



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA SUNDAY

Great Swamp Baptist Church

December 19, 2021

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

The Welcome

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call To Worship

Hymn # 94

“Angels From the Realms of Glory”

Invocation

Freddie Malphrus

Selections of Praise & Worship

Hymn # 86

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Hymn # 85

“The First Nowell”

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special

Courtney Williams

“The Little Drummer Boy”

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction Prayer



“Candlelight Lord’s Supper”

Wednesday Evening This Week

7:00 pm

Nursery Workers

Today: Vanessa Smoak
Helpers Needed; See Vanessa



Sunday Mornings

Following

The Song Service

Children's Church

Today: Olivia Stanley/Mason Losgar/Lily Smith



Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am



DEACON OF THE WEEK :

Today:

Freddie Malphrus: 843-726-3905

Next Week:

Bjo Mills: 843-726-4344





Christmas Card Mailbox

Is now open in the Foyer

The G.A.'s & Youth Sunday School Class will be delivering your in-house Christmas Cards for 25-cents each.

The proceeds will go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.



GSBC 2021 Goal: \$3,000.00
Raised to Date: \$ 582.50

**When you pray and give
you are part of reaching
every nation with the gospel.**

Because you and your church give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®, IMB missionaries can take the gospel to unreached peoples around the world. In just the last year, we've seen

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45,256 new believers baptized

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transform lives.**

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING
 — for international missions —

*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



Just Who Is That Child?

(Matt. 1:18-25)

Intro: With this message, I want us to use our imagination just a little. I want us to imagine that over 2000.00 years ago that Bethlehem had a hospital. We will call it Bethlehem Medical University. We will also imagine that like the old days, the nursery wing of the has large window in the hallway from which you can look through and see all the newborn babies.

Now, usually you weren't able to read the small signs with each bed that gave the child's name. it was only meant for the nurses to read so they would take the correct baby to their correct parent.

So, as persons looked in they were always asking the questions just who is that child or this child?

Now, on this occasion, a newborn child was brought in to the nursery and instead of being laid in a nice baby bed, he was laid in an animal feeding trough, or as some people call it a manger. It was a rough looking nasty thing.

So, naturally the conversation focused upon just who was this child? Because of what the child was laid in, an answer was absolutely needed to explain the purpose for which the child was laid in a manger.

Now, out in the hallway, the discussion went something like this: That child must have come from lowly circumstances. Or maybe, even worse, the discussion may have determined that this child would not amount to much because evidently his parents are rough characters.

Well, in this message, I want us to answer the question, just who was and is the Child that we see laying in the manger over 2,000 years ago, and praise God that we aren't left to mere speculation. For the Word of God gives us the answer. So let us see what the Bible says.

I. First, let us see who The Christmas Story tells us the Child was and is. (Matt. 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38).

From Luke's Gospel we are told that Mary was told first that she would give birth to a son, and He would be called, "Son of the Most High." She was also told that the Child would be named "Jesus" which means "God saves."

Therefore, before Joseph knows anything about the Child or who Mary has already informed that the Child she will deliver will be like no other child

ever born among mankind. For in His name Jesus, and who He is called, the Son of the Most High and who placed Him in the Womb of Mary, the precious Holy Spirit, this Child is, was, and will ever be fully tied and connected to the Holy Trinity thus making Him God in flesh. (Luke 1:26-38).

Now, Joseph knew none of the above information yet. All he knew is that Mary his wife to be is pregnant from someone else other than himself. Of course, as any of us would he assumes it is another man's. Thus he decides that he is going to quietly divorce her which was in his day the only way he could call off their engagement.

However, as the Bible tells us that before Joseph could carry out his intentions to divorce her, an angel of the Lord speaks to him in a dream telling him to take Mary as his wife. The angel then tells him all the same things that Mary had been told, which was that the Child was not the work of another man but rather the doings of the Holy Spirit. He was also told to name Him Jesus.

Then under the Holy Spirit's leadership, Matthew tells us all that the Child Mary was carrying was the fulfillment of a 700 year old prophecy to Isaiah. Isaiah was told that a virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son and that son would be called, "Immanuel, which means God with us."

Now, The Christmas Story itself which is told to us primarily by Matthew and Luke very clearly, loudly and boldly that as we look through the window into that nursery so long ago and see this Child lying in a manger, we are looking into the very face of God Himself who stepped into humanity to save us from our sins.

If the Child had been anyone else other than God himself then he would not have been able to save us from our sins. For only God could take care of that problem for all of humanity had the problem. So, let us shout to the high heavens that Jesus was God with us. Of course, when He is your Savior, He will always be God with you.

II. Second, let us see Who John tells us the Child was and is.

Now, Mark's Gospel tells us nothing about the birth of Christ into the world. Also, John's Gospel tells us none of the details of that first Christmas morning. However, He does clearly for us that the Child who came into the world was indeed God Himself. So, let us hear John's confirmation that without any doubt that when Jesus came into the world, He was God stepping into our arena.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

He was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him. He came to that which was His own but His own did not receive Him. Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become the children of God-children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or of a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word was made flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and only, who came from the Father full of grace and truth.” (John 1:1-5, 10-14).

Now, as we know John used the expression “The Word” as a reference to Jesus Christ, He is the Word. He is the Living Word of God. Thus with that in mind, we see that John in the strongest way possible leaves us no doubt whatsoever that when Jesus stepped into our world, He was God, Creator of the universe taking upon Himself human flesh.

John tells us in these verses that because He is God, He and He alone can make us the children of God through faith in Him. So, don’t make a mistake thinking that this Child is just a cute little human being who came into the world to just add to our population or even to do some good things. No, He was and is God and only He can save you.

III. Third, let us notice who Paul tell us the Child was and is. (Gal.4:4-5; Col. 1:15-17).

The Apostle Paul, like John, also left out the details of that first Christmas. But like John, he also completely verifies that the Child who was born that first Christmas and laid in a manger was God in the flesh as well.

“But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of son.” (Gal. 4:4-5).

Of course, the woman would have been Mary and he didn’t mention Joseph in any way because the Son she gave birth to wasn’t Joseph’s but rather He was the Son of God. Like the other two points we’ve already looked at, Paul states here that the Son of God came to redeem His people to make us fully the sons of God. Amen.

I want to look at one more of Paul’s set of verses that once again tell us that Jesus was not a mere man but was absolutely God. “He (Jesus) is the image of the invisible God, the first-born over all creation. For by Him all things were created, things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.” (Col. 1:15-17).

So, as we are dealing with the persons of Christ, let us remember we are dealing with God Himself. Thus we should always approach Him with that understanding.

IV. Fourth, let us notice who the writer of Hebrews tells us the Child was and is. (Heb. 1:1-3,8).

The writer of Hebrews starts his entire book out jumping right in revealing who Jesus is and of course in agreement with all the rest we have looked at, he declares absolutely that Jesus was and is God.

“In the past, God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful Word. After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in Heaven. But about the Son He says, ‘Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your Kingdom.’” (Heb. 1:1-3,8).

So, the author of Hebrews tell us that in the past God spoke to His people through prophets. However, their words and actions weren’t sufficient enough to deal with man’s sin problem. So, finally god sent His Son to be God’s Living Word among us. Accordi8ng to the author of Hebrews, His Son i8s, “the exact representation of His being,” (vs. 3). The usage of the word exact says it all. In other words, Jesus is not like god but is God, and in one of the verses we read that first exactly what God said about His Son. He said, “your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever.” (vs.8). Thus the author of Hebrews as well tells us that the Child which Mary gave birth to was God undeniably in our midst. Amen.

Concl. Now, we haven’t covered all of the references that clearly teach that when Jesus was born, He was God in the flesh. However, we’ve covered enough to know that the Bible is completely consistent that the Christ Child was God in the flesh, and because He was God, the work He came to do was fully completed and met every requirement required of God to be able to save humanity from the sins and the consequences that would follow. So go to know one else but Jesus for full and free Salvation because He alone is able to save for He alone is God.

*Jesus Loves You
Ralph Lee, Jr.*



NO Breakfast
Sunday, December 26th

NO Wednesday Supper
Wednesday, December 22nd
Wednesday, December 29th



Wednesday Night Supper

Menu

To Be Announced

*\$5.00 each or \$15.00 for a family of
4 or more.*



Sunday School Classes

@

9:15am

CAMO CLASS *Room 406* **Leader– Bobby Smith**
.....

GLEANERS CLASS *Room 401* **Leader-Darlene Bollack**
.....

VISIONARIES CLASS *Building 3, Old Social Hall*
Leader-
.....

SOJOURNERS CLASS *Room 417* **Leader-Mack Pope**
.....

YOUTH *Youth Annex* **Leader-Faye Lowther**

Wednesday Night Services

@ 7pm

WORSHIP SERVICE *Multi-Purpose Building*
Leader-Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

YOUTH GROUP *Youth Annex*
Leader-Michelle Waitt

R.A.'S (Royal Ambassadors) *Room 417*
Leader-Pat Mason

G.A.'S (GIRLS IN ACTION) *Room 415*
Leader-Carol Davis/Diane Thames

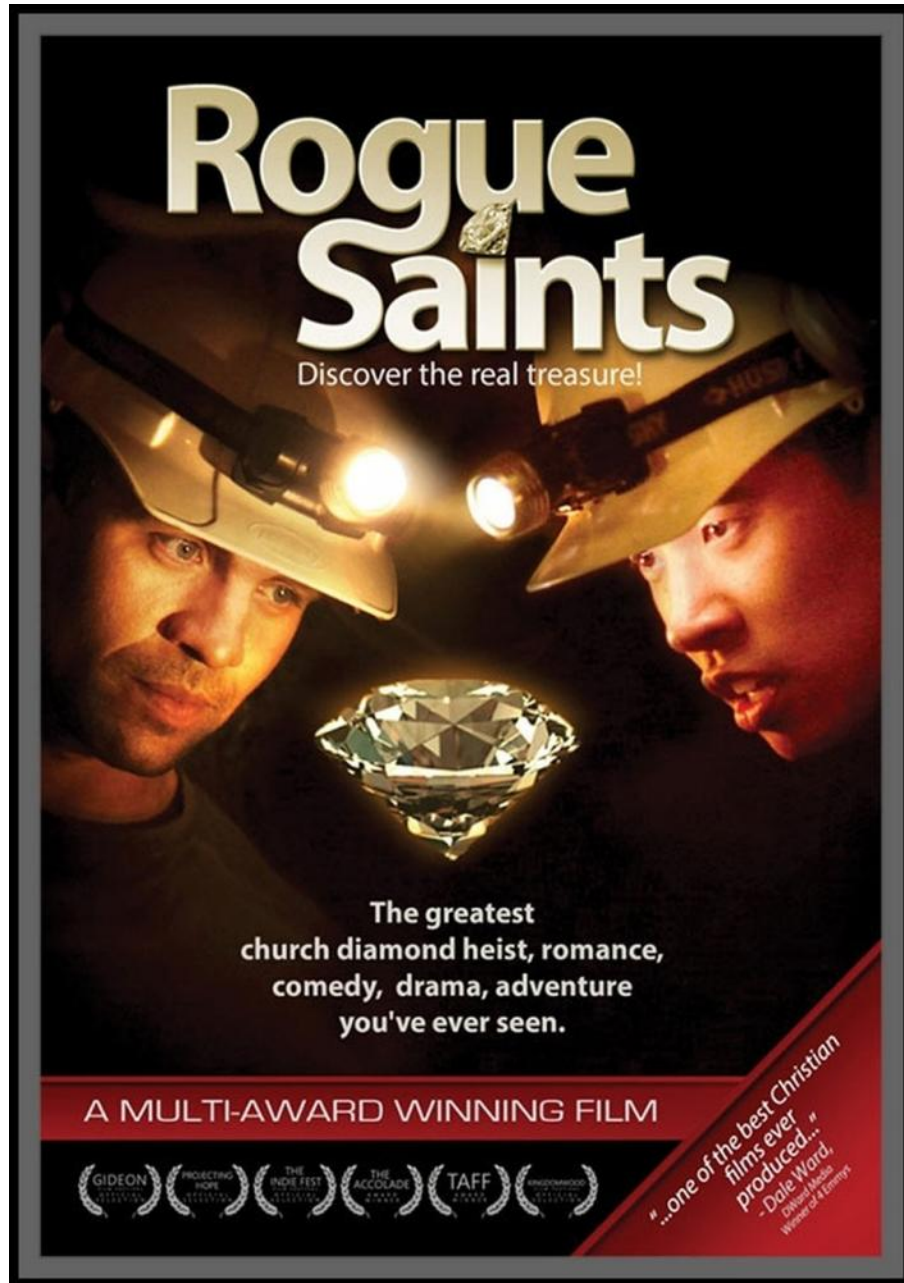


<i>Sunday</i>	<i>19th</i>	<i>Diane Thames</i>
		<i>Rhonda Standard</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>22nd</i>	<i>Tammy Lee</i>
		<i>Krey Lee Lowther</i>



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>19th</i>	<i>Bill & Donna Carter</i>
		<i>Mike & Vicky Mingledorff</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>20th</i>	<i>Wallace & Allene Malphrus</i>

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GSBC Prayer Page

*Ralph Lee, Jr. - Pastor
Richard Waitt- Music Director
Deacons*

Leadership
*President / Vice President of the
United States of America*

Hospitals
Iola Daring-CCH

Surgery / Recovery
*Skylar Saygen
Michelle Rooks
Judy Rogers
Louise McAlhaney
Chance Tracey
Ralph Lee, Jr.
Sherri Scott
Emma Scott*

Nursing Centers
*Elaine Degler-RNC
Wilma Jean McGill-RNC
Bobby Mohn-Indigo Pines HHI
Byron Vaigneur-Assist.
Dot Nettles-RNC*

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

<i>Shirley Malphrus</i>	<i>Dot Nettles</i>
<i>Rose Boyles</i>	<i>Tom Hinely</i>
<i>Judy Smith</i>	<i>Scott Boyles</i>
<i>Vera Floyd</i>	<i>Ann Blocker</i>
<i>Barbara Mills</i>	<i>Kenneth & Doby Cleland</i>
<i>Alice & Gary Way</i>	<i>Redden & Gloria Tuten</i>
<i>Kenny Smith</i>	<i>Lucille & Ron Degler</i>
<i>Carol Bradham</i>	<i>Red & Helen Malphrus</i>
<i>Diane Hannah</i>	

Church Needs

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries*

Unspoken

*Jessica Cleland
Steve Crosby
Heather Betz
Randy Bethune
Jason Holt*

Cancer / Treatments

*Douglas Denegel
Becky Goretzka
Gail Sims
Skip Brooks
Regina Bouye
Kaiaya Alston
Wesley Ethridge
Raj's Mother*

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry*

Bereavement

*Family of
Joyce Kelly*

Other Health Needs

*Lloyd Way
Loony Jones
(Jeffrey Stanley's Grandfather)
Tracey Lake
Keith Gamo
Pinky Rushing
Phyllis Sutler
Sara Davis
Bob Cramer
Shelby Green
Karen Phillipi
Bertha Kinard
Ron & Marie Malphrus
Kenny Hay
Lee Martin
Alexus Busby
Natalyn Mann
Mary Kay
David Raines
Ellen Nettles
Jess & Tabby Arzillo
Charlee Carter
Donna Roberts
Jennifer Pitts Key
Ernest Blount
Stephen Roberts
Donna Carter*

Pray For Our Military

*Sgt. Jared Blanton-Deployed
Matthew Mills-US Marines
Jericho Malphrus-Sp. Agent / Air Force
Washington, D.C.
Michael Sottile - Ret.
Tristan Blanton-San Diego/ SWCC
Andrea C. Daring-Coast Guard Basic Training*

Church Staff

Pastor: Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr *jehu27@gmail.com*
Music Director: Richard Waitt *waittfamily83@gmail.com*
Sunday School Director: Mike Davis
Pianist: Michelle Waitt *waittfamily83@gmail.com*
Administrative Assistant: Sybil Reynolds *greatswampbc@gmail.com*
School Administrator: Donna Carter *dcarter@hargray.com*
Landscaper: Wallace Malphrus *Josie6@embarqmail.com*
Finance Director: Timmy Sauls *greatswampbc@gmail.com*

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$ 3,848.00	\$ 4,982.47	-\$ 1,034.47
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$ 100.00		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Wreaths Across America</i>	\$ 15.00	*****	\$ 356.03
<i>Benevolence</i>	\$ 101.00	*****	\$ 134.09
<i>Lottie Moon Offering</i>	\$ 20.00	*****	\$ 582.50
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	\$ 59.00	*****	\$ 104.89
<i>Wednesday Night Supper</i>	\$ 136.00	*****	\$ 136.00
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	\$ 9.00	*****	\$ 549.43

Additional Help Needed

For

Wednesday Night's

GA's & RA's

We would like to expand to include Mission Friends.

Youth or Adults are encouraged to inquire.

See Kim Malphrus or Diane Thames.



Great Swamp Baptist Church
9009 Tarboro Rd.
PO Box 446
Ridgeland, SC 29936

Sunday School.....9:15AM
Morning Worship.....10:30AM
Wednesday Night Service.....7:00PM

Email: greatswampbc@gmail.com
Website: greatswampbaptistchurch.com
Church Office: (843) 726-3631