

Get Connected!

Help us connect you in 3 easy steps!



1. Pull out your phone
2. Use the camera on iOS or the Google Assistant on Android to scan the box to the left
3. Click the website pop-up and fill out the connection card today.

Only one scan is required per household.

Give Now

Scan the box to the right to be directed to our online giving page.



*The chancel flowers on the altar are dedicated
in memory of Hazel Kilpatrick,
given by John & Carol McLean.*



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



Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

8:30 a.m. Worship

665 W Corbett Avenue
Swansboro, North Carolina 28584

910 326-4822

www.SwansboroUMC.org

Pastor Laura Thompson: PastorLaura@swansboroumc.org

Pastor Elias Ballew: PastorElias@swansboroumc.org

Music Director: Lindsay Williams: Music@swansboroumc.org

Piano & Organ: Terri Boykin

8:30 Worship

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude “O Come, Emmanuel”

*Call to Worship

Family of faith, God is at work!

God is healing and creating,

redeeming and dreaming,

calling and sending,

listening and loving.

Yes, indeed, God is at work!

So may we worship our God who never gives up.

May we worship our God who holds on to hope. Amen.

*Hymn “There’s a Song in the Air” UMH #249

Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

On-the-move God, we have every reason to hold on to hope.

We have every reason to believe that spring will come, that flowers will bloom, that the sun will rise. And yet, too often hope slips through our fingers. With anxious hearts we cry out to you,

“Will change ever come? Will things ever get better? Will I ever make a difference?” Soothe our wandering hearts and show us the places where the sun is shining. Show us the places where you are on the move. With open hearts we pray, amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Family of faith, in our honesty – **we are heard.**

In our worries – **we are held.**

In our failings – **we are forgiven.**

In our fear – **we are not alone.**

Friends, this is the good news of the gospel!

When we’re running out of hope, God is still at work.

Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

*Passing the Peace

Welcome! Please take the next 60 seconds and find someone you did not come to church with and greet them in Jesus' name!

Lighting the Advent Wreath

PRAISE AND PROCLAMATION

*Scripture Lesson Isaiah 11:1-10 Bobbi Edge

SwanKids Worship

All kids are welcome to follow our staff to the Ministry Center (Bldg 3) for SwanKids Worship during the sermon. They will return for communion with their families.

Anthem “Come, Prepare the Way”

*Gospel Lesson Matthew 11:1-11

Sermon “What do you fear? Rev. Laura Thompson
When We’re Running out of Hope, God is at Work.”

RESPONSE

Congregational Sharing: Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

Giving of our Tithes, Offerings, and Connection Cards

Offertory Song “With Open Hearts”

*Doxology UMH #94

*The Great Thanksgiving TFWS 2257
Giving of the Bread and Cup

All are invited to the table of the Lord. We serve by intinction or by using prepackaged gluten-free elements. Those unable to come forward may raise their hand, and a 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 “How Beautiful”

Prayer after the Meal

SENDING

*Hymn “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” UMH #206

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Postlude “Christ, Be Our Light”

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone, has pow’r to save us. Make us your living voice.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

**Please stand as you are able.*