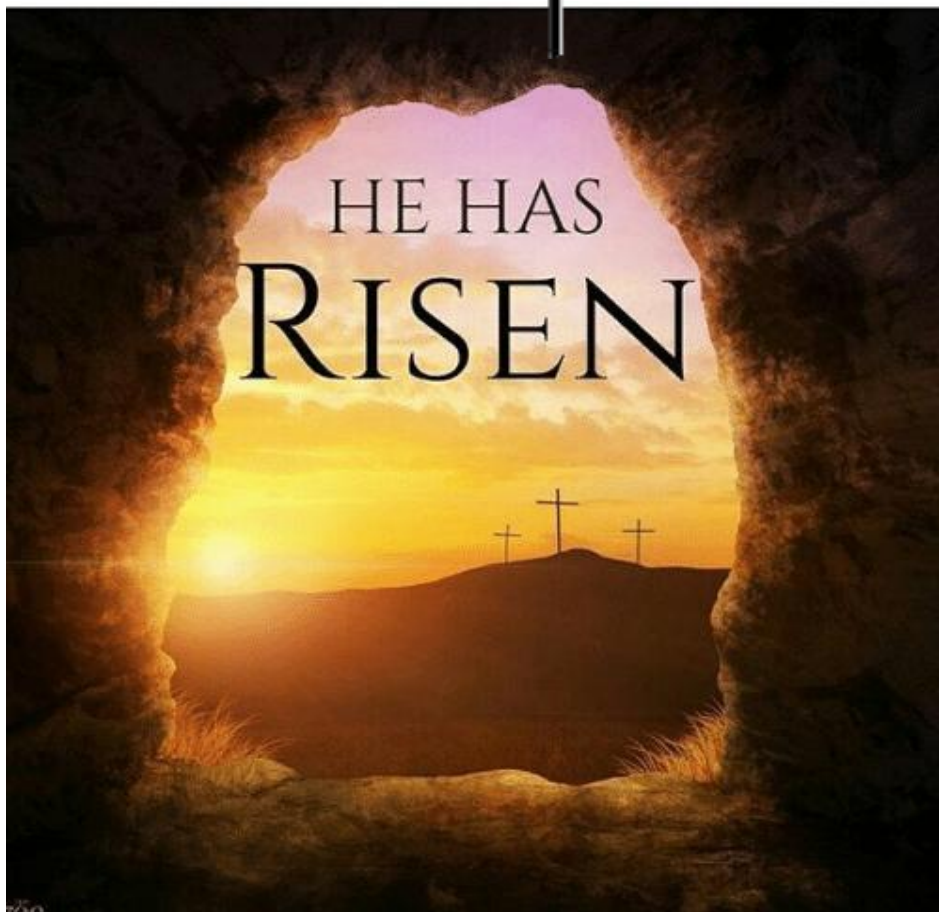


HAPPY
EASTER



Great Swamp Baptist Church

April 9, 2023

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call to Worship

“Celebration Medley”

Invocation

Mack Pope

The Lord’s Supper

Praise & Worship

Hymn #533 “He Lives”

Richard Waitt

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special *“The Power of the Cross”* by Courtney Williams

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery
Help Needed

Children's
CHURCH

Helpers:
Emily Johnson



DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Today:

Mack Pope: 843-540-6636

Next Week:

Keith Gamo: 843-986-8525



*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



Calvary Happened **(John 19:1-37)**

Introduction:

There were clearly two things that seemingly might have prevented Calvary from taking place. First, there was the decision of the Sanhedrin, or the Jewish religious authority, over the Jewish people to have Jesus arrested and killed. When Jesus heard about the plot to kill Him He made the decision to lay low for a short period of time.

So if Jesus had decided to be permanently discouraged by the plot to kill Him then He would have remained in hiding and thus Calvary wouldn't have taken place. However, praise be to our Lord that Jesus knew that it was His destiny to go to Calvary and therefore He didn't lay low very long.

The second thing that took place which seemingly may have prevented Calvary from taking place was the unwillingness of Pontius Pilate, the governor of Judah, from carrying out Jesus' execution. From the moment the Sanhedrin brought Jesus to Pilate to have Him executed Pilate did almost everything within his power to placate the Sanhedrin while at the same time release Jesus. At least four times Pilate declared that he found no fault in Jesus that warranted Him being executed. Yet all of his attempts were to no avail as the Sanhedrin, and the crowd continued to cry out 'crucify Him, crucify Him.'

So once again what we discover is that Calvary was going to happen regardless of all efforts to prevent it from happening. And once we investigate why Calvary happened we'll understand that not anything or anyone could stop it from taking place. I'll say it one more time, Calvary happened because it was Jesus' destiny for it to happen. So I'm simply calling my message Calvary Happened.

I. First, Calvary happened because it was the Father's plan

(18:11; 19:11; Is. 53:1-8)

Listen to the words Jesus expressed to Simon Peter just after he had used his sword to cut off the ear of one of the men who came to arrest Jesus. "Jesus commanded Peter, 'Put your sword away! Shall I not drink the cup the Father has given me?'" (18:11)

Now when Jesus referred to the cup the Father had given Him, He's not referring to something pleasant and refreshing to drink. Rather He's referring to a cup filled with suffering, pain, and agony because in that cup were all the sins of humanity for all time. These He must drink along with the Father's wrath against those sins.

So because it was the Father's will for this to happen there was nothing that Pilate could do to prevent it. As a matter of fact Jesus told Pilate, when Pilate told Him that he had the power to free Him or crucify Him, that he was powerless to do anything apart from God allowing him to do so. "Jesus answered, 'You would have no power over me if it were not given to you from above'..." (19:11).

So Calvary happened because it was the Father's will that Jesus would suffer and die in order to bring to us eternal salvation and no greater set of verses show this than the set of verses found in the Old Testament, Book of Isaiah. They show the suffering Jesus experienced because the Father laid on Him our sin.

“He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hid their faces He was despised and we esteemed Him not. Surely He took our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered Him stricken by God, smitten by Him, and afflicted. But He was pierced for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him and by His wounds we are healed. We all like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so He did not open His mouth.” (Is. 53:3-7)

Were it not for the Father’s plan that Jesus suffer and die in our place, we would forever be lost. Praise be to our Lord!

II. Second, Calvary happened because the scriptures had to be fulfilled (vs 24, 28-30, 33-37)

Had Calvary not happened then the Word of God would be untrustworthy because in it are so many detailed prophecies found in many different places, and hundreds, even thousands of years before Calvary happened. John reveals a number of those prophecies being fulfilled at Calvary.

John tells us that the soldiers in charge of the crucifixion gambled off Jesus' garments that He was wearing, and that fulfilled scripture. "Let's not tear it,' they said to one another, 'Let's decide by lot who will get it.' This happened that the scripture might be fulfilled which said, 'They divided my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.'" (vs 24, Ps 22:18).

Also just before Jesus died to fulfill scripture Jesus said, "I am thirsty." (vs 28, Ps 69:21).

John also reveals that the soldiers broke the legs of the other two men that were crucified along with Him in order that they would die quicker. But when they came to Jesus they found that He was already dead, so they didn't break His bones as the Word of God prophesied but they did pierce Him in the side. "These things happened so that the scriptures would be fulfilled: Not one of His bones will be broken, and as another scripture says, they will look on the one they have pierced." (vs 36, 37; Ex 12:46; Num 9:12; Ps 34:20).

So Calvary happened to verify the accuracy and trustworthiness of God's Holy Word and to reveal that Calvary indeed was God's way of providing eternal salvation to us, because in every way Jesus fulfilled God's prophecies as recorded in God's Word.

III. Third, Calvary happened because of who Jesus was (vs 6, 7, 19-22)

During the week in which Jesus was crucified the Jews were celebrating Passover. This celebration was commemorated to remember how God set the nation free from Egyptian bondage and spared the lives of their first born son in each family.

Each family was to slay a lamb and use some of its blood to paint on the side of and above their door. This was so that the death angel would know which home to pass over. But the important thing to remember is that they couldn't use just any lamb. It had to be a lamb that had no spot or blemish or was sickly. In every way it had to be the absolute best lamb of all. Only this kind of lamb was sufficient enough to be the sacrificial passover lamb.

So the sacrifice for the forgiveness of our sins had to be absolutely a perfect lamb. One without any blemish, spot, or stain whatsoever. This lamb had to be sin free and no one fit that category other than Jesus who in these verses we've read is shown to be the Son of God and the King of the Jews, which makes Him King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Thus it was Him who alone could be our perfect sacrifice because He was perfection because He was the Son of God and the King of Kings.

IV. Fourth, Calvary happened because Jesus had to complete

His mission (vs 28)

If Jesus hadn't gone to Calvary then his mission and purpose for coming would have been incomplete and our salvation unaccomplished. However praise be to our blessed Lord and Savior that Jesus fully completed His mission and purpose by going to Calvary and when He had done all that was required He uttered these three incredible words, "It is finished." (vs 30) He paid the price and bore the punishment and the Father was satisfied so all was complete.

The Apostle Paul tells us in the Book of Colossians that in Jesus Christ we are made complete. "For in Christ all the fullness of Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority." (Col 2:9,10). Some translations say that you have been made complete instead of using fullness.

Conclusion:

So let us rejoice that Calvary happened so that Christ could fulfill His mission and complete our salvation

Jesus Loves You,

Ralph Lee



On March 20th (a teacher workday) the teachers at Step of Faith met with Jasper County Sheriff's Office for a class on active shooter training. Unfortunately, a few days later the tragic events at Covenant Christian School in Nashville, Tennessee happened. Thus, we have moved our security improvements to a top priority.

Due to financial strains on everyone this year, Step of Faith has not had a fundraiser. Instead, they are asking for each family to donate whatever they can to help fund this need. Specific items can also be donated, as well as work done or work paid for by a group of parents. Anything helps. We absolutely must make our campus more secure for our students, faculty, and families.

You can send donations to the office, pay on Praxi, and/or the school Venmo account (coming soon - see Wendy Gray.) Any questions please see Donna Carter, Wendy Gray, or Jennifer in the church office.

UpdateOn April 17th we will be having a meeting in the Multi-purpose building regarding safety. All comments and concerns are welcome. Parents, teachers, and anyone else is welcome to come.



Operation Christmas Child

April is here and we are collecting new items! See the list below and please help out if you can. The more you can donate, the more boxes we can fill, hence the more children receive boxes. So let's all bring in some hygiene items!

April:

Stuffed Animals

Barbies

Matchbox Cars

Any Assorted Toys

Yo-yos

Puzzles

Balls

Jump Ropes

Remember: NO liquids, glass, or military items. You can also give a monetary donation instead of buying the items. No donation is too small!





<i>Friday</i>	<i>14th</i>	<i>Mike Davis</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>15th</i>	<i>Erma Cooler</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>15th</i>	<i>Emma Meador</i>



Saturday, April 15th:
Max & Nicole Cole



Business Meeting
Wednesday, April 12th
at 7:00 p.m.



Deacons' Meeting
Monday, April 10th
at 6:00 p.m.



Grandmothers' Group
Monday, May 1st
at 11:30 a.m.

All grandmothers welcome!





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!

***Teams have switched for the next two weeks**

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



Sunday Morning
Breakfast

Begins at 8:00 a.m.
Ends at 9:00 a.m.
\$5.00 each or \$15.00
for a family of 4
or more



Thursday, April 13th
In the Multi-Purpose Building
Dine In or To-Go
\$10 per plate (buy ahead or at the door)

Dine-In dinner will be from
5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

To-Go dinner plates will be available
from 2:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

This is a fundraiser to help the Step
of Faith Class of 2023.

Come out and show your support!



VBS 2023

VBS is currently taking donations of large rocks and towel and tissue tubes. We have boxes/bins in the main foyer to place these items should you have any to donate. We also still need monetary donations as prices have risen and there is a lot that needs to be purchased (especially food). So please help us if you can.

Anything is better than nothing!

Also, please sign up to help out during VBS on the back wall, if you haven't already. If you want to help out but can only come part-time or for a few hours, just write that on the sheet (on the back wall) or talk to Nicole, Saylor or Jennifer about it. Even if you can only help out with VBS for a few hours, WE STILL NEED YOU!! We appreciate any help!

Any questions, comments, suggestions, etc. please call Nicole Mariocourt at 843-726-2211, Saylor Olivas at 843-812-8879, or Jennifer Meador at 843-726-3631.





MOVIE NIGHT!!!

**Sunday, April 16th
Concessions at 6:00 p.m.
Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.**

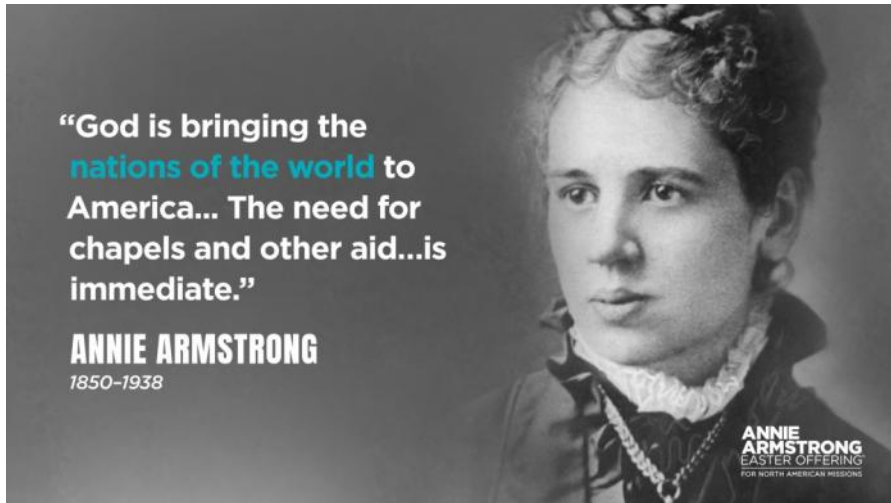
**Please bring finger foods to share!
Tea and Popcorn provided.**

Come Enjoy A Great Wholesome Family Movie!



Going on Now through Easter.

Goal: \$1,200



GSBC Prayer Page

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

Leadership

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

Church Needs

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries*

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry*

Bereavement

Joe Altman Family

Unspoken

Hospitals

Other Health Needs

Surgery/Recovery

Cancer/Treatments

*Regina Bouye
Kaiaya Alston
Pat Headley
Leigh Laycock
Joyce Garbade
Gene Price*

*Pinky Rushing
Sara Davis
Bob Cramer
Mary Kay Cade
Ellen Nettles
Jennifer Pitts Key
Chris Blanchard
Doug & Melanie Hamm
Rose Sheehan
Steve Bailey
Kayla Malphrus
Stephanie Crowe
Dorthie Armstrong
Lewis Hughes
Rose David
Barry DeMay
Tristan Simmons
Marie Coleman
James Williamson
Marie Cole
Glenn Scott
Rhonda Stones
Bill Horry*

Nursing Centers

*Elaine Degler - RNC
Bobby Mohn - Indigo Pines HHI
Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe
Dot Nettles - NHC
Karen Malphrus - Encompass (Room 114)*

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>Marie Malphrus</i>
<i>Diane Hannah</i>	

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

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$3,528.00	\$ 5,012.49	\$-1,484.49
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$100.00		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Office Supplies</i>	\$64.00	*****	\$580.08
<i>Adult Senior Trip 2023</i>	\$40.00	*****	\$733.94
<i>Wednesday Night Supper</i>	\$166.00	*****	\$-260.33
<i>Annie Armstrong Offering</i>	\$40.00	*****	\$310.00
<i>VBS 2023</i>	\$105.00	*****	\$1,178.02
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	\$70.00	*****	\$845.58
<i>Dot Lee Scholarship</i>	\$50.30	*****	\$1,500.00



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