"People of Christ Making a Difference"

24th Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 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 by the first hall 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 *"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"* Johann G. Walther

(We Stand)

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

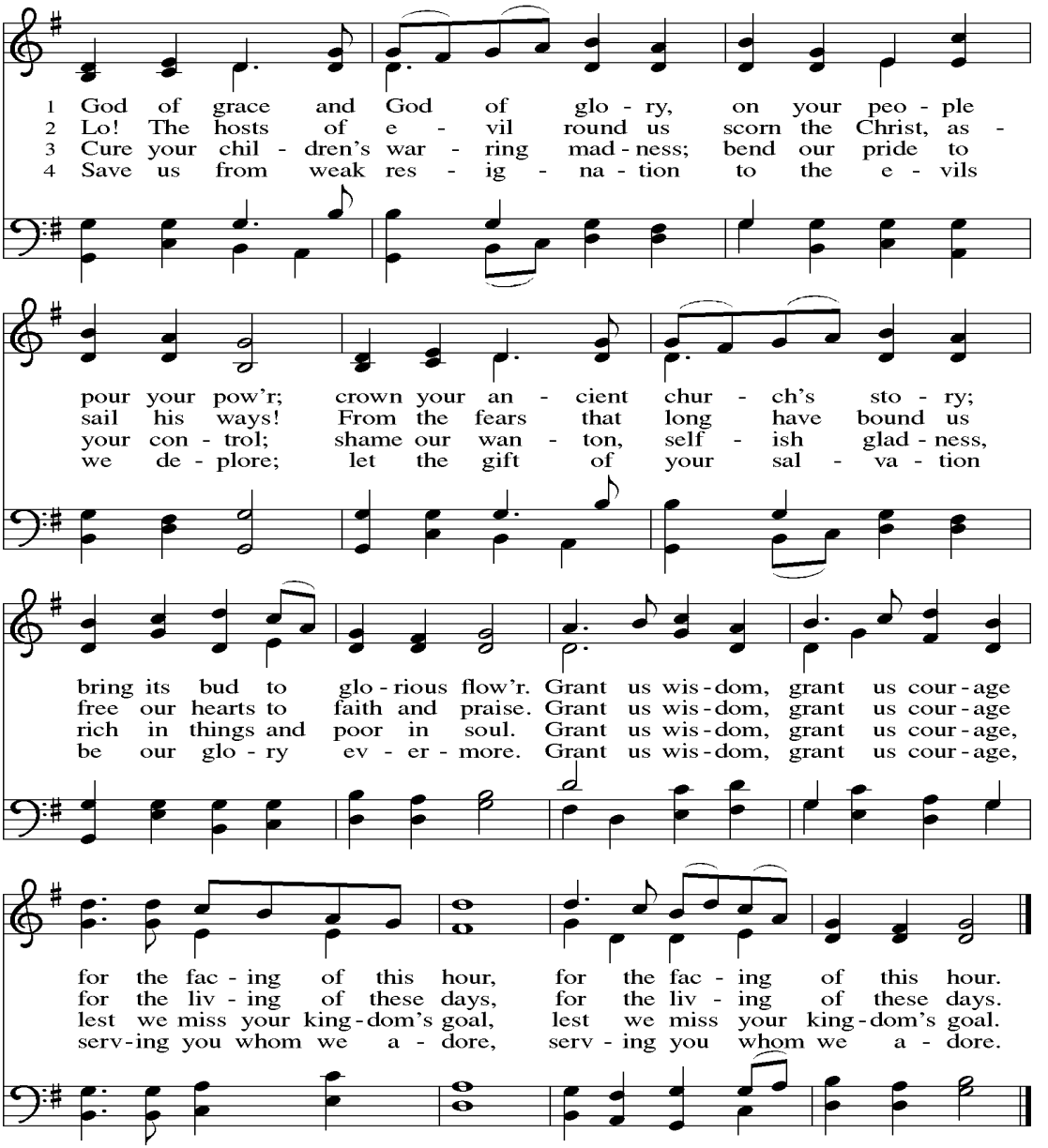
Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *"God of Grace and God of Glory"* ELW 705



GREETING

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



THE SALUTATION
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(We Sit)

(8:30) WELCOMING OF NEW MEMBERS

FIRST READING Amos 5:18-24

18 Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD! Why do you want the day of the LORD? It is
darkness, not light; 19 as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the
house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. 20 Is not the day of the
LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? 21 I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. 22 Even though you offer me your burnt
offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted
animals I will not look upon. 23 Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the
melody of your harps. 24 But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-
flowing stream.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 70



1 Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;
O LORD, make | haste to help me.
2 **Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;**
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and | be disgraced. R
3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat | over me
turn back because | of their shame.
4 **Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;**
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great | is the LORD!"
5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick- | ly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, | do not tarry. **R**

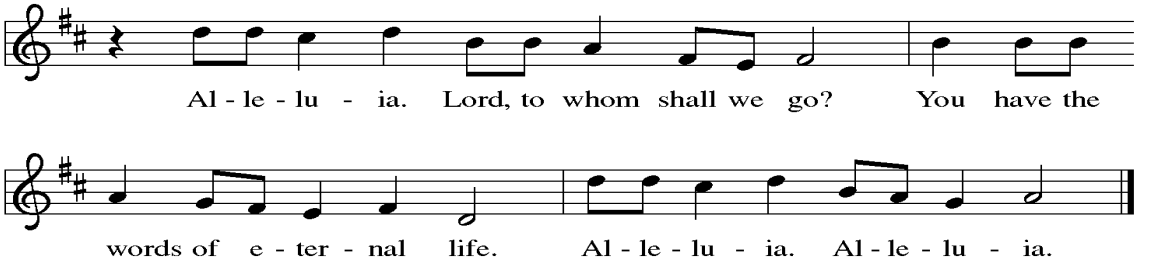
SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so
that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died
and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this
we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of
the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of
command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from
heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be
caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the
Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

(We Stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said] 1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and
went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish
took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As
the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a
shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those bridesmaids got up
and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps
are going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had
better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy it, the
bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the
door was shut. 11 Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But
he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' 13 Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the
day nor the hour."

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

(We Sit)

(8:30) Anthems *"Come with a Grateful Heart"* Bailey/Mayo
(Carol and Treble Choirs)

Come to God with a grateful heart, ready to serve and ready to praise.
God made everything, all creatures great and small. God loves everyone and God is Lord of all.
Come on, children! Come to God with a grateful heart, ready to serve and ready to praise.

God so loved the world, he sent his only son. Jesus came to share God's love for everyone!
Come on, children! Come to God with a grateful heart, ready to serve and ready to praise.

"May God Bless Us and Keep Us" Katie Houts

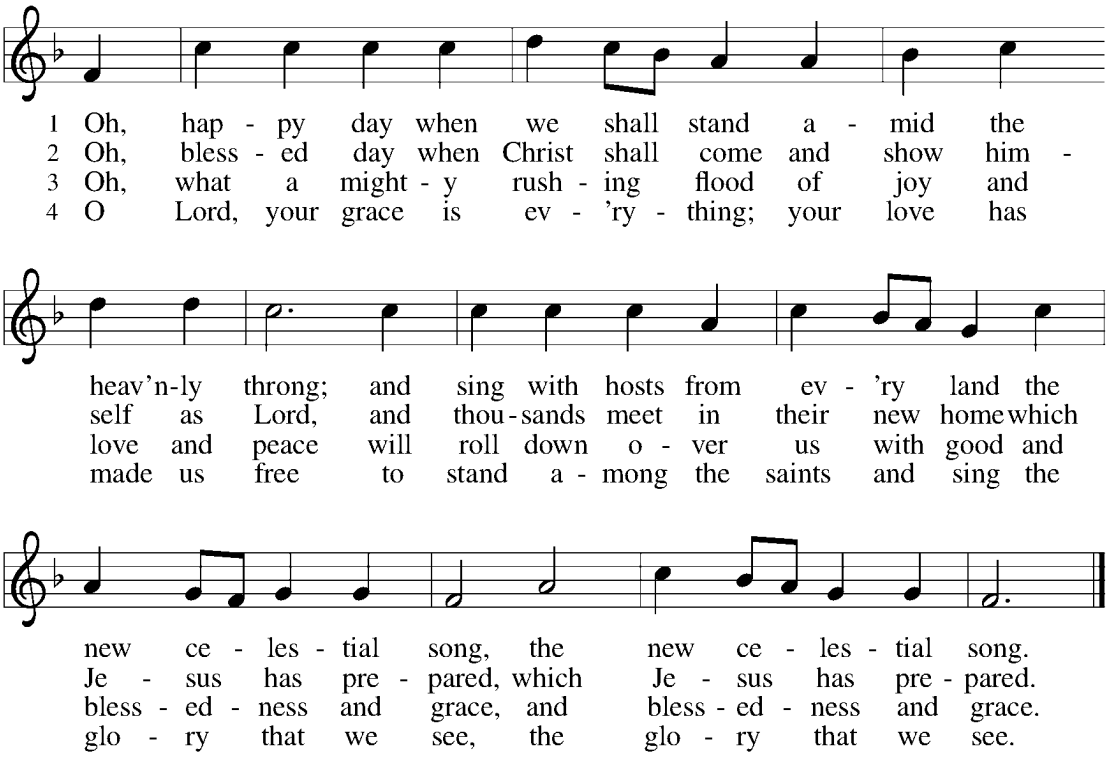
May God bless us and keep us as we go on our way
for we know that God loves us and guides us every day.
May we love and serve our family, our enemies, and our friends.
May God bless us and keep us till we meet again.

CHILDREN'S SERMON Pastor Jason

SERMON Pastor Jason

(We Stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand"* ELW 441



THE APOSTLE'S 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 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.

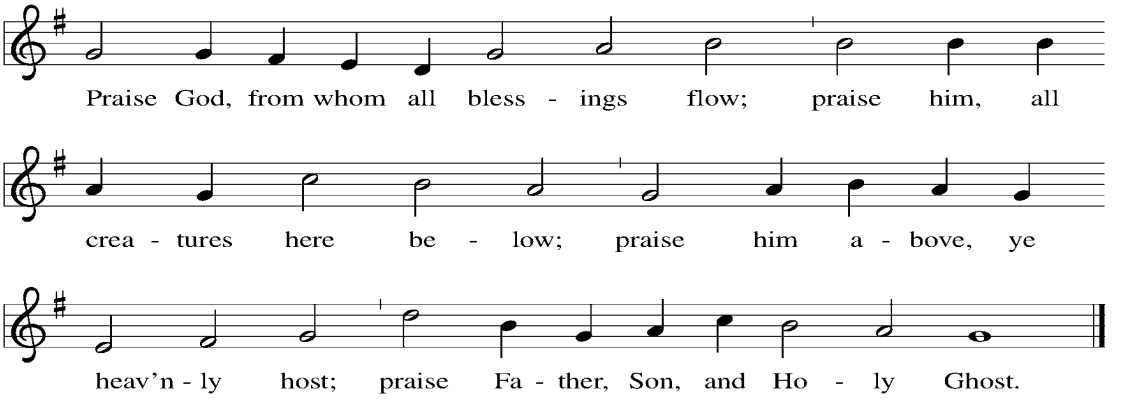
(8:30) Voluntary *"As Saints of Old"* Anne Krentz Organ

(11:00) Anthem *"Keep your Lamps"* Andre Thomas

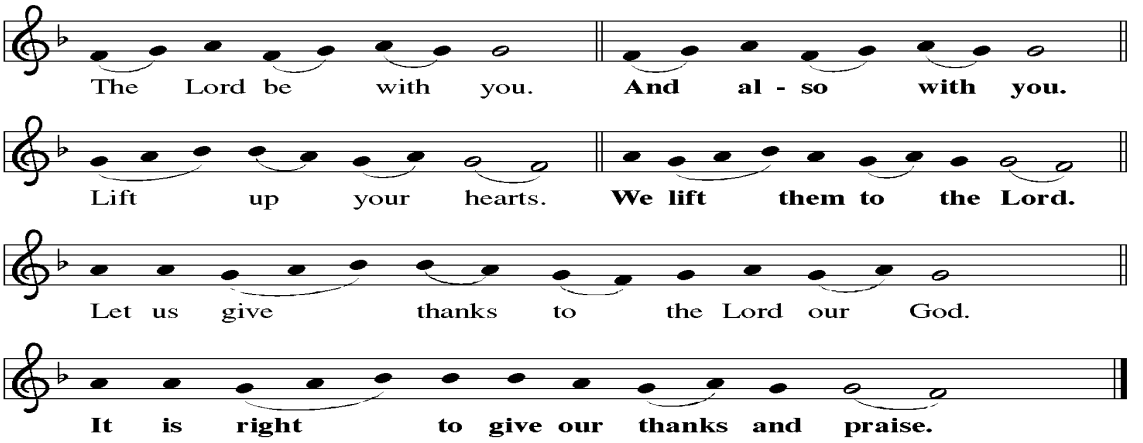
Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.
Children don't get weary 'til your work is done.
Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

(We Stand)

OFFERTORY ELW 854

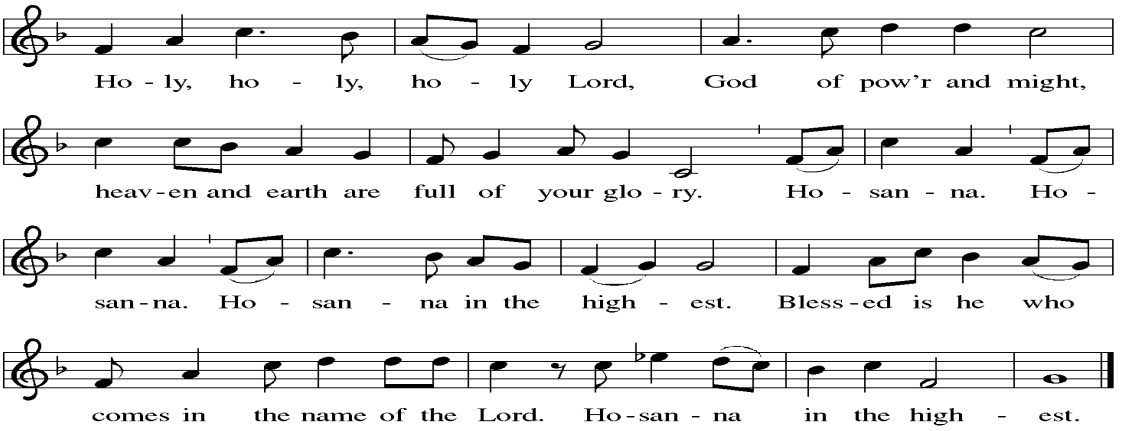


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



THE PREFACE

THE SANCTUS



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

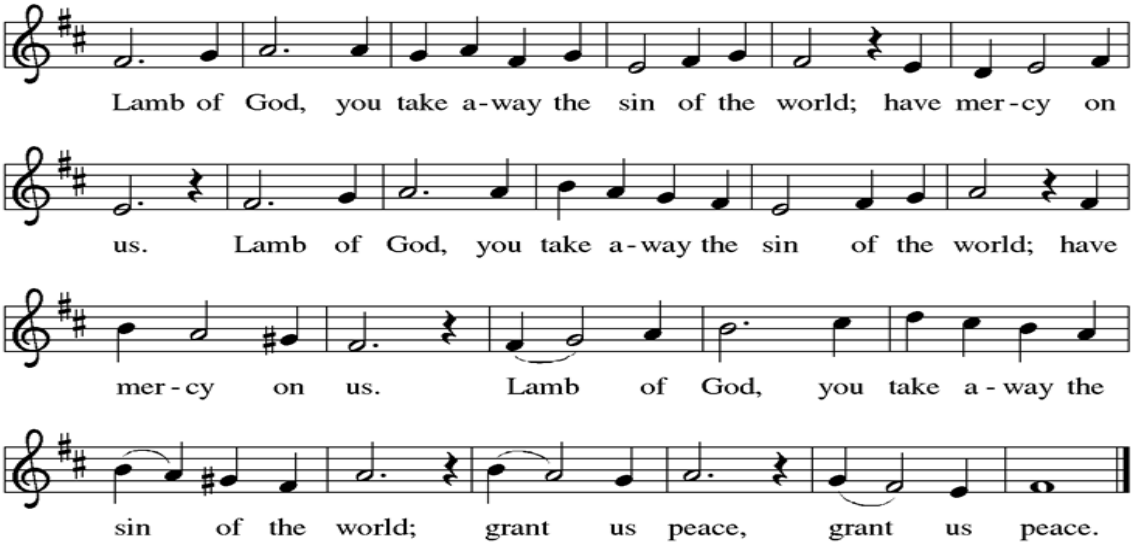
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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



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

(8:30) Voluntary *"Siciliano"* John Stanley

(11:00) Anthem *"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"* Jeffrey Honore

The Congregation is encouraged to participate in the following Communion Hymn.
The hymn can be found in the back portion of the LBW (Green) Hymnal in your pew rack.

Communion Hymn *"When Peace Like a River"* LBW 346

(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

Almighty and merciful God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you this day and forevermore.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN *"Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In"* ACS 950



DISMISSAL
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *"Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In"* Spiritual

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in memory of Gerald W. Burnett by Mickey Ann Burnett, Ashley Burnett, and Mira Stogner.

SERVING TODAY:

Ushers: (8:30) Reuben Eargle, Sandy Shealy, Jim Nantz, Daryl Hooker, and Rick Loging;
(11:00) Otis Rawl, G Kolb, Mike Burgess, Myra Strock, Roy Windham, and George Mathias
Cantors: Shawn Lackey, Melissa Rawl
Flutist: Lisa Catalanotto
Percussionist: Matthew Jones
Directors: Laura Beck, Hal McIntosh
Greeters: (8:30) Brant and Jennifer Taylor; (11:00) Marilyn Fattman
Readers: (8:30) Michael Ettlemyer; (11:00) Jenny Carter
Communion Assistants: (8:30) Craig Wheatley; (11:00) Jamie Early
Order of St. Stephen's: (8:30) [A] Collins Crawford [C] Connor Fink;
(11:00) [A] Carsyn Antley [C] Hudson Taylor

The Church Staff **Website: www.sslc.org**

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

Sunday School Information:

Locations for Children's Classes		**Locations for Adult Classes**
Nursery – Room #105		**Agape Adult Class** Room #102 (Closest to Narthex)
2—4 year olds & 5K – Room #103		**Saints & Sinners with PJ and PR** Room #203 (Large Upstairs Room)
1st—5th Grade – Room # 216		
6th—8th Grade – Room #212		For those not attending a Sunday School class but waiting on a child who is in one, feel free to gather in the Social Hall!
9th—12th Grade – 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) so she can add you to the distribution list.

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