

**Ebony Dionne Flemming  
Magni Bowers**

**July 12, 1980 -  
January 16, 2026**

**This Service and Bulletin are dedicated to the Glory of God  
and in loving memory of**

**Ebony Dionne Flemming Magni Bowers**

**July 12, 1980 - January 16, 2026**

**January 19, 2026**

**1:00PM**

**PRELUDE MUSIC**

(We Stand)

THE CONGREGATION IS ASKED TO PARTICIPATE BY RESPONDING  
WITH THE **BOLD** VERSES AND SINGING THE HYMNS.

**INTRODUCTION**

Welcome in the name of Jesus, the Savior of the world. We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our **sister, Ebony**, to give thanks for **her** life, to commend **her** to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

**THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

**We glorify you.**

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

**We praise you.**

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

**We worship you.**

To you, O blessed Trinity, Father, Son+, and Holy Spirit be glory and honor, forever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

*"How Great Thou Art"*

ELW 856

1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der  
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der,  
 3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing,  
 4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion,  
 con-sid-er  
 I hear the  
 sent him to  
 and take me

all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y  
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain  
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly  
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o-

thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u - ni - verse dis - played;  
 gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;  
 bear-ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;  
 ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

*Refrain*

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou  
 art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to  
 thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our **sister, Ebony**. We thank you for giving **her** to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

(We Sit)

## **PERSONAL REFLECTIONS**

### **FIRST READING**

1 John 4:7-12

<sup>7</sup> Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup> God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup> In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM**

Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. <sup>2</sup> He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. <sup>3</sup> He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. <sup>4</sup> Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. <sup>5</sup> Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. <sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

**SECOND READING**

Romans 5:1-5

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup> And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup> and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

(We stand to welcome the Holy Gospel and say together:)

**THE VERSE**

**Jesus Christ is the firstborn of the dead; to him be glory and power forever and ever.  
Amen.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

John 14:1-6

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: <sup>1</sup> "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. <sup>4</sup> And you know the way to the place where I am going." <sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

(We Sit)

**SERMON**

Pastor Jason Antley

(We Stand)

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*"Born-ing Cry"*

ELW 732



1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;  
3 "In the mid-dle a-ges of your life, not too old, no lon-ger young,



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un-fold.  
you were raised to praise the liv-ing Lord, to whom you now be-long.  
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be-gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;  
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,  
When the eve-ning gent-ly clos-es in and you shut your wea-ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."  
I'll be there to make your vers-es rhyme from dusk till ris-ing sun."  
I'll be there as I have al-ways been, with just one more sur-prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un-fold."

## THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your chosen people together in one communion, in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Give to your whole Church in heaven and on earth your light and your peace.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die to sin and rise to newness of life and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Grant to all who mourn a sure confidence in your loving care, that, casting all their sorrow on you, they may know the consolation of your love.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Give courage and faith to those who are bereaved, that they may have strength to meet the days ahead in the comfort of a holy and certain hope, and in the joyful expectation of eternal life with those they love.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Help us, we pray, in the midst of things we cannot understand, to believe and trust in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the resurrection to life everlasting.

**Hear us, Lord.**

Grant us grace to entrust **Ebony** to your never-failing love which sustained **her** in this life. Receive **her** into the arms of your mercy, and remember **her** according to the favor you bear for your people.

**Hear us, Lord.**

God of all grace, you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give you thanks because by his death Jesus destroyed the power of death and by his resurrection has opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Make us certain that because he lives we shall live also, and that neither death nor life, nor things present nor things to come shall be able to separate us from your love which is in Christ Jesus our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen

#### **COMMENDATION**

Let us commend **Ebony** to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant **Ebony**. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive **her** into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

**Amen.**

#### **CLOSING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Merciful God, you heal the broken in heart and bind up the wounds of the afflicted. Strengthen us in our weakness, calm our troubled spirits, and dispel our doubts and fears. In Christ's rising from the dead, you conquered death and opened the gates to everlasting life. Renew our trust in you that by the power of your love we shall one day be brought together again with our sister, **Ebony**. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

#### **DISMISSAL**

Let us go forth in peace.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*"When We All Get to Heaven"*

HFW 1113

1 Sing the won - drous love of Je - sus, sing his mer - cy  
 2 While we walk the pil - grim path - way, clouds will o - ver -  
 3 Let us then be true and faith - ful, trust - ing, serv - ing  
 4 On - ward to the prize be - fore us! Soon his beau - ty

and his grace: in the man - sions bright and bless - ed,  
 spread the sky; but when trav - 'ling days are o - ver,  
 ev - 'ry day; just one glimpse of him in glo - ry  
 we'll be - hold; soon the pearl - y gates will o - pen;

*Refrain*

he'll pre - pare for us a place. When we all get to  
 not a shad - owd, not a sigh. When we all  
 will the toils of life re - pay. When we all  
 we shall tread the streets of gold.

(1) for us a place.

heav - en, what a day of re-joic - ing that will be! When we  
 what a day of re - joic - ing that will be!

all see Je - sus, we'll sing and shout the vic - to - ry.  
 When we all and shout the vic - to - ry.

Burial will follow the service at St. Paul's Cemetery in Lexington, SC.

## COMMITAL

Grace and peace from our Savior Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Holy God, holy and powerful, by the death and burial of Jesus, your anointed, you have destroyed the power of death and made holy the resting places of all your people. Keep our **sister, Ebony**, whose **body** we now lay to rest, in the company of all your saints. And at the last, O God, raise **her** up to share with all the faithful the endless joy and peace won through the glorious resurrection of Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

A reading from 1st Corinthians: <sup>51</sup> Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, <sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. <sup>53</sup> For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality.

<sup>54</sup> When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."

<sup>55</sup> "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" <sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to almighty God our **sister, Ebony**, and we commit **her body to the ground**;

earth to earth,  
ashes to ashes,  
dust to dust.

The Lord bless **her** and keep **her**.

The Lord's face shine on **her** with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon **her** with favor and give **her** peace, in the name of the Father and of the Son+ and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Rest eternal grant **her** O Lord; and let light perpetual shine upon **her**.

Let us pray,

O Lord, support us all the daylong of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, in your mercy, grant us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

**Amen.**

Let us go forth in peace.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

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**Pastors**                    The Rev. Jason T. Antley  
                                  The Rev. Ralph G. Hill

**Organist**                Ms. Susan Wilson

**Crucifer**                Mrs. Shannon Burnett

**Ushers**                    Ivan Black, Allen Shealy, Odie Rawl, Daryl Hooker

**THE PASCAL CANDLE** is a reminder of the presence of Christ, the Light of the world, who brings His power to the darkness of our hearts, helping us to grieve, not as others do who have no hope, but in the sure and certain hope that is ours through His death and Resurrection.

**THE PALL**, which covers the **casket**, is a reminder of the baptismal garment God puts on God's children as they are welcomed into God's Holy Family. It also symbolizes that in Holy Baptism we have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ and given the gift of eternal life through His death and resurrection. In addition, the pall enables all **caskets** to come equally before the altar, a reminder that God loves everyone, rich and poor alike.

LEXINGTON—Dr. Ebony Flemming Magni Bowers, Ph.D. was born on July 12, 1980 and passed away on January 16, 2026, at the age of 45.

Ebony was a graduate of Lexington High School's Class of 1998, Midlands Technical College, and Walden University. She was the student body president of her graduating class, a student trainer for the Lexington Wildcats and played middle school basketball at Lexington Middle School.

She was a director of the K.E.Y.S. (Keeping Every Youth Safe) After-School Program with the Town of Lexington Police Department, Lexington, SC. She was also the co-founder of P.O.P.P. (Positive Opportunities for Pageant Preparation) in Lexington, SC, in addition to being a recent member of the Rainbow Warriors.

She was a Midlands Technical College Professor and Vice President of Student Affairs at Knoxville College, Knoxville, TN.

She is survived by Constance Caractor Flemming, mother of the home, Rev. J.M. Flemming, Sr. (Lillian), father, Greenville, SC. Her daughters Selena Rose Magni (father Joseph Magni, Jr.) and Shayla Elizabeth Bowers (father Jamey Bowers) both of the home.

Sisters Tonjalyn (Dr. John) Cokley and Sheretta (Dr. Marlon) Thomas. Brothers Melvin Hardin, Rodrecus Flemming, Sr., Ranando Flemming (Meredith), Davit Gooseby, Johnny Burns (Raychelle), J.M. Flemming, II and Emanuel Flemming (Kayla).

Godfather James Anderson, Uncle and Aunt Terry Samuels (Myron),

Uncle and Aunt Rev. Felix Anderson (Linda), Aunts Ethel Clay and Teomie Yeargin, and Uncles Dupre Flemming and Robert Flemming, all of Greenville, SC.

Riviera Beach, Florida family led by Great Aunt Wylene Jacobs.

Cousins Jimmie J. Caractor, Myrella Samuels, Tara Regina Samuels, and Tamara and Brittany Anderson as well as host of nieces and nephews.

Many special friends: Sherika, Nedra, Krissie, Crystal, Ken and David A., Keith L., Lanny, and the LHS Class of 1998. A host of special pageant friends.

Loyal Friend, David Able and Devoted Companion, Enos James (EJ) Miller.

Memorials can be made to St. Stephen's Lutheran Church or the American Cancer Society.