

*Great Swamp Baptist Church
September 22, 2024*

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee

Call to Worship

Invocation

Lloyd Freeman

Praise & Worship

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery Workers	
<u>For Today:</u> Sophia S. & Juliette	<u>Next Sunday 9/29:</u> Myra & Teresa G.



Teacher:
Olivia Stanley



Greeters for Today:
Mike Davis

Next Sunday 9/29:
Courtney



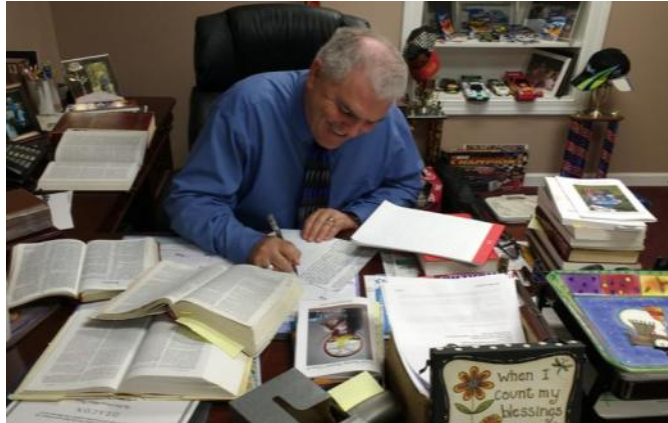
DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Lloyd Freeman



Phone: 803-943-6312

*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



Joy that's Out of this World that Can be Yours

John 15:9-17

Introduction:

There's a view in the world that to choose to be a Christian is to choose to be unhappy, boring, bitter, grumpy, and as the old saying says 'just a plain old sour-puss.' Well, sadly there are many within our churches who clearly demonstrate those very qualities mentioned above, which helps to promote that stereotype.

However we need to remember what Jesus came to do for those who choose to follow Him. He said, "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10 KJV)

So Jesus is not out to take away our joy but rather give us a life that has full meaning and purpose which will result in a life filled with joy. The now deceased preacher and author William Barclay wrote in his commentary of John these words: "The Christian is the man of joy; the Christian is the laughing cavalier of Christ. A gloomy Christian is a contradiction in terms, and nothing in all of religious history has done Christianity more harm than its connection with black clothes and long faces. It is true that the Christian is a sinner, but he is a redeemed sinner; and therein lies his joy. How can any man fail to be happy when he walks the way of life with Jesus?"

So this message is going to be on the topic of the Christian joy. I've entitled it: Joy that's Out of this World that Can be Yours.

I. First, let's notice what is this joy that's out of this world that can be yours? (vs 11)

Well, Jesus tells us exactly what this joy that's out of this world is when He said, " I have told you this so that My joy may be in you..." (vs 11) So the joy that's out of this world is His joy. I started to call this message by a different title. That title would have been Divine Joy. Because since it is the joy of Jesus that we are talking about then we are discussing the joy of the holy Son of God.

We as human beings indeed have our form of joy. Most of that joy comes from the various types of pleasure that we do in our lives. However most of those pleasures last but for a fleeting moment and then we must seek to do it all over again to get the pleasure back.

Well, blessed be the name of our blessed Lord, that the joy of the Lord Jesus Christ is not for a fleeting moment, here today and gone tomorrow, but rather an eternal joy that will never leave His people.

Now if we are going to understand what the joy of our Lord was, then we need to ask the question what was it that gave Jesus gladness and joy?

Well, Jesus opened this verse up with "I have told you this..." (vs 11) well what was it that Jesus had already told them that revealed what His joy was? Well, there are two things that Jesus had told them that represented what His joy was. The first thing that we discover in these verses that gave Jesus joy was that of honoring God, His Father, by obeying His command for His life. Everything Jesus did was exactly, 100%, what the Father has asked Him to do, and by doing so He brought honor to God.

Now the second thing that Jesus did that brought Him great joy and pleasure -- which also relates to the first thing because it's what the Father wanted Him to do -- was to love His disciples. He said that He loved His disciples because the Father loved Him. Of course, He demonstrated that love by going to the cross.

So Jesus is saying that His joy, eternal joy, divine joy, real joy, would lead His disciples to want to honor God through obedience and, second, to love one another as Jesus has loved us. And that's the joy that would give unending joy because we would then have that sense, feeling, those emotions of having accomplished and accomplishing the things that God desired for us to do.

Now it's important to note that we aren't referring to joy that's absent of pain, suffering, hardship, hard work and service. Rather we are referring to a joy that will sustain us through the difficult times. A joy that will even help give meaning and purpose to our hard times for God's glory. Just as the Bible tells us that it was Jesus' joy that got Him through His life's battles and gave purpose to those battles, which the Father meant for Him to face. "Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God." (Hebrews 12:2). Jesus didn't enjoy the pain and suffering of the cross but the joy was in knowing what it would accomplish. So let us seek His joy to know divine joy.

II. Second, let's notice who the joy out of this world that can be yours is for (vs 11)

Well, the answer to this question is in my title when I said 'that can be yours.' It's exactly what Jesus said in our verse when He said "...that my joy may be in you..." Thus, Jesus was saying that He wanted and wants His joy to be in His disciples.

The reason Jesus wanted His disciples to have His joy should be obvious. For like Himself He wanted them to live lives that honor God through obedience and to love one another as He loves them. For he knew that that was the only way His disciples could know what true joy was all about.

Now in order for us to do those things that brought joy to Jesus will require more than our human nature has the ability to perform. So that's why we need Jesus' presence within us to be able to know Jesus' joy and to carry out His joy in this world.

Therefore anyone who is willing to repent of their sins and place their trust in the lord Jesus Christ for their salvation and allow Him to come into their heart, soul, and mind having His presence in them, thus allowing them to be able to have His joy so that they can also flesh that joy out in their lives so His joy is for you.

III. Third, let's notice what the result of having the joy that's out of this word that can be yours actually is (vs 11)

Well, Jesus gives the answer in this verse, but that answer that's found in this verse will also be explained in the verses that follow it. He tells us in this verse that the result of having His joy within us is so that our joy may be complete.

Now the key word there is the word complete. How does Jesus' joy in us make our joy complete? Well, in the verses that follow He tells us. First, Jesus tells us that with His presence and joy in us, our joy will be complete by leading us and helping us to love one another. There's no way your joy can be complete without love for others.

Second, Jesus tells us that our joy will be complete because we know that He laid down His life for us. When life throws a curve at us just knowing that Jesus laid His life down for us will give us joy unspeakable and full of glory.

Third, Jesus tells us that our joy will be complete because once He lives in us and gives us His joy then He no longer calls us a servant but rather a friend. And that's amazing because until we come to Christ we are His enemies and separated from Him, but by His death, burial, and resurrection we are forgiven, reconciled and made a child of God, and thus we are His friend, Amen and praise the Lord. So let us rejoice that by His joy our joy can be made complete.

Conclusion:

I want to conclude this message with a couple of Bible verses from the Book of 1 Peter. "Though you have not seen Him, you love Him; and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and are filled with inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the result of your faith, the salvation of your souls." (1 Peter 1:8, 9).

Jesus Loves You,
Ralph Lee

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 - Greg Mariocourt

SOJOURNERS CLASS - Room 417 - Mack Pope

YOUTH - Youth Annex Leader - Amanda Hodges

BLUE ANGELS - 1ST & 2ND GRADES - Room 417 -

Nicole Mauriocourt

RAINBOW KIDS - 3RD GRADE AND OLDER - Room 415 -

Kelly Scherger

Wednesday Night Services

@ 7:00 pm

WORSHIP SERVICE *Multi-Purpose Building*

Leader-Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

YOUTH GROUP *Youth Annex*

Leader-Michelle Waitt

SWAMP KIDS *Nursery Hall*

Leader - Kim Malphrus



Wednesday Night Supper

Meals served from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. every Wednesday night. \$5.00 per person or \$15.00 per family of four or more. No Meal Deliveries.

Mike Wall Cooking Team will be cooking this Wednesday.
MENU: Ham, green beans, and fixins

****WNS & SMB meals are underway now and going great. We are very grateful for the new people volunteering to help and to cook these meals. If you are interested in helping out with SMB, WNS, or both, please see Timmy Sauls or the church office.****



Sunday Morning Breakfast

Breakfast will be served from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

\$5.00 per person or \$15.00 per family of four or more.



Great Swamp Baptist Church's Yearly Homecoming Celebration will be Sunday, October 20th. We will have The Mills Brothers singing and performing and Reiny Koschel, from the Laurens Baptist Association, will be preaching. This day is a very special day and we want YOU to be a part of it! So put it on your calendar and sign up to bring a dish! Sign up sheets for food are on the back wall. Any questions, please call the church office.

Save The Date
SAVANNAH RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2024
RIDGELAND BAPTIST CHURCH
5:00 PM—DINNER 6:00 PM—MEETING



Operation Christmas Child



SEPTEMBER NEEDS

Listed below, with amounts, what is still needed to start packing boxes later this month. Monetary donations can be made.

Thank you for your donations.

Any questions please ask Dorthie.

Pencils - 863	Crayons - 70
Glue Sticks - 456	Scissors - 184
Girl Combs/Brushes - 203	Pencil Sharpeners - 162
Baby dolls - 46	Tooth Brushes - 161
(You can get them at Dollar Tree)	Boys (age 2-4) Socks - 22
	Girls (age 2-4) Socks - 80



5th Sunday Sing

Church "Open Mic Night"

Sunday, Sept 29th

7:00 pm MPB Building

Hosted by Lloyd Freeman



Come and sing some of your favorite hymns! Open to everyone of any age or singing level!

Sign up sheet is on the back wall for those interested



When: October 7th at 11:30 a.m.

Where: Youth House

Bring: A Covered Dish and/or Dessert

Janie Chapman Mission Offering Update!!

So far we have raised \$473, which puts us more than halfway to reaching our goal of \$800! I know we can do it! Remember our contributions to this mission enable those associated with it to continue spreading the love and word of God, reaching many people who have never heard the gospel before. Our giving is what keeps these missionaries out in the field sharing the gospel, so your contribution, no matter how big or small, is important and valuable.

So give what you can and let's reach our goal together, just like this year's verse for the Janie Chapman Offering says: "We are better together." (Acts 2:42-47).



<i>Saturday</i>	<i>21st</i>	<i>Nathaniel Smoak</i> <i>**Sorry for this not being on last week's bulletin**</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>23rd</i>	<i>Sophie O'Connor</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>24th</i>	<i>Ron Davis</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>26th</i>	<i>Emily Carter</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>26th</i>	<i>Ron Malphrus</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>28th</i>	<i>Tom Benton</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>28th</i>	<i>Dalton Chapman</i>



It's time to start preparing for this year's Harvest Fest as October 26th will be here before you know it!! Sign up sheets are on the back wall. Please sign up if you can or if you have any questions, please call Keith Gamo at 843-986-8525 or Jennifer in the church office at 843-726-3631

GSBC Prayer Page

Church Leadership

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries
Ralph Lee, Jr. - Pastor
Deacons*

Leadership

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

Bereavement

*Family of Carolyn
Hubbard-Degler*

Unspoken

Vicki Archuleta's Cousin

Hospitals

Other Health Needs

*Mary Kay Cade
Julia Rushing
Pinky Rushing
Amy Hannah
Kathy Breland
Grace Hetrick
Arthur Pearson*

Surgery/Recovery

Cancer/Treatments

*Revel Crosby - 4 years old
(Leukemia)
Ken Lawler
Rachel Vaughn
Ella Gourlay - 10 years old
(Leukemia)*

*Sage Lanier (2 week old
baby with seizures)
Earl Dean Pope
Shannon Morgan (MS)
Arlette Jones (Back- pinched
nerve)
Kadence Abney (little girl -
collapsed lung)
Heather Anthony & Babies
Angel Cole*

Nursing Centers

*Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe
Tommy & Erma Cooler - Ridgeland Nursing Home
David Sauls - Florence Place Assisted Living
Doby Cleland - Life Care Center of HHI*

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

*Rose Boyles
Judy Smith
Vera Floyd
Barbara Mills
Kenny Smith
Tom Hinely
Ann Blocker
Red & Helen Malphrus
Diane Hannah
Ann Long
Shirley Malphrus*

Pray For Our Military

*Sgt. Jared Blanton - Deployed
Matthew Mills - US Marines -
Okinawa, Japan
Jericho Malphrus - Sp. Agent/Air Force -
Pinehurst, NC.
Andrea C. Daring - Charleston, SC
Schuyler Johnson - Basic Training Marines*

Church Staff

Pastor: Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr*jehu27@gmail.com*

Sunday School Director: Mike Davis*greatswampbc@gmail.com*

Pianist: Michelle Waitt *scarolina1961@gmail.com*

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Meador*greatswampbc@gmail.com*
843-726-3631

School Administrator: Donna Carter*dcarter@sfcaweb.org*

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	<i>\$2,980.00</i>	<i>\$4,923.33</i>	<i>-\$1,943.33</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$175.93</i>		
Designated Funds			Acct. Balances
Janie Chapman Offering - #09	\$225.00	*****	\$473.00
Operation Christmas Child - #36	\$200.00	*****	\$668.92



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