

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”



*The chancel flowers on the altar are
in memory of
Joseph Croom on his adoption birthday,
given by his family.*



Art by Betty Tidquist

September 27, 2026
18th Sunday after Pentecost
8:25 a.m. 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
Swansboro, North Carolina 28584
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8:25 Worship

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

“Hornpipe”
By Watermusic

Terri Boykin



*Call to Worship

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
the firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.

**Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart.**

The commandments of the Lord are more to be desired than gold,
sweeter also than honey from the honeycomb.
So as we come before God, let this be our prayer:

**Let the words of our mouths
and the meditations of our hearts
be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.**

Come, let us worship God.

*Hymn

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

UMH #139

*Opening Prayer

**God our sustainer, as You broke open a stone to provide water for
Your people, open our hearts to Your mercy and fill us with spiritual
gifts. We come to be instructed in Your way, to be encouraged in
Christ, to be consoled by love, and to share in the joy of the Spirit. Do
Your work within us as we gather to worship You. 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 21:23-32

Annie Fahy

SwanKids Worship

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

Anthem

“We Will Pray”

Choir

Scripture Lesson

Exodus 17:1-7

Sermon

“A Place Called Massah and Meribah” Rev. Laura Thompson

RESPONSE

*Hymn of Response

“You Who Are Thirsty”

FWS #2132

*Affirmation of Faith

**We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.**

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer

Giving of our Tithes, Offerings, and Connection Cards

Offertory Song

“Deeper Than the Valley”

Roger Fulp

*Doxology

UMH #94

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

SENDING

*Hymn

“God Will Take Care of You”

UMH #130

Postlude

“Guide My Feet”

FWS #2208

**“Guide my feet while I run this race. (Yes, my Lord!) Guide my feet while I
run this race. (Yes, my Lord!) Guide my feet while I run this race, for I don’t
want to run this race in vain! (race in vain)”**

** Please stand as you are able.*

