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



**Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2023
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
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Kristen@swansboroumc.org

Traditional Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” Terri Boykin

*Greeting

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Christ opens our eyes with the gift of sight.

The light of the world is Jesus Christ.

Come and worship the one who brings sight to the blind.

Praise God, the light of the world!

*Hymn UMH #454 “Open My Eyes, That I May See”

*Opening Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, in a world filled with so much pain, we would rather shut our eyes and be blind than see things as they really are. Grant us the courage to face the reality of our world, and give us the strength to bring your light to those who walk in darkness. Help us see others as you see them, and forgive us when we do not trust you enough to open our eyes to the possibilities before us. Heal our self-inflicted blindness, O God, and lead us in the footsteps of the Light of the World, who reveals your glory in his life, his teachings, and his love. In his holy name, we pray. Amen

*Assurance of Pardon

The goodness and mercy of God are given to us each and every day of our lives. Believe in your heart that God loves you and forgives you. We believe! God help our unbelief!

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: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Deanna Scroggs

Psalms 23 UMH #137, Response no. 2

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 “Open Our Eyes, Lord”

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 “No Greater Love”

Children’s Celebration

“Jesus Loves Me” UMH #191 *(Sung as the children come forward)*

*Gospel Lesson: John 9:1-14

Sermon “Encounter on the Road”

Giving of our Tithes, Offerings, and Connection Cards

Offertory “We Adore You, Jesus Christ”

*Doxology UMH #94

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn UMH #128 “He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought”

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Postlude “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” Terri Boykin

**Please stand as you are able.*