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



**Easter Sunday**  
**April 9, 2023, 11:00 am**  
**Traditional Worship**

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Swansboro, North Carolina 28584  
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[www.SwansboroUMC.org](http://www.SwansboroUMC.org)

Pastor G. Kevin Baker: [pastorkevin@swansboroumc.org](mailto:pastorkevin@swansboroumc.org)  
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## Traditional Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude “Alleluia”

Greeting

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

\*Hymn UMH #302 “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”  
*(Verses 1-6; Congregation is invited to bring flowers forward, and leave them at the foot of the cross during processional while attendants flower the cross.)*

\*Opening Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, we don’t always know how to greet the news of life and hope that surprises us and challenges our assumptions. We confess that we cling to how we perceive life on earth should unfold, forgetting that life in your realm shatters those expectations. Forgive us when we go through our daily routine, forgetting to look for the Risen One, who is our hope and our salvation. Forgive us when coming to worship is more about seeing our friends than it is about encountering you and our Resurrected Lord. Open our eyes and our hearts, O God, to the full awareness of your presence with us, in each and every moment of our lives. We pray in the name of the Christ who is alive! Alleluia and Amen.**

\*Assurance of Pardon

The testimony of all the prophets is united in this message of good news: Everyone who believes in Jesus Christ receives forgiveness of sins through his name. Rejoice! 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 now show one another signs of reconciliation and love.*

First Scripture Lesson Acts 10:34-43

Lynn Rouse

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 “The Power of the Cross”

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Anthem “He Arose” by Pepper Choplin

\*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 28:1-10

Sermon “Easter Urgency” Rev. G. Kevin Baker

Invitation to the Table

Giving of our Tithes, Offerings, and Connection Cards

Offertory “He Lives”

\*Doxology UMH #94

\*The Great Thanksgiving: FWS #2257 a-d

Breaking of the Bread, Giving of the Bread and Cup

Anointing Oil

Lisa Potts, Robbie Yates

*All are invited to the table of the Lord. We serve by intinction, (take bread and dip a portion into the cup and then partake), or by using prepackaged communion elements. (Gluten-free available.) Those unable to come forward may raise their hand and an acolyte or pastor will bring communion to you.*

*After receiving, you may kneel for prayer and/or go to one of our prayer stations to receive anointing and prayer from one of our lay Stephen ministers. Offerings left at the altar rail go to the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund used primarily to assist the needy.)*

Communion Songs “Eat This Bread”  
“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

Prayer after the Meal

\*Hymn UMH #327 “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

\*Dismissal with Blessing

\*Postlude “Up From The Grave He Arose”

\*Please stand as you are able

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Acolytes: Erin O’Connell, Tyler Fahy, Annie Fahy, Ryan Fahy

Dir. of Music Ministries: Kristen Visznecki

Pianist/Organist: Terri Boykin

Liturgist: Dr. Layne Harpine

Preacher: Rev. G. Kevin Baker