

Our Paraments

White: Used for all major festivals of the church, this color represents purity, joy, and the glory of Christ. This color is also used on communion Sundays with the exception of those during Advent and Lent. Our paraments display the Easter proclamation, "Alleluia," as well as the Chi Rho-the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ.

Blue: Used during Advent, this color represents the hope and expectation of the coming Christ. Our paraments display the Latin phrase meaning "O Come, Emmanuel," as well as the letters IHS-the first three letters of Jesus' name in Greek.

Green: Used during Epiphany and Kingdombtide, this color represents the growth of the church. Our paraments display the phrase "Holy, Holy, Holy," as well as triangles superimposed on trefoils-both symbols of the Trinity.

Purple: Used during Lent, this color represents the royalty of Christ, as well as penitence and mourning. Our paraments display the phrase "In remembrance of me" (Luke 22: 19), as well as a cross and crown-symbolizing the reward of the faithful after death.

Red: Used on the day of Pentecost and other church anniversaries, this color represents the fire of the Holy Spirit and the blood of the martyrs. Our paraments display the phrase "Come, Holy Spirit," as well as a descending dove-the baptismal symbol of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2: 1-21).

Black: Used on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, this color represents death and darkness. Our paraments display a crown of thorns-a symbol of Jesus' humiliation and suffering (John 19:2), as well as a Latin Cross-the type on which the Romans crucified Jesus.

**This brochure was created
as a worship aid.**

Feel free to take it with you.



**Skidaway Island
United Methodist Church
Savannah, GA**



**SKIDAWAY ISLAND
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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(912)598-8460 - www.siumc.org

Our Service

Order of Worship: We embrace a vibrant yet traditional order of worship. We follow the ancient liturgical calendar which reflects the life of Jesus Christ, and the gift of the Holy Spirit to the church.

Communion: We celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month. Communion is served individually at the altar rail, and is open to all persons regardless of age or church affiliation. If you are unable to go to the altar, an usher will be glad to serve you at your seat. Gluten free elements are available upon request.

Processions: The opening procession symbolizes the approach to God. The retiring procession represents the light of Christ being carried into the world.

Candles: The lighting of candles represents Christ's presence in worship. The two candles on the altar table represent Jesus' two natures, human and divine. The Paschal (Christ) Candle is the tall decorative candle to the right of the altar table. This candle is traditionally lighted on Easter Sunday and burns until the day of Pentecost. The Christ candle may also be used at baptisms and memorial services.

Turning to the Cross: During the singing of the "Gloria Patri" and "Doxology," the ministers and choir turn to face the cross. This is to symbolize the true direction of our worship and praise.

Time at the Altar: Following the sermon, the minister may invite the congregation to join him at the altar rail for a time of prayer.

Flowers: Flowers are used in our worship as a symbol of the resurrection. If you would like to place flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, please contact the church office.

Our Service

Scripture Lessons: Each Sunday, there are readings from the Old Testament, New Testament, and the Psalms. These scriptures are taken from the Revised Common Lectionary-a three year cycle of scriptures for Christian worship.

Hymns: The music used in our worship is selected to correspond to the various scriptures of the day.

Children: A nursery is available at all services, and children are welcome to go to Children's Church following the Children's Sermon. Children's Worship Bags and Bibles are available in the Narthex.

Special Needs: Large print hymnals and bulletins, and personal hearing devices are available in the Narthex. Please return them after use.

Our Worship Leaders

Ministers: Ministers are ordained clergy who are called to preach in the local church. They wear robes as a sign of their level of ordination. Ministers in the United Methodist Church are appointed by a Bishop.

Choir: The choir leads the congregation in the musical aspects of worship. They wear robes as a symbol of our unity in Christ.

Acolytes: Acolytes are attendants who assist in worship by lighting and extinguishing candles.

Crucifer: The Crucifer is an attendant whose responsibility is to bear the cross in processions.

Our Building

Sanctuary: Consecrated in April of 2000, our sanctuary reflects the gothic architecture of the cathedrals of Europe. The sanctuary itself is designed in the shape of a cross, and the A-frame represents the Trinity.

Altar: The altar table is in the center of the worship space thus representing the central focus of our sanctuary and our worship.

Windows: Our stained glass windows vividly depict the life of Christ. More information may be found in a separate brochure or on our website.

Kneelers: The kneelers surrounding the altar area were created by the women of our church. These beautiful needlepoints display familiar bible stories as well as the important symbols of our faith.

Paraments: Paraments are the fabric hangings on the altar furnishings. Their colors correspond to the seasons of the Christian Year. A detailed explanation of our paraments may be found on the reverse page.

Pulpit and Lectern: Our altar area is what is traditionally known as a divided chancel. Laity speak and read from the lectern on the right, while ordained clergy read and deliver sermons from the pulpit on the left.

Baptismal Font: Baptism is one of the sacraments of the United Methodist Church. The font is eight sided, symbolizing our "eighth day of creation," and remains in a prominent location at all times.

Organ: Our organ, built in 2012 by the R.A. Colby company, boasts over 100 stops. The Latin phrase meaning "All for the Glory of God" may be seen at the top of the antiphonal case.