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"Worship God, Love One Another, Serve the World"



*The chancel flowers on the altar are
in loving memory of Alex Moore
given by Betty Moore.*

*The flowers in the Narthex are
in Thanksgiving for our 60th wedding anniversary on
October 19th
given by Steve & Pat Wheaton.*



*"And God spoke all these words."
Exodus 20:1*

Art by Betty Tisquist



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.

October 4, 2026
19th Sunday after Pentecost
8:25 a.m. Worship

8:30 Worship

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements



Prelude "All Hail the Power/You Are My All in All" Marla Hamm

*Call to Worship *Our journey through Exodus:*

We will tell the stories we have heard and known,
the stories our ancestors have handed down to us.

We will remember the mighty works of God.

How God heard the cries of an oppressed people—

And raised up courage in unexpected places.

How God called to Moses from a bush burning in the wilderness—

And taught him to turn aside and pay attention.

How God led the people out from the land of bondage—

And made a way where there seemed to be no way.

Through wilderness and hunger, thirst and uncertainty,

God has led the people to this place.

And the God who led them is still leading us.

So we remember the story.

We listen again for the voice of God.

And we worship the God who sets us free and teaches us how to live.

*Opening Hymn "I Come with Joy" UMH #617

*Opening Prayer

Creator God, the heavens radiate Your glory! You have set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a joyful bridegroom from his wedding canopy. May we emerge from night's waiting with such rampant joy that we too radiate Your glory throughout this day. In the name of the Son of righteousness who has risen with healing in his wings. Amen.

PRAISE AND PROCLAMATION

Ministry Moment Ashley Hopkins

*Gospel Lesson Matthew 21:33-46 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.

Congregational Sharing: Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Anthem "Come Down Lord" Choir

Sermon Rev. Laura Thompson

RESPONSE

Invitation to the Table

Confession and Pardon

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved You with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done Your will; we have broken Your law; we have rebelled against Your love; we have not loved our neighbors; and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen

*Passing the Peace

Giving of our Tithes, Offerings, and Connection Cards



Offertory Song "When Morning Gilds the Skies/We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise"

*Doxology UMH #95

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 to assist those in need.

Communion Song "Let Us Break Bread Together" Choir

Prayer after the Meal

SENDING

*Hymn "In Unity We Lift Our Song" FWS #2221

*Dismissal with Blessing

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.*