



Great Swamp Baptist Church
April 27, 2025

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee

Call to Worship

Invocation

Lloyd Freeman

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Church Staff

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

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

*Administrative Assistant: **June Bess**greatswampbc@gmail.com*

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

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery Workers

For Today:
Melissa & Kim

Next Sunday 05/04
Audrey & Nicole



In the school
office building

Teacher:
Olivia Stanley



Greeters for Today:
Juliette & Mike W.

Next Sunday 05/04
Mike D.

DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Lloyd Freeman



Phone: (803) 943-6312

**NEXT WEEK'S
DEACON:**
Chuck Scoggins



*From
the
Pastor's
desk:*



The Resurrection is the Greatest Remedy for Fear.
Revelation 1:9-20

Introduction: There's a very odd result that took place at the resurrection of our Lord. That odd result was that our Lord's resurrection created fear while at the same time it relieved fear.

To begin with, practically everyone involved with our Lord's resurrection, in one way or another experienced fear. The watch of Roman soldiers that had been assigned the responsibility of guarding the tomb, and a watch of soldiers referred to 100 soldiers, became like dead men when they saw the Angel of the Lord appear, and felt the earth shake, and saw the stone roll away. These hardened soldiers were the ones who appeared to be in the tomb, while Jesus was already up from the grave- alive forever more!

However, they were not only frightened from what they had seen but what they had discovered. And what they discovered was that the tomb was empty, the body of our Lord and Savior was missing. This was real bad news for them. For anytime a Roman soldier lost their prisoner their lives may be taken in exchange for the lost prisoner.

The women who first came to the tomb and the disciples a little later, were frightened because they didn't know where Jesus body had been moved to or who had moved it.

Th religious and political leaders that had pushed for Jesus

Crucifixion, and gave consent to it, were fearful. Not because they necessarily believed that He had risen, but because of what they conceived to be a deception to convince others that He had risen. Thus they created their own deception story, paying the soldiers off to convince them to say to others that Jesus' disciples came and stole the body away while all one hundred of the soldiers fell asleep.

So, as we see everyone involved in someway or another became fearful because of His resurrection. On the other, four of the greatest words that were spoken at the resurrection have relieved the fear of God's people more than any other ever spoken: Those words are "do not be afraid". These words were spoken to the women who came to the tomb as well as to Peter and John, who also came to the tomb. Jesus also spoke them to His disciples when He first appeared to them in the upper room, where they were hiding for fear of the people that had crucified Jesus.

Now why did those four words become the greatest remedy to remove fears? Well of course, it's words that were spoken immediately following those words. What were those words? "He's not here; He has risen, just as He said" (Matt. 28:6). If Death could not hold Him in the grave then there's nothing to fear.

Well six decades later the Apostle John, exiled on the island of Patmos for preaching the Word of God, became frightened out of his wits from a particular vision of Jesus that he saw. Then Jesus, once again said those four powerful and soothing words directly to John, "do not be afraid".

Now John had not only heard those four words spoken six decades earlier, at the tomb of our Lord, but also on another occasion before Jesus death, burial and resurrection. It happened on the mountain of transfiguration, where Jesus allowed His deity to shine through His humanity. James, Peter and John were with Jesus on this occasion. Also appearing on the scene were the Old Testament characters Moses and Elijah. This was such a mountain-top experience. But then God spoke out of the clouds

Fell to ground, covering their eyes so that they wouldn't see God, because they believed by doing so they would be consumed.

However, God has stopped speaking, Moses and Elijah were gone and Jesus walked over and touched the disciples and told them to "get up", He said "don't be afraid". They got up and all they saw was Jesus. He's all we need to see to conquer our fears. And now that He arose from the dead He will always be there for us. So let's look at how Jesus' resurrection is the greatest remedy for fear.

I. First the Resurrection of Jesus is the Greatest Remedy for fear because of who Jesus is, vs 17 & 18. There is no one like Jesus, and never has been, and never will be. It's because of who He uniquely is that our fear and anxiety can all be made calm. Especially now, since He was resurrected. And this is exactly how He calmed down John's fear by reminding him who He is.

There were two words that Jesus used to begin each description of who He was, and is; "I Am". Now, if Jesus had used those two words alone and added no description with them, they alone would be enough to let us know just who He is. He's the great "I Am" which is a term that covers all bases. But in order to help John understand how, who He is will remove his fear, is to give some specific answer to who He is.

First Jesus tells John that, "I am the first and the last." What Jesus meant by that was there's never been anyone before Him and there will never be anyone greater than He is, ever, in all eternity. He's the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and end. Second He said, "I and the Living One; I was dead and now look, I am alive for ever and ever!" Look John, Jesus is saying to him, you saw me six decades ago in all of my resurrected glory, and nothing has changed. I am still alive and will be forever and ever because at the resurrection death had lost its complete hold on me. For death could not, and cannot and never will defeat or conquer the eternal Son of God. It was the humanity of Jesus that died but since you can't kill the deity of Jesus, His deity gave back to His humanity, a new glorified body that came out of the grave! Amen!

We must not look to frail human beings as our primary source of overcoming our fears. Rather we must look to the one who overcame death to reveal to us that we can forever more rest in Him who is alive for ever more- Amen.

II. Second, the Resurrection of Jesus is the Greatest Remedy for fear because of what Jesus holds, vs 18. He told John that, “I hold the keys of death and Hades.” Hades is a reference to the place of the dead. Now keys have always been a symbol of Authority. If you have a set of keys to something it usually means that you are the owner or at least an important part of the place or thing the keys go to. Therefore this ownership gives you authority over whatever the keys belong to.

Well, because Jesus conquered death He thus holds the key or, if you would, authority over death and Hades. He has ownership over the place. Therefore He alone has the power to bring people up out of the grave and the power to send them to Hell, a place He desires no one to go to, and because He conquered the grave they don’t have to, if only they will trust Him as Lord and Savior.

The Apostle Paul says it all when he said.

”Where, o death, is your victory?

Where o death, is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God!

He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters stand firm.

Let nothing move you. Always give yourself fully to the work of the Lord because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. (I Cor. 15:55-58 NIV)

III. Third, the Resurrection of Jesus is the greatest Remedy for fear because of where Jesus is, vs 12, 13, 19, 20. When John first saw the vision of Jesus in this chapter he observed that Jesus was standing in the midst of seven golden lamp stands and is holding seven stars. Jesus then, a little later, explains to John who the lamp stands and stars represent. *“The mystery of the seven stars and of the seven golden lamp stands is this: The seven stars*

Are the angels of the seven churches and the seven lamp stands are the seven churches". (vs 20)

So Jesus is saying to John, you need not fear John because I stand in the midst of my churches and I hold their spiritual leaders in my right hand. Jesus is saying that He will never walk away from His church until He returns to take her out of this world. He has always been in their midst and He will always hold on to their pastors to give them the strength and wisdom to carry out His work in the world.

Conclusion: So as I leave this church soon because of my retirement, I know that this church is going to be just fine because our Lord and Master, Savior and King stands in her midst fulfilling His words to Peter some six decades earlier, "And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church and the gates of Hades will not overcome it". (Matt 16:18)

I also know that my blessed Lord holds me in His hands and I know that I've got nothing either to worry about.

Dear friend cling to the one who conquered death and let Him give you victory over death, hell, and the grave as well as all of your fears.

Jesus Loves You!

Ralph Lee



Annie Armstrong
Easter Offering for
North America

The last day to give is April 30th. We are currently at \$1347.00, with a goal of \$1200.00.

**Senior Graduation date corrected*

Baccalaureate

Wednesday, May 14th
At 7:00 p.m. in Old Sanctuary



Tuesday,
April
29th

Sports Banquet

Thursday, May 15th
At 6:00 p.m. in MPB

Singing at the
Ridgeland Nursing
Center

1516 Grays Hwy

Meet there at 6pm to sing,
pray and hear the Word
with the residents each 4th
Tuesday of the month.

Kindergarten (K5)
Graduation

Friday, May 16th
At 7:00 p.m. in Gym

SFCA High School
Graduation

Saturday, May 17th
At 4:00 p.m. in Gym

Sixth Grade "Moving Up"

May 22nd
At 8:30 a.m. in MPB

SFCA Awards Day

Friday, May 23th at 8:15

*..and may the Lord cause you
to increase and overflow in
love for one another, and for
all people, just as we also do
for you.
(I Thessalonians 4:9, NASB)*



Bake Sale!

Bake sale on Sunday, May 11th - Mother's Day!!

Fundraiser for *Girls in Action* camp

If you can bake yummy things we would so appreciate your donation of baked goodies to sell.- Please sign up on the sheet posted on the back wall.

**Wednesday, May 7th
at 7:00 p.m.**

**Church
BUSINESS
Meeting**

**NEW
DATE**

Deacon
Meeting

**Monday, May
12th at 6pm**

**Sunday
Morning
Breakfast**

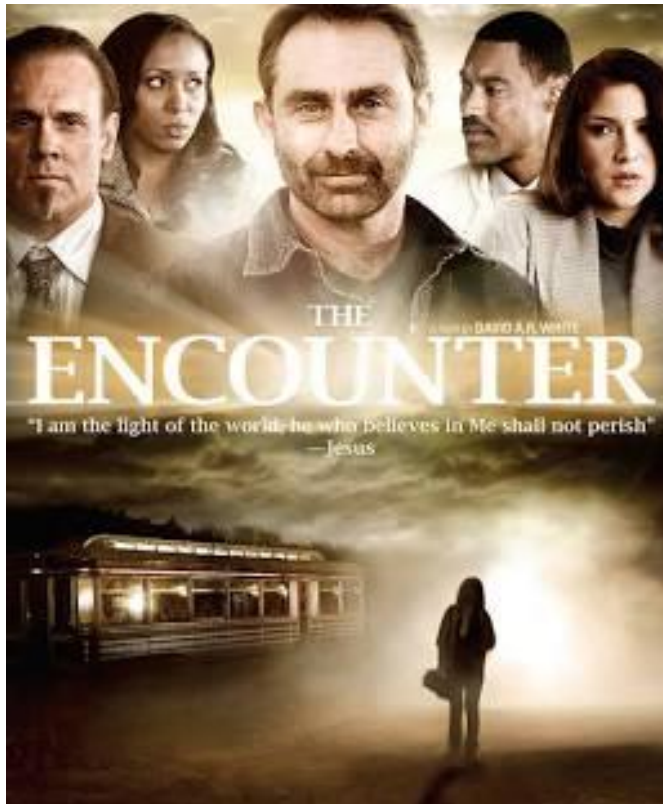
Breakfast will be
served 8:30-9AM



**Wednesday
Night
Supper**

Served from
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

\$5.00 per person or \$15 for family



**Sunday, April
27th
Concessions
at 6:00 p.m.
Movie starts
at 6:45 p.m.**



*Please bring finger foods for your family
as well as to share with everyone else!
Tea and popcorn will be provided by the
church.*

**Come watch a great movie with friends
and family!**





Thursday	1st	Connie Benton
Sunday	4th	Dorthie Armstrong
Tuesday	6th	Josh Ford
Thursday	8th	June Bess
Saturday	10th	Amy O'Connor
Thursday	15th	Ken Cleland
Thursday	15th	Amy Mobley



Traveling out of town for the week-end? Don't miss a minute of Sunday morning at Great Swamp Baptist Church - Join us by LIVESTREAM on our YouTube channel. You can even watch services from Sundays past!

@greatswampbaptistchurch8998

Or on FaceBook at **Great-Swamp Baptist Church**

BUT ...

It would be best of all to see you here!



Sunday School Classes

Starting at 9:15 am

CAMO CLASS: *Room 406 -- Leader: Bobby Smith*

GLEANERS CLASS: *Room 411 -- Leader: Darlene Bollack*

VISIONARIES CLASS: *Room 413 - Leader: Greg Mariocourt*

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

YOUTH: *Youth Annex*

BLUE ANGELS - 1ST & 2ND GRADES:
Room 412 -- Leader: Nicole Mauriocourt

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

Tuesday Morning Prayer Meeting

Breakfast begins at 9:00 am

Followed by the Prayer Meeting

Located in the Multi-Purpose Building

Wednesday Night Services

@ 7:00 pm

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

YOUTH GROUP *Youth Annex*

SWAMP KIDS *Nursery Hall*
Leader – Kim Malphrus

GSBC Prayer Page

*You also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that
thinks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the
favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many.*

2Corinthians 1:11 (NASB)

Church Leadership

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

Leadership

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

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*

Pray For Our Military

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

Health Needs

*Ralph Lee
Julia Rushing
Pinky Rushing
Amy Hannah
Arthur Pearson
Earl Dean Pope
Rachel Mixon
Marie Cole's Brother
Phoebe Ferguson
Drew Jeffries
Donnie Smith
Holly Malphrus
Sadie O'Connor
Earl Pope Sr.
Vera Miles*

Cancer

*Revel Crosby - 4 yrs old
Ken Lawler
Rachel Vaughn
Ella Gourlay - 10 yrs old
David Boyles
Paul Holmes
Randy Floyd*

In Hospital

*Michelle Ashley- Trident
Anne Blocker*

Bereavement

Unspoken

Rhonda Stones

Homebound

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



Step of Faith Christian Academy
 is accepting applications for a
 teacher for the 2025-2026
 School year. Please see Mrs.
 Donna Carter or call
 (843) 726-6100



Monday, May 5th at 11:30 a.m. Celebrating Mother's Day! Please bring side-dishes, desserts.
 Further details coming soon.

TITHES	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus / Deficit
	<i>\$3,810.00</i>	<i>\$5,172.63</i>	<i>-\$1,362.63</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>		
Designated Funds	\$390.00		Acct. Balances
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering			\$1,347.00



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