

***“People of Christ  
Making a  
Difference”***

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Graduate Recognition &  
Youth Sunday**

**May 10, 2026**

**8:30 AM &  
11:00 AM**

## **WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S!**

A nursery is provided for children through age 4 for both worship services and for infants and toddlers during Sunday School. The nursery is located at the end of the hall on the right side.

Children's bags can be found in the "Kid's Corner" of the narthex.

Restroom facilities are located down the hall on the left side.

First Aid, Emergency Equipment, and a wheelchair are located down the hall on the right by the stairwell.

If for any reason you must leave the sanctuary, the service is live streamed in the Agape Sunday School classroom. Any usher will be glad to direct you.

Sunday school classes are provided for 2 year olds through adults.

Listening devices and larger print bulletins are located in the narthex. Ushers are also available to assist you.

If you are a visitor feel free to sign-in using the QR code. Here's how it works: Point your camera at the image, tap the link that appears on your screen, and share whatever information you desire. Thank you! Hope to see you again soon!



## **GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PEACE**

### **PRELUDE**

*"Morning Has Broken"*  
(Jack Jebaily)

Stan Pethel

(We Stand)

### **BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

(8:30) Gracen Geary  
(11:00) Mary Beth Stafford

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

By our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ, God raises us up to new life. Let us confess to God our sins and all that waits for resurrection in our lives.

**Amen.**

God of grace and glory,

**You have brought us through the night of sin into the light of Jesus' resurrection. Yet our lives are still shadowed by sin. Make us alive in Christ, O God. Make us new as you make all things new. Rescue us from evil and the gloom of sin, renew us in grace, and restore us to living in your holiness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

**Amen.**

Rejoice with all creation around God's throne! The light of the risen Christ puts to flight all evil deeds, washes away sin, restores innocence to the fallen, casts out hate, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride. God is merciful and gracious, granting forgiveness through Jesus Christ to all who confess their sin.

**Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

"Borning Cry"

WOV 770



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."

**GREETING**

(8:30) Andrew Tworzyanski (11:00) Craig Lunsford

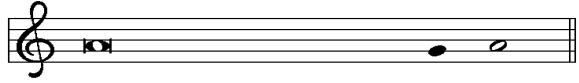
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

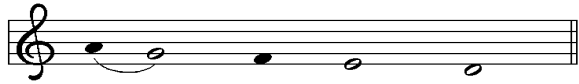
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

**And also with you.**

# KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



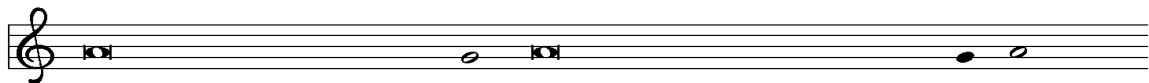
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



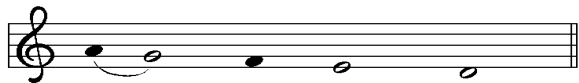
Lord, have mer - cy.



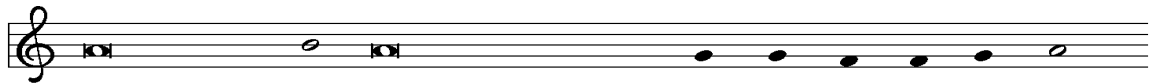
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

**THE SALUTATION**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

(We Sit)

**GRADUATE RECOGNITION**

Shannon Burnett

**ANTHEM**

*“Our Graduation Prayer”*

Shang Muzic

As they stand here at the crossroads, hearts full of hopes and dreams  
We thank you for the journey, for every step, every scene  
Through the trials and the triumphs your hand has led the way  
And now we lift our voices on this sacred, blessed day

*Refrain:* Lord, we pray for guidance as they step into the unknown.  
Light their path with your wisdom. Let your love be shown.  
Bless their hearts with courage as they chase what lies ahead.  
This is their graduation prayer; by your grace they'll be led

For the friendships they've been given, the memories they hold dear  
We thank you for the laughter and for wiping every tear  
As they go their separate ways, still united in Your name  
We trust Your plan is greater and Your purpose stays the same. *Refrain*

Though the future may seem uncertain and the road ahead unclear  
We know you'll never leave them and your presence is always near  
So we offer up their futures, every dream, every aim  
May their lives bring you glory as they honor Your great name. *Refrain*

**FIRST READING**

Acts 17:22-31

<sup>22</sup>Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup>From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup>so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him— though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’ <sup>29</sup>Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup>While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING**

1 Peter 3:13-22

<sup>13</sup>Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

(We Stand)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

John 14:15-21

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

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

(We Sit)

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**  
**SERMON**

Sophie Taylor

Meghan Timmerman, Elizabeth Kolb, and Andrew Tworzyanski

(We Stand)

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

"Here I Am, Lord"

ELW 574



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.  
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

## THE NICENE CREED

(8:30) Katy Hooker (11:00) Audrey Lewis

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

(We Sit)

## OFFERING

God calls us to be generous stewards for the sake of our ministry near and far. You can support our ministry by putting your offering in the offering plate, mailing it to the church, giving online (sslc.org or use the QR Code) or through the Givelify app. If you would like more details on direct deposit giving please contact our Parish Administrator, Mrs. Tonya Reynolds, at (803) 359-6562.



Anthem *"In Christ Alone"* Stuart Townend & Keith Getty  
(Katy Hooker, Audrey Lewis, Andrew Tworzyanski, Craig Lunsford, Ben Brunson, & Gracen Geary)

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! – who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save:  
Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied –  
For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain:  
Then bursting forth in glorious day Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine – Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand:  
Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

(We Stand)

OFFERTORY

ELW 184

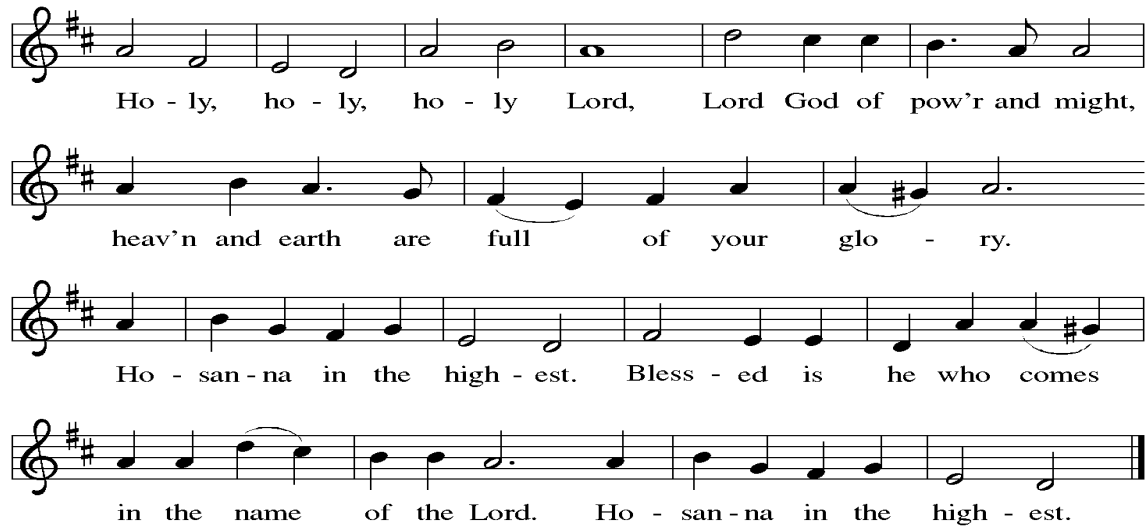
Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## THE PREFACE

### THE SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

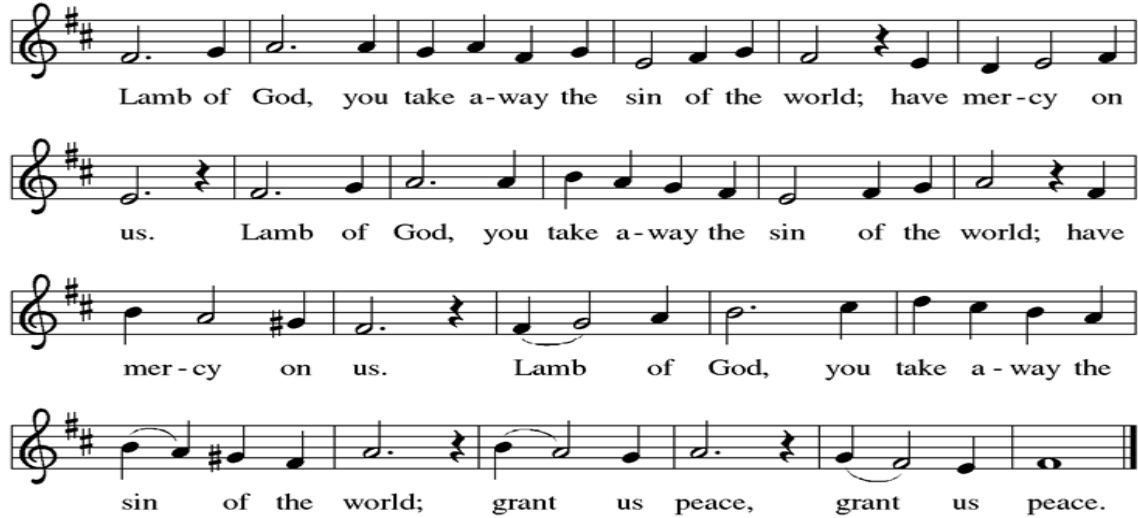
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

(We Sit)

## THE AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## RECEPTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Christ welcomes you to this Holy Meal of the Baptized! We receive communion this morning at the center aisle. Communion will be brought to the front rows for those who wish to remain seated. Children who commune should be assisted by adults near them. Those unable to partake of wine or wheaten bread are assured of our Lord's presence in, with, and under each element alone. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Communion Music

*"My Heart Ever Faithful"*  
(Cole Catalanotto)

Johann S. Bach

(We Stand)

## BLESSING OF THE COMMUNICANTS

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

May God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, who has brought us from death to life, fill you with great joy and bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN***"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"*

ELW 543



- 1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.
- 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
- 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.  
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."  
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to share the good news that Christ is Risen!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**POSTLUDE***"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"*

Sicilian

### **2026 College Graduates:**

**Emily Addy:** Graduated from UNC Charlotte with a degree in Computer Science. She is still deciding on her next steps.

**George Bernard:** Graduated from USC with a degree in Music Composition. He looks forward to working with high school and college marching bands to compose music for their programs.

**Emilee Black:** Graduated from Lander University with a degree in Nursing. She will be working at Self Regional Healthcare in Telemetry.

**Alex Burnett:** Graduating from Wofford College with degrees in Biology and Environmental Studies. She has accepted a position at Nephron as an Environmental Monitoring Technician.

**Macenzie Davis:** Graduated from Newberry College with a degree in Health Science. She has accepted a teaching position at Thomas Sumter Academy where she will be teaching fourth grade.

**Grace Kolb:** Graduated from Appalachian State University with a degree in Criminal Justice and a minor in Psychology. She will be attending New England Law School in August.

**Dillon Marchant:** Graduating from UNC-Charlotte with a master's degree in Kinesiology with a concentration in Strength and Conditioning. He is currently exploring job opportunities.

**Will McFarland:** Graduated from Clemson with a degree in Civil Engineering. After graduation, Will is moving to Charleston to work in Project Management for Miller Valentine Construction.

**Bryson McMurray:** Graduated from Midland's Tech with his associate's degree in Business Administration.

**Maddie Morgan:** Graduated from Lander University with a degree in Government Criminology and Sociology. Maddie will be looking to attend law school in the future.

**Peri Rouillard:** Graduated from USC-Aiken with a degree in Exercise and Sports Science. She will be attending Augusta University in the Fall to work towards becoming a Doctor of Physical Therapy.

### **2026 College Graduates (cont.):**

**Caroline Westberry:** Graduated from USC with a degree in Communications and a minor in Business Administration. She plans to continue her education and pursue a master's degree in Clinical Counseling.

**Kirsten Westberry:** Graduated from USC with a degree in Public Health and a minor in Spanish. She plans to continue her education and pursue a master's degree in Nursing.

**Mackenzie Yandle:** Graduated from Brenau University with a Master of Physician Assistant Studies.

### **2026 High School Graduates:**

**Jantzen Beck:** Graduating from RBHS and attending Clemson University where he will major in Engineering

**Ashlyn Davis:** Graduating from RBHS; still deciding what comes next

**Caroline Good:** Graduating from Dutch Fork High School and attending Clemson University where she will study Health Science

**Will Holmes:** Graduating from RBHS and attending the University of South Carolina

**Elizabeth Kolb:** Graduating from LHS and attending the College of Charleston where she will major in Communications and Marketing and minor in Art

**Lydia Murry:** Graduating from LHS and attending Winthrop University where she will major in Early Childhood Education with a minor in Elementary Education

**William Smith:** Graduating from Midlands Middle College and will be pursuing an associate's degree in Welding at Midlands Technical College

**Meghan Timmerman:** Graduating from WKHS and attending East Tennessee State University where she will major in Elementary Education

**Andrew Tworzyanski:** Graduating from LHS and attending The Citadel where he will major in Construction Engineering

**Alaina Wenzel:** Graduating from LHS and attending College of Charleston Honors College and double majoring in Computer Science and Computing in the Arts

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Agnes Corley's Birthday on May 6th, all mothers on Mother's Day and in memory of our Grandmothers & Great Grandmothers by Corley Yandle and Juhl families.

**SERVING TODAY:**

**Ushers:** (8:30) Shaun Wessinger, Connor Geary, Henry Jebaily, and Jack Jebaily;  
(11:00) Aaron Cegelis, Henry Jebaily, Thomas Brunson, and Hudson Taylor

**Trumpeter:** Jack Jebaily

**Cellist:** Cole Catalanotto

**Greeters:** (8:30) Sophie Taylor; (11:00) Chappell Lackore

**Readers:** (8:30) Connor Geary and Katy Hooker; (11:00) Emery Jones and Sam Taylor

**Communion Assistants:** (8:30) Jaime Wessinger, Meghan Timmerman, Elizabeth Kolb, and Andrew Tworzyanski;  
(11:00) Joseph Sorenson, Sam Taylor, Meghan Timmerman, and Ben Brunson

**Order of St. Stephen's:** (8:30) [A] Hudson Taylor [C] Jaime Wessinger;  
(11:00) [A] Sarah Ellis Stafford [C] Madelyn Burgess

**The Church Staff**

**Website: [www.sslc.org](http://www.sslc.org)**

The Rev. Jason T. Antley	The Rev. Ralph G. Hill
Mrs. Shannon Burnett, Director of Family Life	Mrs. Tonya Reynolds, Parish Administrator
Ms. Susan Wilson, Director of Music/Organist	Mrs. Julie Tworzyanski, Preschool Director
	Mrs. Sylvia Looney, Organist Emeritus

**Sunday School Information:**

<b><u>Locations for Children's Classes</u></b>	<b><u>Locations for Adult Classes</u></b>
<b>Nursery</b> – Room #105	<b>Agape Adult Class</b> Room #102 (Closest to Narthex)
<b>2—4 year olds &amp; 5K</b> – Room #103	<b>Saints &amp; Sinners with PJ and PR</b> Room #203 (Large Upstairs Room)
<b>1<sup>st</sup>—5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> – Room # 216	<b>Women Digging Deeper</b> Parlor
<b>6<sup>th</sup>—8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> – Room #212	For those not attending a Sunday School class but waiting on a child to get out of one, feel free to sit in the Social Hall!
<b>9<sup>th</sup>—12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b> – Room #217	If you are interested in beginning a new Sunday School class please contact Mrs. Shannon.

If you are not receiving the weekly announcements and monthly newsletter via email and would like to receive them, please email Shannon ([Shannon@sslc.org](mailto:Shannon@sslc.org)) so she can add you to the distribution list.