

Pastor Laura Thompson: PastorLaura@swansboroumc.org
Pastor Elias Ballew: PastorElias@swansboroumc.org
Music Director: Lindsay Williams: Music@swansboroumc.org
Piano and Organ: Terri Boykin



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

Celebrating New Life

Have you welcomed a new child through **birth or adoption**? Please let the church office know so we can celebrate with you! A **rose will be placed on the altar** in honor of your newest blessing. 🌹



By Ann vonHoorn

August 30, 2026
14th Sunday after Pentecost
10:30 a.m. Combined Worship



A Stephen Minister provides confidential support, encouragement, listening, and prayer to those going through a difficult time. Contact: SUMC office, website, or Laurie NardoKunst: 910-934-5457.

665 W Corbett Avenue
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10:30 Worship

GATHERING

Gathering Song “Waiting Here for You”

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude “Give Me Jesus”

*Call to Worship

The Lord our God is with us.

Stop and listen; turn and see!

The Lord our God is with us,

This place is holy ground.

The Lord our God is with us.

The God of our ancestors is here.

*Hymn “Be Thou My Vision”

UMH #451

*Opening Prayer

God of holy ground, even from the wilderness places of our lives, from a position of despair, we trust in Your power: to return and restore us, to enliven and empower us, to soothe and to save us. You can turn a desert into Eden, sorrow into joy, and silence into singing. The heavens may vanish above, and the earth dissolve underneath, but Your salvation is forever. We wait for You, O God, attentive and hopeful, for with You, deliverance is always possible. In Christ, we pray, 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!

PRAISE AND PROCLAMATION

*Gospel Lesson Matthew 16:21-28

Diane Brooks

SwanKids Worship

All kids are welcome to follow our staff for SwanKids Worship during the sermon.

Anthem “Keep Your Lamps”

Choir

Scripture Lesson Exodus 3:1-15

Sermon “Turning Aside:
Rejecting Urgency, Embracing Attention”

Rev. Laura Thompson

RESPONSE

*Hymn of Response “Holy Ground”

FWS #2272

Congregational Sharing: Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Giving of our Tithes, Offerings, and Connection Cards

Offertory Song “Bless God”

*Doxology

UMH #94

SENDING

*Hymn “Here I am, Lord”

UMH #593

Postlude

** Please stand as you are able.*

