



# Our Family Tree

*Every name a part of God's story*  
JIPC ADVENT SERIES

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 14, 2025



***A Story that roots us, reckons with us, and reorients us  
toward a deeper understanding of who we are and whose we are.***

“Who has done this and carried it through,  
calling forth the generations from the beginning?  
I, the Lord, -with the first of them and with the last – I am he.”  
Isaiah 41:4

PRESERVICE

Mary Kathryn Huddleston

WELCOME

PRELUDE

TOCCATA ON VENI EMMANUEL

Adolphus Hailstork

ADVENT LIGHTING HYMN

LIGHT ONE CANDLE TO WATCH FOR MESSIAH (v3)  
(PLEASE REMAIN SEATED)

TIF IN VELDELE

**Light three candles to watch for Messiah:  
let the light banish darkness.  
Lift your heads and lift high gateway  
for the King of glory**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Osborn-Hornig Family

*Children of God, what are we waiting for?*

*We wait for a joy that cannot be stolen, a joy that wells up even in wilderness places  
and frightening spaces. We wait for laughter to ring out and songs to rise up.*

*Today we light three candles.*

*Hope still shines. Peace still glows.*

*Now JOY joins this chorus of light. May its light declare the good news.*

*May it remind us of the joy-filled places in our lives. And may this light be seen as the promise of  
God that Christ is coming to fill our hearts with a delight no darkness can overcome.*

† HYMN #87

COMFORT, COMFORT NOW MY PEOPLE

GENEVAN

† CALL TO CONFESSION

† PRAYER OF CONFESSION

written by Tracey Davenport

*(silent prayer)*

**Holy and wonderful God, we confess that we have closed our eyes to what you are doing. We  
prefer to concentrate on problems, bad news and violence. When we do, we miss all the  
healing, freeing, and helping you accomplish in our world. We pass up opportunities to  
participate in your Good News. We rob ourselves of so much joy. Forgive us and give us eyes to  
see, ears to hear, minds to understand, and hearts to treasure your mission in the world. Fill us  
with unquenchable joy at the coming of Jesus. Amen.**

† ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*Blessed is the person who believes that what the Lord has said will be accomplished.*

**We believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.**

† RESPONSE OF PRAISE #129

LO, HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING

ES IST EIN' ROS'

**Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung,  
of Jesse's lineage coming, by faithful prophets sung.  
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,  
when half spent was the night.**

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Marilyn Muckenfuss

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

ISAIAH 35:1-10

PG. 663 OT

ANTHEM

SONG OF MARY

Richard Shepherd

GOSPEL LESSON

LUKE 1:39-45

PG. 57 NT

SERMON

OUR FAMILY TREE: JOY

Rev. Terri Wetherell

SILENT REFLECTION

† HYMN #144

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

CRANHAM

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

written by Tracey Davenport

*What do you believe?*

***In Christ, God has given us a glimpse of the new creation God has already begun and will surely finish. We do not know when the final day will come. In our time we see only broken and scattered signs that the renewal of all things is under way. We often miss the Spirit's work in all the places where the fruit of the Spirit inspires God's good around our world. We do not yet see the end of cruelty and suffering in the world, the church, or our own lives. But we see Jesus as Lord. As he stands at the center of our history, we are confident he will stand at its end. He will judge all people and nations. Evil will be condemned and rooted out of God's good creation. There will be no more tears or pain. All things will be made new.***

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

INVITATION TO OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERTORY

WATCHMAN, TELL US OF THE NIGHT

Joseph Parry  
arr. Hugh Knight

† DOXOLOGY #145

WHAT CHILD IS THIS

GREENSLEEVES

***So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!***

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE

***...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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.***

† HYMN #100

MY SOUL CRIES OUT WITH A JOYFUL SHOUT    STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† RESPONSE

† PASSING THE PEACE

† POSTLUDE

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES

Georg Weissel  
arr. Hugh Knight

WE OFFER SPECIAL THANKS FOR THOSE HELPING TO LEAD WORSHIP TODAY:

**Preservice:** Mary Kathryn Huddleston

**Children's Time:** Marilyn Muckenfuss

**Advent Lighting Readers:** Osbon-Hornig Family

**Deacons of the Week:** Marcia Jones/ Heather Bryan

## JAMES ISLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF:

**Rev. Barrett Payne, Senior Pastor** – barrett@jamesislandpc.org, 828-242-1718

**Rev. Terri Wetherell, Associate Pastor** - twetherell@jamesislandpc.org

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**Barbara Manaker, Director of Music** - music@jamesislandpc.org

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**Olin Fox, Sexton** – olin@jamesislandpc.org

## CALENDAR

Sun, Dec 14		<b>3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>		6:00pm	MS & HS Advent Bible Study
	8:45am	Pageant Rehearsal		6:00pm	HV Boys Basketball Practice
	9:00am	Sunday School		6:15pm	Handbell Choir
	9:45am	Coffee Fellowship		7:30pm	Chancel Choir
	10:15am	Worship			
	5:00pm	Christmas Pageant	Thur, Dec 18	5:00pm	Christmas Caroling
	6:00pm	Carols & Cheers		6:00pm	JI Christian Basketball Practice
Mon, Dec 15	10:30am	Women's Bible Study		8:00pm	Sober Thursday AA
	3:00pm	Studio Music Lessons	Fri, Dec 19	7:00pm	Seabreeze AA
	6:30pm	Rev Fit Wellness Class	Sat, Dec 20	8:00am	Men's Bible Study
Tues, Dec 16	3:00pm	Studio Music Lessons	Sun, Dec 21		<b>4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
	6:00pm	HV Girls Basketball Practice		9:00am	Sunday School
	8:00pm	Seabreeze AA		9:45am	Coffee Fellowship
Wed, Dec 17	3:00pm	Music Lessons		10:15am	Worship
	5:00pm	Children & Youth Choirs			

## WORSHIP

**WELCOME TO JIPC!** We're so glad you've joined us for worship today. Whether you're a first-time visitor or a longtime member, we welcome you with open hearts. If you have any questions about our church, worship, ministries, or how to get connected, please do not hesitate to ask a greeter, usher, or staff member — Welcome! We also invite you to join us Next week Sunday, December 21, for the fourth week of Advent as we continue our series "Our Family Tree" and explore **Matthew 1:18-25**.

**BULLETIN COVER:** Today's art titled "Mary & Elizabeth" is by Lauren Wright-Pittman @sanctifiedart.

**ANTHEM NOTE:** "Song of Mary" (Magnificat) Richard Shephard: While spoken by Mary, the Magnificat is triggered by Elizabeth's prophetic words and the meeting of the two women. The text is deeply connected to Elizabeth's story and is a common subject for choral works.

**THE 2025 & 2026 FLOWER CALENDAR IS OPEN:** You can commission flowers in honor or memory of loved ones, and the Flower Guild will put together a beautiful arrangement. The requested donation is \$75. To sign up to give flowers, please scan the QR code or call the church office (843)795-3111.



**NURSERY:** The Nursery is available for children 3 & under and is in the gym building. Care is available for children, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade and below, after Children's Time. Children will be escorted from worship for supervised care for the remainder of worship. We need adult & high school youth volunteers each week to assist the nursery staff. Contact Sarah Grace to sign up to help.

## NURTURE

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT** is **today** at 5 pm. Join us as we celebrate the story of Jesus' birth through a beautiful multi-generational pageant, featuring everyone from our youngest choir members to our adults. All are welcome!

**CAROLS & CHEERS:** Join us **today**, right after the Christmas Pageant for our **CHURCHWIDE Christmas party, "Carols & Cheers!"** We'll meet across the street at Fam's for food, fellowship, and carols. The church will provide food and non-alcoholic beverages. All are welcome! Come, as we celebrate the season together with *Cheers and Carols*. This is for all ages – all are invited. See Rev. Barrett to learn more.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING:** Thursday, **December 18**, at 5:00pm. We will meet in the back parking lot and take buses to sing to some of our homebound members to deliver some Christmas cheer. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Zeiche at (843)-860-6430. This is for all ages!

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES:** We have two services on Christmas Eve, **December 24**. The Family Service is at 5pm & Lessons and Carols is at 7pm. We welcome all to join us!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE STUDIES:** Looking to dive deeper into scripture with church members? We offer various Cohorts throughout the month, Bible Studies throughout the week, and Sunday School classes each Sunday at 9:00am. Please see Barrett, Terri, or Sarah Grace to learn more, or scan the QR code to see all offerings.



**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ FOLLY BEACH** will start a new study Wednesday, Jan. 7. For more information, please refer to the Weekly Newsletter or contact Beth Robertson ((843)697-6032 or [emrmitchum@gmail.com](mailto:emrmitchum@gmail.com)). This is a non-denominational group and open to all.

**HIGHER WAY WELLNESS:** Our current session is Project Stress Relief: A Mind and Body Reset, continues through Dec. 22. Mondays: Rev Fit at 6:30pm at on at JIPC- Word In + Work Out-A fitness fusion of cardio, strength, core and stretching for all levels. DROP IN- \$5 per class donation. Contact Emily Oswald for more information, [emilywoz@comcast.net](mailto:emilywoz@comcast.net).

**YOUTH ADVENT STUDY:** During Advent, all youth (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to gather around a campfire, drink hot cocoa and eat s'mores as they dive deeper into scripture, prayer, and fellowship. We will meet each Wednesday night across the street from the JIPC gym/day care center, 1256 Folly Road (use Pauline to access backyard). The fun runs from 6:00-7:00pm! Contact Sarah Grace to learn more.

### **CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMMING:**

- Sunday School: 9am All children ages 3-12<sup>th</sup> grade, class list is in the C&Y Enews
  - MS & HS Advent Bible Study, Dec. 17, 6:00pm at 1256 Folly Road (backyard)
- Questions? Contact Sarah Grace, [sarahgrace@jamesislandpc.org](mailto:sarahgrace@jamesislandpc.org)  
Scan the QR code to view this week's C&Y Newsletter

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Please offer prayers for the following: Gresh Meggett & family; Sherry Mahoney; the extended Crosby & Howard families; Ellen Feltz; Lana Davis; Terri Horton; Sandy Scruggs; Bonnie Thompson's father, Randy Cochran; John Pritchett's father, Travis; Anne Christy; Dottie Coleman; Andrea Quinn's parents, Rocio & Terry Kemper; Laquetta "Quetta" Fludd; Colton Browder; Peggy Hill; Ann & Rah Rah Smith; Milo Fuller; Al Oswald; Suzie Steed's mother; and Mary Beth Meggett's cousin, Matt Garcia.

## MISSION

**THE GIVING TREES:** We thank all who helped with this year's giving trees! SEVERAL Meals for JI Outreach clients are available. Thank you for helping spread holiday cheer in our community!

**FEEDING OUR NEIGHBORS:** We're the "Canned Pasta Church" for James Island Outreach! Drop donations in the baskets in the Narthex or by the Church Office. You can also donate non-perishable food to our Blessing Box in the west parking lot. Learn more here: [chsblessingbox.wixsite.com](http://chsblessingbox.wixsite.com).

**DONATION BIN FOR MY SISTERS' HOUSE:** When you clean out your closets, please keep in mind our partners. There's a clothing bin located in JIPC's Fort Johnson Parking lot. The proceeds from these donations benefit one of JIPC's Mission Partners, My Sisters' House. Thank you!

### STEWARDSHIP

**BULLETIN DEADLINES:** Announcements for the Bulletin are due by Tuesday at noon. Announcements for the weekly Newsletter are due by Wednesday at noon. All items are subject to being edited.

**THANK YOU** for your tithes, offerings, and Pledges! You may also give online by going to [www.jamesislandpc.org/make-a-donation/](http://www.jamesislandpc.org/make-a-donation/). You can also Venmo (JIPC1). Please consider adding 2% to your gift to help cover fees that JIPC is charged.

On behalf of our extended JIPC church family, we thank the **129 families who have pledged for 2026**. If you have not yet pledged, you can do so now via this QR code.



**WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN A COME TO THE TABLE COHORT:** A *Come to the Table Cohort* is a year-long commitment to establishing rhythms of spiritual practices within the context of biblical community. Each cohort is made up of 12 individuals who commit to monthly 1.5-hour gatherings, reading scripture, and sharing a meal. The cohorts are designed for the participants to walk alongside one another and together share connection, meaning, and hope with Jesus. New cohorts begin January 2026 and will explore Genesis. Please email the church office at [office@jamesislandpc.org](mailto:office@jamesislandpc.org), fill the form out and put it in the offering plate or scan the QR code.

☐ Yes, I would like to learn more (not a commitment)

What Days/Times Work Best for You? (pick one)

☐ Sun evening ☐ Tues evening ☐ Wed evening ☐ Thur lunch ☐ Sun lunch

☐ Yes, I need childcare (of children and ages: \_\_\_\_\_)

I prefer small groups that are:

☐ Similar in age ☐ Multi-generational ☐ Women's Group ☐ Men's Group

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



### ADVENT FLOWERS

Help us decorate the sanctuary for Advent & Christmas by commissioning a poinsettia. \$15.00) in honor or memory of a loved one. **Wednesday, Dec. 17, is the deadline** for ordering poinsettias for this year. Make checks payable to JIPC, memo: poinsettia.

Commissioned By: \_\_\_\_\_ Email/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Commissioned For: \_\_\_\_\_ In Honor, Memory (Please Circle)

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