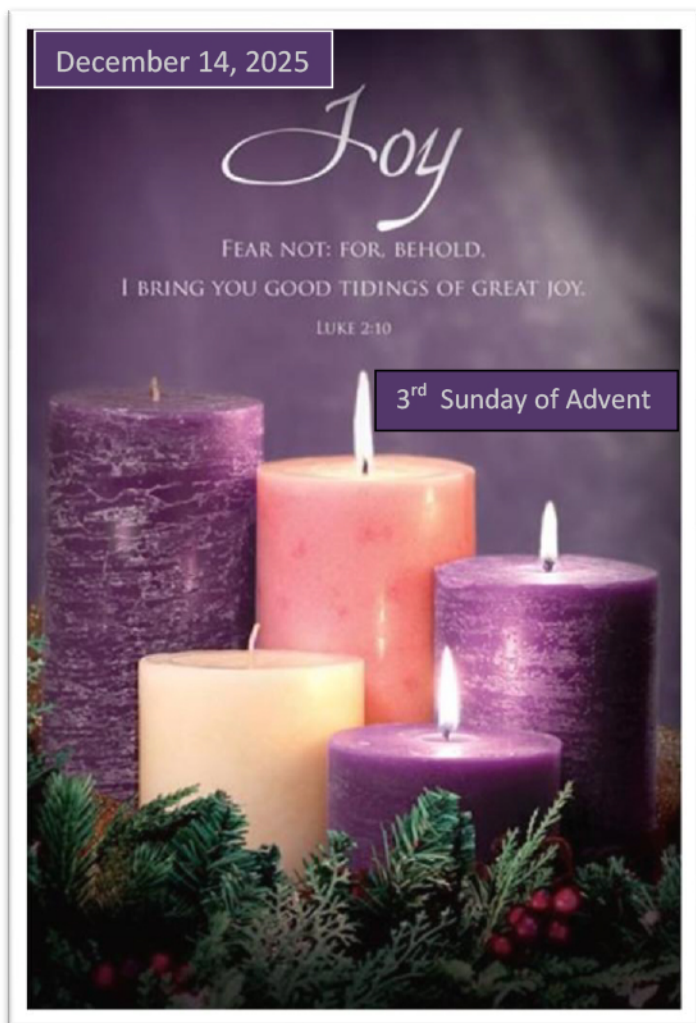


AMAZING GRACE METHODIST CHURCH
Lions Club, 2907 Myrtle St, Edisto Beach



REV. KEVIN P. STROOP

Music Director: Megan Whitt

Church Service: 9AM

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!



AMAZING GRACE METHODIST CHURCH

3rd Sunday of Advent - Purple **December 14, 2025**

PRELUDE "Gesu Bambino" - Yon

INTROIT "Like a Child"

Like a child love would send to reveal and to mend,
Like a child and a friend, Jesus comes
Like a child we may find claiming heart soul and mind,
Like a child strong and kind, Jesus comes.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, who abides in the shadow of the Almighty,

People: will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust.

Leader: Because you have the Lord your refuge, the Most High your habitation,

People: He will give His angels charge of you and guard you in all your ways

Let us Pray.

*OPENING PRAYER:

O God of the guiding star which brought gentile kings to worship the Christ-child; strengthen and encourage us who now follow that star, and lead us into all the dark places of the earth, letting the light of Christ shine through us. May that day come when all people shall pay due homage to the King of kings, Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Jan & Reid Pollard
(back of bulletin)

***OPENING HYMN** "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" Hymn 390

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Apostles Creed**

***GLORIA PATRI**

PASTORAL PRAYER

O God of our Lord Jesus Christ, we admit that we have done many wrong and wicked things and we have neglected doing many loving things, We are sorry that we have thought, said, and done such foolishness. Now we turn away from our mistakes. Forgive us from

not knowing what we do. Forgive us, so that we may so love you and serve you all of our days...

Petitions and Prayer
The Lord's Prayer

WORSHIP WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

ANTHEM "Love Has Come" - Bible/French carol

***DOXOLOGY**

***HYMN** "Angels from the Realms of Glory" Hymn 382

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 1:28-38 (scripture below)
Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON MESSAGE Rev. Kevin Stroop

***HYMN** "Away in a Manger" Hymn 384

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE "Gesù Bambino" - Yon

****Those who are able, please stand***

SCRIPTURE – Luke 1:28-38

²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." ³⁴ "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. ³⁶ Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. ³⁷ For no word from God will ever fail." ³⁸ "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Week Three – JOY

Reader 1: We have lit again the first two candles in our Advent wreath, to remind us of God's gifts of hope and peace. Today we will light the third candle, the candle of joy.

Reader 2: As we wait for Christmas, the birth of Jesus, we look forward to the joyful celebrations we will share and those we love. The prophet Zephaniah calls us to shout for joy, because God will transform the people. When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the angel told the shepherds not to be afraid. The angels brought "Good news of a great joy, which shall be to all people." The good news of Jesus' birth and the promise of Shalom are still "tidings of great joy" for us today.

Reader 1: Paul tells us to rejoice in God always. The third candle reminds us of our joy in Jesus Christ. (Light the third candle.)

Let us Pray: God of Joy, thank you for the excitement and delight we experience at this joyful time of year. Help us to share your joy with others, so that they too will be filled with your spirit. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DATES

Fellowship is today after church service. All are invited to attend.

COMMUNION IS DECEMBER 21.

COMBINED CHRISTMAS CANTATA- Breath of Heaven is a moving musical retelling of the Nativity, focusing on Mary's intimate walk of faith. Through deeply expressive music, the cantata explores her humanity—her questions, her fears, and her steadfast obedience. Joseph stands beside her in faith, trusting God's plan even when he cannot fully understand it. The choir and narrators weave together scripture, storytelling, and worship as angels rejoice, shepherds respond, and the miracle of Jesus' birth unfolds. This cantata invites us to step into the story, to feel the quiet holiness of that night in Bethlehem, and to remember that God still breathes His presence and peace into our lives. 'Breath of Heaven' becomes not just Mary's prayer, but ours as well—"Hold me together, Lighten my darkness, Pour over me Your holiness." We welcome you all to join us Sunday, December 21 at 11:00 am (reception to follow in the FLC).

Christmas Hymn Service is Sunday, December 28. An insert for requested Christmas hymns is in your bulletin. Fill out your requested hymns and give to Megan.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Marilyn Davidson	Ethelynn Boozer	Jane Loy
Nancy Culclasure	Phyllis & John McNerney	Bob Spratlin
Earl Sanders, Jr.	Cheryl Shiffler	Cliffie Jarrell
	Evan McMillian	

Just a note Evan McMillian, 319 East Shore Lane, Charleston, SC 29407, Ethelynn Boozer, 14107 Seabiscuit, Milton, GA 30004 and Nancy Culclasure, 1110 Marshall Rd., Apt. 6409, Greenwood, SC 29646.

Web Page: www.amazinggracemc.org