

ORDER OF WORSHIP
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
FEBRUARY 22, 2026 10:00 am

Purple

GATHERING

RINGING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

* LET US GREET OUR WORSHIPING NEIGHBORS

PRELUDE: *Prayer*

INTROIT: *Open the Eyes of My Heart Lord*

INVOCATION: Neal Smith

* HYMN OF PRAISE: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* UMH #400

* CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Welcome pilgrims on the way to the cross.

People: We are learning to follow Jesus.

Leader: For those who feel Christ near,

People: **May we not turn away from the discomfort of the journey ahead.**

Leader: For those who feel as far from Christ as the desert is from the ocean,

People: **May we find Christ in the wilderness with us.**

Leader: For all of us who stumble and fall in our silence, indifference, and lack of generosity,

People: **May we reach for the hand of Christ, who raises us up to continue on the journey.**

Leader: Pilgrims on the way, come let us worship God!

People: **We come to worship God as we learn to live this sacred way!**

Amen.

*RINGING OF THE TRINITY

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

LENTEN READING: *Diminishing Lights* Peggy Packard

CALL TO PRAYER: *Open Our Eyes Lord* Chancel Choir

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, you offer us so much, forgive us for sharing so little. You have called us to your ways, forgive us for ignoring your call. You have given us the gift of family, forgive us for not giving thanks. You have given us countless blessings, forgive us for taking your love for granted.

And now, gracious God, be merciful to us in our sin and indifference, through Christ, our Savior. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PASTORAL PRAYER: The Lord's Prayer

LET US WORSHIP WITH OUR COINS OF CHANGE

CHILDREN'S TIME: Lindsay Jackson

LET US WORSHIP WITH OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY: *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

* DOXOLOGY: *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH #95

HYMN OF PREPARATION: *Thy Word is a Lamp* UMH #601 vs 1

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me, and nothing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me to the end. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 4:1-11

Mary Wilson Campbell

ANTHEM: *A Lenten Prayer*

Chancel Choir

SERMON: *"Why Bother?"*

Rev. Paula J. Stover

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed*

UMH #881

* GLORIA PATRI: *Glory Be to the Father*

UMH #70

RECEPTION INTO MEMBERSHIP

SENDING FORTH

* HYMN OF DEDICATION: *It is Well with My Soul*

UMH #377

* CHARGE AND BLESSING

Chancel Choir

* BENEDICTION: *Amen*

* POSTLUDE: *Who Is On the Lord's Side*

*Congregation Stands—Please stand as you are able in body or in spirit.



The flowers for today are given to the glory of God by Bill and Misty Singleton in celebration of their son William Logan's birthday.



We welcome you to Socastee United Methodist Church!

Thank you for worshipping with us today. We love our new and returning guests and ask that you please put your name and contact information in one of our red pads found in the pews so we can welcome you and get to know you.

Serving Today

Choir Director/Pianist: Lauren Willis

Organist: Marianne Eaton

Ushers: Alice Dunn, Mary Lehr,

Barbara Gulino, Neal Smith

Steward: Jay Barton

March Steward: George Grzeszkowiak

Nursery Available

Nursery is available in the rear of the sanctuary for children through age 4 during Sunday School and worship. Children's Church is available for ages 4 yrs—5th grade in the Fellowship Hall after Children's Time.

Lectionary Readings for:

Second Sunday in Lent - March 1, 2026

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalm 121

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FOR THIS WEEK AT SUMC

Today: February 22	10:00 am First Sunday in Lent/NS
	1:00 pm Line Dancing/FH
Monday: February 23	5:00 pm Cub Scouts Pack 891/FH
	7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 891/FH
Tuesday: February 24	9:00 am Stitchers/JW
	5:30 pm Girl Scouts/FH
Wednesday: February 25	9:15 am TLC Chapel/NS
	2:00 pm Book Club/JW
	4:00 pm Discipleship Bible Study/FH
	5:45 pm Adult Bell Choir/Bell Choir Room
	6:45 pm Chancel Choir Practice/Choir Room
Thursday: February 26	10:30 am Thursday Bible Study/JW
	12:00 pm Gracie's Heart/JW
Friday: February 27	6:00 pm Line Dancing/FH
Saturday: February 28	All Day Mission Fair Set-up/FH

Remember our Military Members in Prayer

The addresses of all our military family members will be held in the office and can be made available to anyone who would like them.

*Major Jon-Michael Farino (USAF) *CT4 Halle Rae Anderson
*Captain Jennifer and Marc Melfi *SSgt. Warren Scoggin
*Airman First Class Cassie Edwards *CM Sgt. Jessica Heilman
*Captain Melissa Hedges *M/Sgt. Nicolas McLaughlin
*Specialist Isaac Hedges *Airman William Rogers

United Methodist Advocate

If you are a new member of SUMC, you are entitled to a FREE one year subscription to "The United Methodist Advocate," the monthly Methodist newspaper found in South Carolina. If you are interested, please contact the church office at 843-650-3373.

Operation Warm

The Women of Hope are accepting donations of new or gently used gloves, mittens, and socks for our neighbors in need through the last Sunday of February. This includes men, women, and children. There will be a collection box in the Narthex and one in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you in advance for your warm generosity during these cold months.

Needed

The New Directions Men's Shelter is in need of the following for their kitchen:

Black Pepper, Hot Sauce, Ranch Dressing, Mayonnaise, Relish, and Salt.

There will be a box in the Narthex for the next two Sundays to collect these items. Please see Keith Marin or Katrina Barton for information.

OUR PRESENCE 2/15/2026		OUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT	
10am Service	110	In Hospital	No one at this time.
On-Line Views	62	In Rehabilitation	No one at this time.
		In Home Visitations	Kate Eley, Charlotte Minnick, Emily Michael

OUR GIFTS as of 2/15/2026 Operating Fund	
Received this week	\$7,216.00
YTD Receipts	\$45,355.54
YTD Expenses	Will report in March

Fellowship Hall	
Received this week	\$385.00
YTD Receipts	\$2,575.00
Required Monthly	\$3,176.26
Loan Balance as of 1/25/26	\$154,514.24

1875 Sanctuary	
Received this week	\$50.00
YTD Receipts	\$50.00
Account Balance as of 1/25/26	\$6,895.00

Improvements for Present Building//Grounds	
Coins of Change Received this week	\$80.50
YTD Receipts	\$500.50
Balance as of 2/8/26	\$19,147.89



Giving QR Code

Scan this QR code with your smart phone and the link will take you directly to our secure online giving site in Realm.



Pastor: Rev. Paula J. Stover



Our Vision

Our Vision is to love God and our neighbors. As faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, we welcome, receive, and nurture all who come to us.

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