



Great Swamp Baptist Church

December 4, 2022

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Call to Worship

“Adore”

Invocation

Freddie Malphrus

Selections of Praise & Worship

Hymn #85 “The First Nowell”

Hymn #87 “Joy to the World”

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer
Worship by Giving
Offertory Special by Mended

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery
Help Needed



Helpers:
Mason Losgar
Emily Johnson



DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Today:

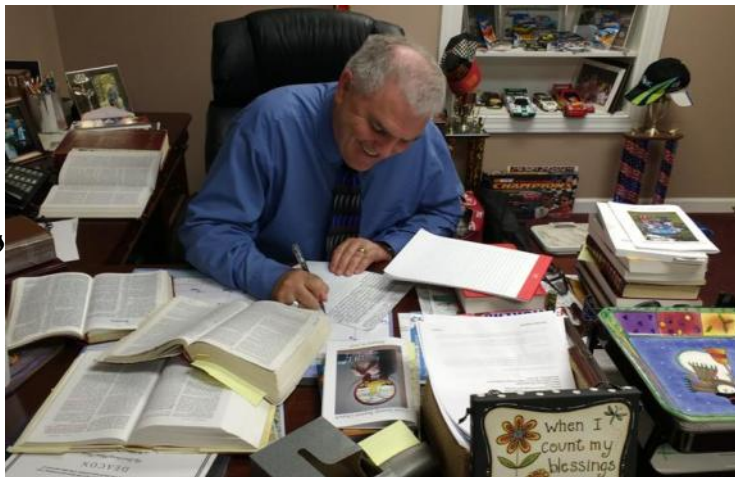
Freddie Malphrus: 843-726-3905

Next Week:

Bjo Mills: 843-726-4344



*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



Reasons For Giving Thanks to Our Lord

(Psalm 136:1-26)

Introduction:

Because of our recent election returns not panning out the way we had hoped for and expected to, many folks became very discouraged because of what this entails for our nation. So I spent our last two messages focusing upon the fact that our hope must always rest in the Lord and not politicians.

However in this message we will focus on our responsibility and pleasure of giving thanks to our Lord. David Jeremiah recently reminded us while we were at one of his conferences that Thanksgiving is probably the most overlooked holiday because of its close proximity to Christmas. A great example of that is the fact that during the Thanksgiving holiday we spend much of our time Christmas shopping and/or watching Christmas specials.

The fact of the matter is that Thanksgiving should be a daily holiday for Christians. There should never be a day that goes by that we aren't giving thanks unto our Lord for all the gracious things He has and is doing in our lives. So this message is all about challenging us to continuously give thanks to our Lord by revealing many of the reasons why we should give thanks to our Lord, and no chapter does a better job at showing those reasons than Psalms 136. So let's dive into this great chapter in God's Word.

I. The first reason we will notice for giving thanks to our Lord is because He's good (verse 1).

Let me share with you what Charles Hadden Spurgeon said here about the goodness of God, "Essentially He is goodness itself, practically all that He does is good, relatively He is good to His creatures. Let us thank Him that we have seen, proved, and tasted that He is good. He is good beyond all others, indeed. He alone is good in the highest sense. He is the source of good the good of all good, the sustainer of good, the perfecter of good, and the rewarder of good. For this He deserves constant gratitude of His people."

We constantly talk about the good thing that humans do for one another. However that goodness does not originate out of the heart of man. Paul tells us this in the Book of Romans, "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good not even one." (Romans 3:10-12).

So when humans do good all the glory goes to our Lord because He's the one who is God and is the true source of good. The rich young ruler called Jesus the good teacher. Jesus in turn asked the question, "Why do you call me good? Jesus answered. No one is good except God alone" (Luke 18:19). So if we want to do good and be good then we must be connected to the one who is the source of good, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. He was letting the rich young ruler know that He was good because He was and is God.

II. The second reason we will notice for giving thanks to our Lord is because He's God (verses 2 and 3).

Really this point in and of itself says it all. God deserves our thanks purely because He alone is God. And when your God is God what else is there?

In our last message about putting our hope in our Lord alone we examined a chapter in the book of Isaiah in which God was assuring the nation of Israel that they had nothing to fear if they would place their hope in Him because He alone was God and therefore there was no one else greater than Him. He is the top. As a matter of fact, God Himself asked the nation this question to prove His point, "To whom will you compare me? Or who is My equal? Says the Holy One" (Isaiah 40:25). Well, of course the answer is no one. So let us lift our voice in praise and Thanksgiving that our God is the Lord of lords and King of kings.

III. The third reason we will notice for giving thanks to our Lord is because He's greatness (Verses 4 - 9).

These six verses remind us that we need to give thanks to our Lord because with His great power and wisdom He created all things that exist and not only did He do that, but He especially created our particular world in the midst of this vast universe with the unique ability to be able to sustain and support life. He has given us the sun at the right distance to give us energy and heat without burning us up and the moon and the stars at night to be able to guide us on our way by the fixed point of the north star. These heavenly features also make it possible for us to have our seasons and times. It was God who did all of that for us.

In another chapter in Psalms, David reminds us of how creation reveals the greatness and power of our God, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens He has pitched a tent for the sun which is like a bridegroom coming forth from his pavilion, like a champion rejoicing to run his course. It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other nothing is hidden from its heat" (Psalms 19:1-6).

So don't buy into the world's message that all that exists somehow accidentally evolved over billions of years without a designer and guiding force into what we are now. That would mean our existence has come about without any purpose and meaning whatsoever. So let us rejoice and give thanks that we have purpose and meaning because we have a creator our God.

One more thing, let us not become discouraged by the climate change alarmists who are trying to put fear into our lives that the world is about to become unsustainable for life because human beings have placed so much carbon in our atmosphere that it's going to keep heat from escaping and overheat our globe. Well, carbon is not a pollution, it's oxygen for all plants on the earth. Also our clouds are our biggest greenhouse gas. So if you are concerned about greenhouse gas, you would have to pull the clouds down.

What we need to remember is that God is in charge of weather and climate, and therefore our world will not become unsustainable for life until God decides so. Listen to what God told Noah and his family after they came off of the ark, “As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease” (Gen 8:22). So until God’s ready to recreate our earth it will survive and continue on. So let us give thanks to our amazing Creator who keeps it going.

IV. The fourth reason we will notice for giving thanks to our Lord is because He’s gracious (verses 10-25).

These verses tell the story of our gracious God delivering Israel out of the hand of their enemies over and over again until He brought them into their own promise land and inheritance. Now apart from our gracious God they would have neither defeated their enemies nor gained their promise land for an inheritance.

So it is with us today we should continually be thanking our Lord that through His death on the cross, and resurrection from the grave, He has graciously delivered us from our enemies of sin, death, hell, the grave and Satan. And He has a promise land waiting for us the moment we leave this old world. Oh, what a Savior!

V. The fifth reason we will notice for giving thanks to our Lord is because He’s going (verses 1-26).

Now I am simply referring to the fact that with His people our Lord goes on with them forever, and 26 times the Psalmist reminds us to give thanks to the Lord because “His love endures forever.” Listen to the way Dr. Phillips describes the enduring love of our God for His people, “The theme of this Psalms is mercy’s vast unfathomed sea. Twenty six times the Psalmist lowers his sounding line into the ocean of God’s mercy. Twenty six times he finds that his life is too short. No bottoms here he says. As a chorus he puts it: wide, wide as the ocean, high as the heavens above, deep as the deepest sea, is my Savior’s love. . . love that no thought can reach, love that no tongue can teach, no love like His! This love and mercy outshines the sun and out lives the stars, think God for that.”

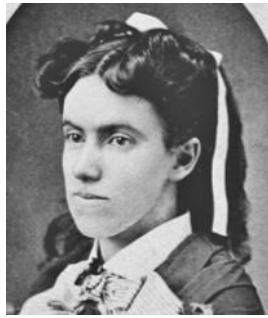
Conclusion:

So what are you waiting for, Child of God? Let’s get this Thanksgiving season started and let’s never stop.

Jesus Loves You,
Ralph



Goal for 2022: \$3,000



100% of your gifts to the
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®
enable gospel transformation
among the unreached.





<i>Sunday</i>	<i>4th</i>	<i>Lucille Degler</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>5th</i>	<i>Ronnie Nettles</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>5th</i>	<i>Chris Carter</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>7th</i>	<i>Vanessa Smoak</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>7th</i>	<i>Rylie Ford</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>8th</i>	<i>Ben Meador</i>



Sunday, Dec. 4th
David & Jennifer Meador

Monday, Dec. 5th
Chris & Kelly Scherger



Business Meeting
Wednesday, December 14th
at 7:00 p.m.



Christmas Card

Delivery

\$0.25 per card delivered

The Youth and GAs will delivery in-house
Christmas cards this year.

Mailbox for cards is in the foyer.

Proceeds go to Lottie Moon Christmas offering.



Deacons' Meeting
Monday, December 12th
at 6:00 p.m.

Candlelight Service



Candlelight Service

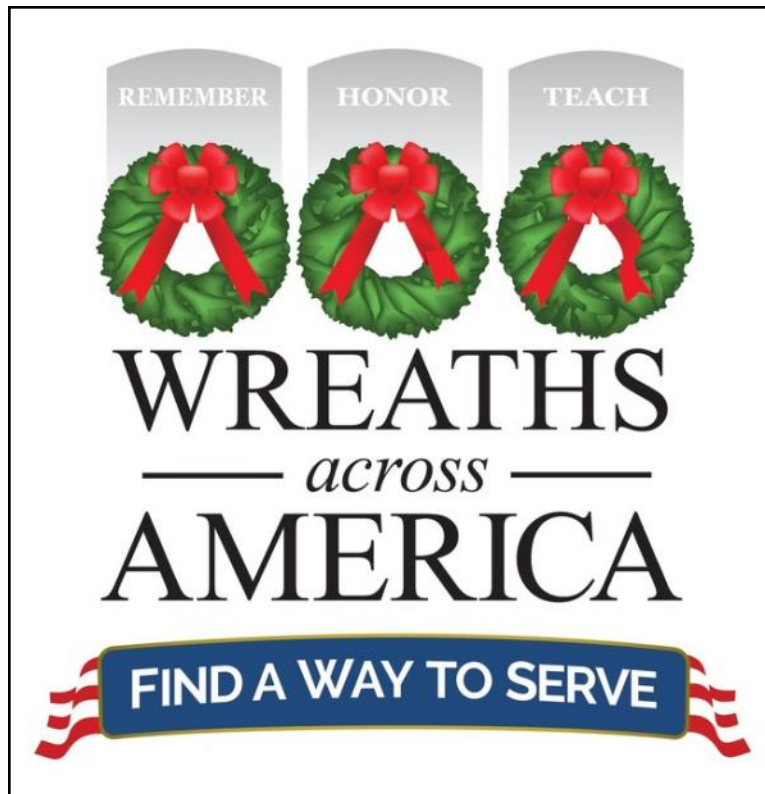
Wednesday, December 21st

Starts at 7:00 p.m.



Christmas Morning Service

We will have a regular service
Christmas morning. Come join us
as we worship the Lord on this
glorious Christmas morning!
Hallelujah Jesus is born!!!!



Wreaths Across America

Order a wreath for your loved ones.

Cost: \$15.00 each

Cut-off Date: Wednesday, December 14th

The list is on the bulletin
board on the back wall.

Ceremony/Laying of wreaths will be held
on Saturday, December 17th.

Quiver Full Foster Closet
presents our annual



TOY CHRISTMAS DRIVE

DONATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL

DECEMBER 21, 2022

We are accepting new, unwrapped toys & gift cards to bless children ages birth to 18. Help us spread love & excitement among local children in need this Christmas season!

QUIVER FULL FOSTER CLOSET ON FACEBOOK

Made with <https://www.canva.com>

Annual Great Swamp Family Christmas Gathering

Sunday, December 11th

Come join the fun and sing
your favorite Christmas songs!



Meal to follow after the service. The church will provide the meat and drinks. Everyone else please bring a side dish and/or a dessert to share.



Sunday School Classes

@ 9:15am

CAMO CLASS - Room 406 - Bobby Smith
.....

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

VISIONARIES CLASS - Building 3, Old Social Hall
Leader - Diane Thames/Greg Mariocourt
.....

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

YOUTH - Youth Annex Leader - Amanda Hodges
.....

BLUE ANGELS - 1ST & 2ND GRADES - Room 415 -
April Malphrus

Wednesday Night Services

@ 7:00 pm

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



Grandmothers Group
Chinese Christmas Party



Monday, December 12th
At 11:00 a.m.
Great Swamp Baptist Church
In the Church
Multi-Purpose Building

Please bring a \$5 to \$10 gift
to participate

Bring a covered dish, soup,
or a dessert.

Plan on having
a wonderful time!!!

RSVP: Debbie 843-368-5436
Or Jennifer 843-726-3631





**Beginning at 6:00 p.m.
Service to follow at 7:00 p.m.**

**Team Keith will be cooking!
Come out and have dinner
and fellowship with us!**

*****No Supper Wednesday 12/21***
No Breakfast Sunday 12/25**



**Sunday Morning
Breakfast**

Begins at 8:00 a.m.
\$5.00 each or \$15.00
for a family of 4
or more

GSBC Prayer Page

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

Leadership

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

Hospitals

*Shannon Pinner—Greenville
Stan Stones—Memorial
James Nicholson—Piedmont*

Surgery / Recovery

Nursing Centers

*Elaine Degler - RNC
Bobby Mohn - Indigo Pines HHI
Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe
Dot Nettles - NHC
Dot Smart - NHC*

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

<i>Shirley Malphrus</i>	<i>Tom Hinely</i>
<i>Rose Boyles</i>	<i>Ann Blocker</i>
<i>Judy Smith</i>	<i>Doby Cleland</i>
<i>Vera Floyd</i>	<i>Lucille & Ron Degler</i>
<i>Barbara Mills</i>	<i>Red & Helen Malphrus</i>
<i>Alice & Gary Way</i>	<i>Thomas & Erma Cooler</i>
<i>Kenny Smith</i>	
<i>Diane Hannah</i>	

Church Needs

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries*

Unspoken

Leigh Laycock

Cancer / Treatments

*Skip Brooks
Regina Bouye
Kaiaya Alston
Lloyd Freeman
Lisa Chandler
Pat Headley*

Ministries

*Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry*

Bereavement

Other Health Needs

*Tracey Lake
Pinky Rushing
Sara Davis
Bob Cramer
Marie Malphrus
Mary Kay Cade
Ellen Nettles
Donna Roberts
Jennifer Pitts Key
Tim Roberts
Chris Blanchard
Jane Himes' Nephew
Keith Gamo
Doug & Melanie Hamm
Randy Smoak
Dean Daley
Laurie Norman
Rex Norman
Rose Sheehan
Steve Bailey
Mark Mingledorff
Kenny Hay*

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-Charleston, SC*

Church Staff

Pastor: Pastor Ralph Lee, Jrjehu27@gmail.com

Music Director: Richard Waittwaittfamily83@gmail.com

Sunday School Director: Mike Davis

Pianist: Michelle Waitt waittfamily83@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Meadorgreatswampbaptist@hargray.com
843-726-3631

School Administrator: Donna Carterdcarter@hargray.com

Landscaper: Wallace MalphrusJosie6@embarqmail.com

Finance Director: Timmy Saulsgreatswampbaptist@hargray.com

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$3,954.00	\$ 4,982.47	-\$1,028.47
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$0.00		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	\$83.00	*****	\$351.19
<i>Kitchen Supplies</i>	\$30.00	*****	\$47.45
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	\$126.00	*****	\$1,165.17
<i>Wreaths Across America</i>	\$125.00	*****	\$195.00



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