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*The Chancel flowers on the altar are dedicated
in memory of Joe Dupree
Given by Gail Dupree*



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



**Epiphany Sunday
January 7, 2024
8:25 a.m. Daymark 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: Bryan Hoff
BeaconWorship@swansboroumc.org**

Daymark Worship

Gathering Music

Welcome and Announcements

Song of Preparation "Star of the East"

*Greeting

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

O Come, Let us Adore Him, Christ the Lord!

The Star in the dark sky heralded His Coming.

Led by the light of the Star, the Wise Ones came to pay homage.

We, too, come to the stable, seeking the infant King.

Come, Arise! Shine! The Light has come.

God's Light of love is shining upon us. AMEN.

*Hymn UMH #245 "The First Noel"

*Opening Prayer of Confession

Lord, we confess that we have been wrapped up in our celebration of Christmas. We enjoyed the music, the food, and the swirl of activities.

We have looked happily at the Christmas lights and decorations, yet we have chosen to ignore the people most in need of compassion and assistance during this time. We often feel overwhelmed by the demands on our resources and so we turn our "deaf ear" and look away. Open our hearts today, precious Lord, and help us hear the cries of those in need. Bring us to an understanding of active discipleship in which we work helping others and thus serving you. Heal us and give us courage and joy in your service, for we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

As surely as the Light follows the Darkness, the light of God's love, given to the world so long ago, is given for you, for healing and hope. You are beloved of God. Receive the Light of God

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 60:1-6 Mary Behan

Open Altar, Open Heart *(During "Call to Prayer", all are invited to the altar for morning prayer.)*

Call to Prayer "Trust and Obey"

Pastoral Prayer

Anthem "The Light of the World is Jesus"

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon: "Believe and Follow"

Invitation to the Table

Giving of our Tithes, Offerings, and Connection Cards

Offertory "O Splendor of God's Glory Bright"

*Doxology UMH #94

*The Great Thanksgiving

Communion Setting FWS #2257 a-d

Giving of the Bread and Cup

Anointing with oil

Stephen Ministers

All are invited to the table of the Lord. We serve by intinction, (take the bread and dip a portion into the cup, then partake), or by using prepackaged communion elements. 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 Song "Take This Bread"

*Prayer after the Meal

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.

Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn #254 "We Three Kings"

*Dismissal & Blessing

*Postlude "Your Light Has Come"

**Please stand as you are able.*