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*The Chancel flowers on the Altar are dedicated
in memory of our mother, Lois Matthews
given by Mary Behan and Kathey Fairchild*



“Worship God, Love One Another, Serve the World”



**December 11, 2022
11:00 am
Traditional Worship**

665 W Corbett Avenue
Swansboro, North Carolina 28584
910 326-4822
www.SwansboroUMC.org

Pastor G. Kevin Baker: PastorKevin@swansboroumc.org
Pastor Regina Harrison: PastorRegina@swansboroumc.org
Director of Music Ministries: Kristen Viszneki:
Kristen@swansboroumc.org
Beacon Worship Leader: Don Haines
BeaconWorship@swansboroumc.org

Traditional Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude "Prepare the Way of the Lord"

Call to Worship "Unto Us a child is Born"

*Greeting

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

We are ready, O Lord, to behold the presence of your spirit among us.

Bless our spirits with openness and joy!

We have come on this journey seeking hope and peace.

You, O Lord, have poured your spirit on us!

*Hymn UMH #211 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (*Verses 5,6 and 7*)

* Opening Prayer of Confession

God of majesty and glory, we are thirsty for your grace. You made a way for us in the wilderness, and still, in our foolishness, we go astray. We hide our eyes from your presence. We do not listen to your word. We are lifeless when we ought to dance and speechless when we ought to sing. Forgive us, Lord. Speak peace to our fearful hearts, strengthen our weak hands, and make firm our feeble knees as we seek to follow in your way. AMEN.

*Assurance of Pardon

Now return to the Lord with joy and gladness.

Sing a song of redemption! Let sorrow and sighing be no more.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God! Amen.

The Peace (*As forgiven, reconciled people, let us show one another signs of reconciliation & love*).

First Scripture Lesson Isaiah 35:1-10

Alice Voss

Lighting of the Advent Candle

FWS #2090 "Light the Advent Candle"

Open Altar, Open Heart (*As "Call to Prayer" is sung, all are invited to come to the altar for morning prayer led by a Pastor*).

Call to Prayer "To a Maid Engaged to Joseph"

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

*The Apostles' Creed UMH #881

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,

**maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Gloria Patri UMH #71

Anthem "Silent Night/Ava Maria"

*Gospel Lesson Matthew 11:2-11

Sermon "When Dry Land Becomes Glad"

Invitation

Giving of our Tithes, Offerings, and Connection Cards

Offertory "Love is Come Again"

*Doxology UMH #94

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn UMH #246 "Joy To The World"

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Postlude "Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Lights"

Please stand as you are able