

SAINT STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER THE LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

BCP 285

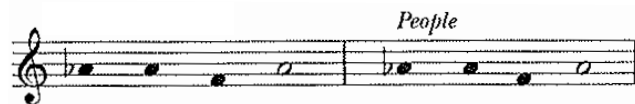
Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PROCESSION OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE *chanted as procession goes down the aisle*

Hymnal 1982: S-68



The light of Christ. Thanks be to God.

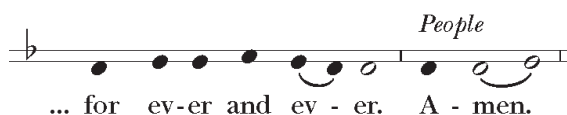
At the second and third pause, the Versicle and Response is sung successively a step higher.

THE EXULTET

Hymnal 1982: S-69

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout Salvation for the victory of our mighty King. Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King. Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God...



EASTER VIGIL
MARCH 30, 2024
6:30 P.M.

WELCOME TO SAINT STEPHEN'S

We are delighted to have you worship with us this evening. You can join our in-person service or watch the livestream broadcast of our service in your home.

Whether online or in-person, we are eager to help you grow in your faith. We offer many ways to connect through prayer, serving, and learning through Christian formation. Please reach out to staff or clergy with questions and to get connected at Saint Stephen's.

A Note about the Service

When page numbers are preceded by BCP, this refers to the Book of Common Prayer, found in the pew rack. Service music is found in the red Hymnal 1982 or in the yellow Alleluia III songbook.

The Lord be with you.

People
And al - so with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.



It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people. This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land. This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life. This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son. How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord. How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning – he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns...

People
... for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

BCP 288

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

THE STORY OF CREATION

Genesis 1:1-2:2

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights--the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night--and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Priest Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE AT THE RED SEA

Exodus 14:10-15:1

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the Lord. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the Lord will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers."

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. And Miriam sang to them: "Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

Priest Let us pray. (*Silence*)

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE VALLEY OF DRY BONES

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act," says the Lord.

Priest Let us pray. (*Silence*)

Almighty God, by the Passover of your Son you have brought us out of sin into righteousness and out of death into life: Grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit the will and the power to proclaim you to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Priest Let us pray. *(Silence)*

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CHORAL ANTHEM

“A Welcome Song”

Text: Mark Schweizer Tune: based on SOMMER, Thoams Pavlechko © 2010 St. James Music Press

*Welcome newborn lambs, who in his pastures dwell;
where caring shepherds bring them gently to the well;
For living waters will their thirst relieve.*

*Leading to the waters, wond'ring shepherds sing
the songs of new creation; ev'ry living thing,
when drinking deeply, will this song receive.*

*Heard in Eden's garden when the world was new.
Heard again in Bethl'em by a thirsty few.
And those who hear the song of Life, believe.*

*Here the newborn lambs may see the Savior's face.
With heads bent low, partaking of his perfect grace.
And fin'ly rising from the water, live!*



**PRESENTED FOR
HOLY BAPTISM**

Adele Catherine

*Daughter of
Robert & Chloe Baxley*

Allison Claire

*Daughter of
David & Susan Butler*

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

BCP 301

THE PRESENTATION

Celebrant The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

The candidates who are able to answer for themselves are presented by their Sponsors

Sponsor/Parents *I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.*

Godparents

The Celebrant asks each candidate when presented

Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate *I do.*

*Then the candidates who are unable to answer for themselves are presented by their
Parents and Godparents*

Sponsor/Parents *I present N. to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.*

Godparents

After all have been presented, Celebrant asks the parents and godparents

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is
brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Sponsors *I will, with God's help.*

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full
stature of Christ?

Sponsors *I will, with God's help.*

*The Celebrant asks for following questions of those who speak for themselves, and of the
parents and godparents who speak on behalf of younger children.*

Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel
against God?

Answer *I renounce them.*

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy
the creatures of God?

Answer *I renounce them.*

Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer *I renounce them.*

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

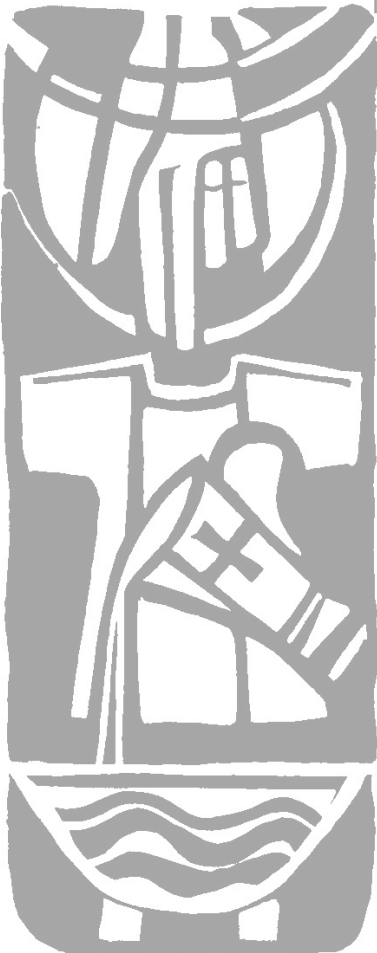
Answer *I do.*

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer *I do.*

Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer *I do.*



Turning to the congregation

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Standing

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**



PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth and for those who have renewed their commitment to Christ, responding "Lord, hear our prayer."

Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Send them into the world in witness to your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

The congregation is seated. Children come forward.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.



We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISMS

[N.], I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

[N.], you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. **Amen.**

Let us pray. Heavenly God, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them inquiring and discerning hearts, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Celebrant Let us welcome the newly baptized.

People **We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

The newly baptized are presented to the congregation.

AT THE EUCHARIST

BCP 294

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

The altar candles are lit from the Paschal Candle. The Ringing of Bells is appropriate during the singing of the Pascha Nostrum and the Easter hymns.

PASCHA NOSTRUM

"God's Paschal Lamb Is Sacrificed for Us"

BCP 83

Author: Carl P. Daw Tune: *SINE NOMINE*, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906 © 1987 Hope Publishing

**God's Paschal Lamb is sacrificed for us.
Therefore with joy we keep the Easter feast;
forsaking sin, we share the bread of truth.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Now Christ is raised and will not die again;
death has no more dominion over him.
Through him we die to sin and live to God.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**In Christ we see the first-fruits of the dead:
though Adam's sin had doomed all flesh to die,
in Christ's new life shall all be made alive.
Alleluia, Alleluia!**



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

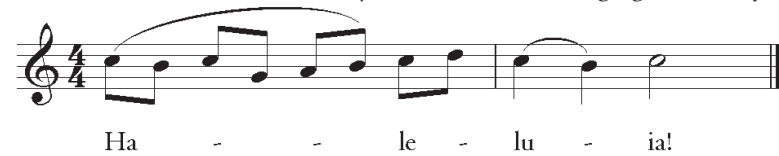
People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of our enemy: Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PSALM 114

The choir will introduce the Antiphon and then the congregation will join in singing it throughout the psalm.



from *St. Martin's Psalter*, by Thomas Pavlechko © 2010 St. James Music Press

1 Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, *
the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

2 Judah became God's sanctuary *
and Israel his dominion.

3 The sea beheld it and fled; *
Jordan turned and went back.

4 The mountains skipped like rams, *
and the little hills like young sheep. *ANTIPHON*

5 What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? *
O Jordan, that you turned back?

6 You mountains, that you skipped like rams? *
you little hills like young sheep?

7 Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the LORD, *
at the presence of the God of Jacob,

8 Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water *
and flint-stone into a flowing spring. *ANTIPHON*

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

SEQUENCE HYMN *"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"*
Text: Robert Campbell (1849) Tune: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze (1678) *Public Domain*

The Hymnal 1982 #174

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MARK
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

16:1-8

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. John Burruss

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**



THE OFFERTORY

*Thank you for your continued support of God's work through Saint Stephen's.
If you've come prepared to honor God with your giving today, you may place an offering in the offering plate, mail a check to the church, scan the code in the back of the bulletin, or visit ssechurch.org/give.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM "With a Voice of Singing"
by Martin Shaw, arranged by Alice Carpenter © 2010 St. James Music Press

*With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard: Christ is risen!
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered His people, Alleluia!
O be joyful in God, all ye lands.
O sing praises to the honor of His name, make His praise to be glorious.
With a voice of singing, declare ye this, and let it be heard: Christ is risen!
Declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia!*



PRESENTATION HYMN "Doxology"

Tune: *LASST UNS ERFREUEN*, melody from *Auserlesen Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, Cologne, 1623; adapt. Ralph Vaughn Williams © Oxford University Press, used with permission.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand as you are able.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER B

BCP 367

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

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS

from *A Community Mass* by Richard Proulx © Church Publishing

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Hymnal 1982 #S-125

Standing.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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,

for ever and ever. Amen.



The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

FRACTION ANTHEM "Whoever Comes to Me"

by Arlen Clarke © St. James Music Press

The choir will introduce the Antiphon and then the congregation will join in repeating it.



Who - ev - er comes to me shall not hun - ger,



And who ev - er be - lieves in me shall nev - er thirst;

Cantor: Send out your light and your truth that they may lead me to your holy hill;

Antiphon

THE INVITATION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

All who seek Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Gluten free wafers are available at the altar rail by indicating need to one of the clergy.

It is our custom at Saint Stephen's to remain kneeling or standing at the altar rail until all have taken communion.



MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

“Come, Risen Lord”

Solo

Text: G. W. Briggs (1931); text by permission of Oxford University Press Tune: *EVENTIDE*, William Henry Monk (1861)

“Alleluia, He Is Coming”

Alleluia III Songbook #7

by Martha Butler ©1979 Martha Butler, 213 S. Lamar St., Roxboro, NC 27573

“Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord”

Alleluia III Songbook #9

by Donald Fishel (1971) © 1979 Celebration

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

The Hymnal 1982 #460

Text: W. Chatterton Dix (1866) Tune: *HYFRYDOL*, Rowland H. Prichard (1811-1887); arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
Public Domain

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP 365

Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.



THE BLESSING

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

People Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

CLOSING HYMN

“Come, Ye Faithful Raise the Strain”

The Hymnal 1982 #199

Text: St. John of Damascus; trans. J. M. Neale Tune: *ST. KEVIN*, Arthur S. Sullivan, 1872 *Public Domain*

POSTLUDE *“Voluntary in G Major”* by John Stanley *Public Domain*

After the service, please join us in the Gathering Space for a festive reception of homemade cakes and sparkling beverages.



Thank you for worshipping with us tonight.



If you would like to learn more about The Episcopal Church, or how you can become a member of Saint Stephen’s, please visit ssechurch.org

To complete an online visitor card, please scan the QR code to the left with your smartphone camera. We look forward to hearing from you!

Online Offertory

If you’ve come prepared to honor God with your giving today, you may scan the code and make a donation online.



Thank you to all who served in our services today!

If you would like to know who they are or when you are scheduled to serve in the future, please scan the code.



MUSIC PERMISSIONS

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“A Welcome Song” Text: Mark Schweizer Tune: based on SOMMER, Thomas Pavlechko ©2010 St. James Music Press

“God’s Paschal Lamb Is Sacrificed for Us” Author: Carl P. Daw Tune: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906 ©1987 Hope Publishing

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“Doxology” Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, adapt. Ralph Vaughn Williams © Oxford University Press, used with permission.

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Upcoming Events at Saint Stephen's

ssechurch.org/sse-events

TODAY - March 31
Alleluia! He is risen!

- **Sunday Formation and our Community Supper will return next Sunday, April 7.**

Saint Stephen's

EASTER EGG HUNT

Wednesday, April 3
5:30 p.m. SHARP at Overton Park
3020 Overton Road
REMEMBER YOUR BASKET!

toddlers to 6th grade

Cookies & Photos with the Easter Bunny!
You are welcome to bring a picnic dinner and stay after the hunt.



APRIL OUTREACH COLLECTION

for Laundry Love, Lovelady Women's Shelter, and the Ronald McDonald House.

- new coloring books
- new crayons
- new colored pencils



HERE'S WHAT'S COOKING THIS WEEK!



MEALS FOR MISSIONS

Scan the code to order.

Pick-up on Thursdays from the Saint Stephen's kitchen.

Save the Date:

laundry LOVE

Tuesday, April 2
1-4 p.m.
2 shifts available
Imperial Cleaners
5412 1st Avenue N, 35212



Men's Prayer Breakfast - Sat. April 27
8:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall.
More details coming soon!

Join us on the first Saturday of the month at 9 a.m. in beautiful locations around Birmingham!



April 6 - Oak Mtn State Park - Lunker Lake
Meet in the parking lot @ 9:00am

May 4 - Birmingham Botanical Gardens

June 1 - Moss Rock

For more information, please visit:
facebook.com/holyhikesbirmingham

SAVE THE DATE JUNE 3-6



Camp Firelight
A SUMMER CAMP Psalm 56:3
ADVENTURE WITH GOD

FAMILY DINNER 5:30-6:00
VBS ACTIVITIES 6:00-7:30

THOSE WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

March 31, 2024

SAINT STEPHEN'S MEMBERS

Betty Shivers & Family
Mary Bea Sullivan
& Malcolm Marler
Kay Laumer
Lindsay & Harris Stewart
Carol Hunt
Frank, Ashley, Adam,
& Parker Tamucci
Emily Allegrezza
Loved ones of
Barbarann Beckett-Gaines
Ralph & Jane Mason
Kathryn Dorlon
Brett Trimble & Family
Honey Trowbridge
Melinda Mitchell
Susan Oakes
Sarah Mayhew
Angela Williamson
Roger Smith & Bob Barnett
Melanie Bonds & Family
Susan Cleage
Biddy & Chuck Osbun
Donna Brooks
Karen Davidson
Marie Knox
Tink Milnor
Martha Jo Hurley
Cindy Funderburk
Carolyn Franklin
Kathryn Laumer
Cody Pugh
Margaret Anne Palmer
Tom & Sally Sinclair

Jill Coker
Barbara Cook Ken
Mardick
Bradley Crow

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Julian McDonnell
Family of Evey Edwards
Andrew Commings
Alease Commings
Katie Lee
Peggy Jefferson
Loved ones of Sylvia Frank
Blanche Logan
Loved ones of Sandra Norman
Jerry Norman
Ginny Love
Kenny Watson
Anne Krohn
Loved ones of
Margaret Mary Krohn
Rhonda Cobb
Bunny Westmoreland
John LeGrand
Loved ones of Janet LeGrand
Grace Anne Campbell
Jason, Jessica, & Sue Boone
Loved ones of Michael Tamucci
Al Stanley
Loved ones of Barbara Burns
Liz Day
Loved ones of Stanley Lawler
Loved ones of Sylvia Thacker
Stella Schreiber
Loved ones of Lanford McCalley
Loved ones of Fred Wynn
Loved ones of Andy Wise
The Rev. Dan Thornton
The Leonard Family
Loved ones of Rip Smith
Loved ones of Karla Mayhew

Sam Harrison
Robin Lazarus
Amelia Parsons
Jeff Gordon
Mike & Jillian Cook
Jamie Roby
Niccy Kenning
Liam Michael Higgins
Marcella Accawi
Swara Ruth Pare & Family
Ashley Ferguson
Rose Anne Croft
Jason
John Allen
& Lottie Bankson
Martin Vizzina
Katy Gaddis
Ashley
Anna Wall
Emily Chaplin
Melissa Lazenby
Jane Watts
Gwen
Phyllis McAnally
Gayle Byrne
David Black
Sophia &
Fatima Delgado
Ben Johnson
Regina Stewart
Kathy Trickey
Amber Cain
Carey Snider
Loranette Collier

BIRTHDAYS

March 31st - April 6th

Kathryn Harbert
Katherine Kidd
William King III
Warner Thompson
Marianne Wilson
Watts Yancey
Kinsley Cummings
Hamp Hollifield

Chuck Jones IV
Pat Lynch
Claudia Polmatier
Preston Rains
Ben Rumbley
Steven Rumbley
Darcy Schofill
Conley Knott

Reid Robertson
Lara Screven
Micah Coryell
Jennifer Mancer
Amy Presley
Alexander Rumbley
Seth Cohen
Stone Garlich

Leah Hooker
Debsi Johnson
Caroline Newman
Paul Crane
Patty Pilon
Al Gibbs III
Jeremy Johnston
Beverly Marson

DEATHS

Margaret Mary Todd Krohn

Mother of Mary Bea Sullivan (Malcolm Marler)

March 23, 2024

Barbarann Beckett-Gaines

March 7, 2024

Sylvia Thacker

Grandmother of Brett Trimble

March 6, 2024

Easter Flowers and Music are given to the Glory of God



In Memory of:



Betty & Bob Montgomery
Clara & Val Marcoux
By: Michel & Mary Marcoux

Mr. & Mrs.
Billy Gene Street, Sr.
By: Mrs. & Mrs.
Billy Gene Street, Jr.

Brian Willett & Papa Williams
By: The Williams Family

Judy Morrow
By: Mary Davis

Bunny Gamble
& Perry Yancey
By: Mary & Michael Yancey

Walter Bartlett Rainey
By: His family

Evelyn McDonald
By: Julia Sims

Harry Jack Sims
By: Scott Sims

Eugenia & Sonny Wetherbee
By: Madalyn Pate

Isla Smith
By: Jake & Hannah Smith

Dudley Wood
By: Frances
& Jon Clemmensen

Ada Kane
By: Frances
& Jon Clemmensen

Stacey Winks-Hurn
By: Rita Watkins

Dudley & Jody Hager
By: Leslie, Phil,
& Katlyn Passafiume

Steve Breckenridge
By: Cille Breckenridge

Bill Burgess (Pop)
By: Sheila Snoddy

Harry Mills
By: Helen Mills

William Gray Pittman
& Bettye Perkins Pittman
By: Whitney & Ashley Page

Harlan Ashley Page, Jr.
By: Whitney & Ashley Page

Jane Pounds, Bart Rainey,
& Sharon Yeager
By: Whitney & Ashley Page

Anise McCulley Morris
By: The Adult Choir

Karla Mayhew
By: The Adult Choir

Bobbie Fillingim
By: Mike, Carla, Beau & Kate

Betty Williams Tyler
By: Preston
& Anne Catherine Hairell

Our Parents & Grandparents
By: SuAnn
& Russ Vandavelde

Jean and Rufus Elliott
By: Cecilia & Charles Elliott

Clarice & Sam Finocchio
By: Cecilia & Charles Elliott

Tom, Margaret, Marla
& Catherine Alford
By: Cecilia & Charles Elliott

Elizabeth Jefferson Young
By: Frank Young & family

Dot Dickson
By: Dori Pekmezi

Brian House
By: Amy Wilder

Mitchell Cottboff
By: The Butler Family

Randy Butler
By: The Butler Family

Belle Whatley
By: Jason & Jenny Whatley

Rory Grugel
By: Ada Mailhot
& Richard Grugel

Barr Linton
By: Annette, Andie,
& Juliana Linton

Carol Ann Ducic
By: Kristie Bennett
& Steve Ducic

Ruth Houck
By: Kristie Bennett
& Steve Ducic

Mary Bennett
By: Kristie Bennett
& Steve Ducic

In Memory of (continued)

Dagmar Trachsel & Ala Boles
By: Gene & Chris Boles

Ruth Carpenter Pitts
By: Doug Carpenter

Chappell Anderson
By: Carolyn & John Freeman

Elisabeth Miller
By: Tyson & Andrea Pound

Phil Sewell
By: Jill & Marc Rice

*Lou Arthur, Jack Reid,
Staples Shearer, Fran Shearer,
& Mike Newman*
By: Jeanne & Tom Shearer

Sandra Norman
By: Jen Manning

Sylvia Thacker
By: The Adult Choir

Melissa Lane Williams
By: Eden & Brian Roy

Betty Riggsbee
By: Susan Sallin

Rosa & Peter Kreglinger
By: Gisela & Roy

Mary Lou & Roy Smith, Jr.
By: Gisela & Roy

Martha Dunlap
By: D.R., Leslie, Allison,
& Sarah

Jeanette Holladay
By: D.R., Leslie, Allison,
& Sarah

Barbarann Beckett-Gaines
By: Robert & Lisa Rutherford

Larry Langston
By: Robert & Lisa Rutherford

*Our grandparents:
Vernal & Richard Lee Bates,
Verna & Bill Bollman,
Idalia Najle and
Carol & Buddy Wallace*
By: Eleanor & Eric Wallace

Larry Langston
By: Martha Noble

*Dr. Bobby LeMay
& Bill Polhemus*
By: Amanda C. LeMay

Barbarann Beckett-Gaines
By: The Knitting Group

James & Laura Murray
By: James Murray

Carol Cooper Beall
By: Babs Knowles

Margaret Mary Todd Krohn
By: Mary Bea Sullivan
& Malcolm Marler

Iona & Arnold Aldridge
By: Joy Aldridge
& David Hope

Edvina & Don Hope
By: Joy Aldridge
& David Hope

Dotty Blevins
By: Jeff, Angie, Nic,
& Annagrace Parmer

Vandalyn & Harold Chaplin
By: Lois & Van Chaplin

Esmirna & Henry Trigg
By: Lois & Van Chaplin

*Eric Maurice Roy
& Gregory Douglas Roy*
By: Eden & Brian Roy

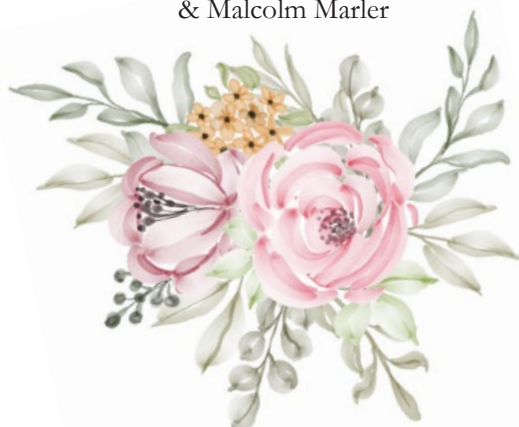
*The love & life of
Mike Newman*
By: Melville, Caroline,
& Robert Newman

Roy Smith, IV
By: Gisela and Roy

Barbarann Beckett-Gaines
By: Mary Lynda Crockett

Mary Britton
By: Liz & Davis Lee

Kathy Barganier Mikos
By: Susie & Chip Barganier





In Thanksgiving for:



The Adult Choir

By: Whitney

*Our amazing choir for providing
such beautiful music in our services
every week*

By: Beth Stewart

Our Family

By: Mary & John Willett

Jon Wright & Lauren Lazenby

By: Cecilia & Charles Elliott

Sam (& Charlie) Elliott

By: Cecilia & Charles Elliott

Mark Mulligan

By: Barbara
& Patrick Mulligan

EJ & Charlee Whatley

By: Jason & Jenny Whatley

Saint Stephen's Choir Family

By: Ferne and Jim McClintock

Saint Stephen's Choir

By: Cary Jenkins

Melanie Bonds

By: Pam & Chuck Measel

Nic & Annagrace Parmer

By: Jeff & Angie Parmer

Eleanor Bennett

By: Kristie Bennett
& Steve Ducic

Natalie Tally

By: The Adult Choir

Our Parents

By: The McGoverns

Mims Bruhn

By: Jeanne & Tom Shearer

Choir of SSE

By: Martha Noble

Lauren, Reid & Everett Shearer

& Ben Shearer

By: Jeanne & Tom Shearer

Satsuki, Yumi, & Taku Weaver

By: Cindy Funderburk
& Jim Baker

The Hunt Children:

Ben, Will, Libby, & Emma

By: Jill & Tracy Hunt

My children & grandchildren

By: Barbara Brewster

Our Grandchildren:

Robert, Jack & Neely

By: Robert & Lisa Rutherford

Our parents, children,

nieces, & nephews

By: Eleanor & Eric Wallace

The women of the Wednesday

Morning Bible Study

By: Janet Robertshaw

The men of the Tuesday Morning

Bible Study

By: Tom Robertshaw

Saint Stephen's Clergy & Staff

By: Whitney and Ashley Page

Our family near and far

By: Bill & Lisa Shurtz

Wake, Carter, Anne Laws,

Caroline, Clairra, Quade,

Margaret Ann & Robert

By: Rob & Leslie Black

My children & grandchildren

By: Amanda C. LeMay

Our son August

& our godchildren:

Andrew, Luke, Abigail,

Elliott, & Lila

By: Emily
& Daniel Woloschuk

Zach Woolley

By: Mark Taylor
& Michael Woolley

The Hillhouse, III Family,

The Spradlin Family and

Emily Hillhouse & Joe Riner

By: Virginia & John Hillhouse

Our family

By: Tyson & Andrea Pound

Ann Piper Carpenter

By: Doug Carpenter

Clergy & Staff of SSE

By: Martha Noble

In Honor of:

John Burruss & Family
By: Catherine & Andy Meehan

Lois Davidson
By: Karen Davidson

Carolyn Freeman
By: John Jr., Reid & Madeline

*Diane and Scott Sealy,
Sealy McGowin,
& Buddy McGowin*
B: Amy Sealy

Mary Bea Sullivan & Family
By: Catherine & Andy Meehan

Ann Piper Carpenter
By: Carolyn Hartman

Kathryn Harbert
By: Kaith Cromwell

Happy
Easter

FROM THE CLERGY & STAFF
AT SAINT STEPHEN'S





SAINT STEPHEN'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

3775 Crosshaven Drive • Birmingham, Alabama 35223
205.967.8786 • www.ssechurch.org

CLERGY

The Reverend John Burruss, Rector
The Reverend Katherine Harper, Associate Rector for Pastoral Care and Liturgy
The Reverend Mary Bea Sullivan, Director of Spirituality and Wellness
The Reverend Ron DelBene, Priest Associate
The Reverend Dr. Malcolm Marler, Priest Associate
The Reverend CJ Van Slyke, Deacon Emerita

LAY STAFF

Kristyn Bara, Minister for Communication
Pat Bills, Minister for Stewardship and Development
Zachary Brown, Parish Administrator
Maria Elena Cruz, Facilities Staff
Micah Cummings, Facilities Manager
Leslie Dunlap, Preschool Director and Wedding Coordinator
Ryas Esdale, Club 56 Intern
Kathy Graham, Director of Christian Education
Diane Hightower, Parish Life Coordinator
Ann Day Hunt, Financial Manager
Jennifer Jones, Director of Children's Ministries
Gretchen Lerner, Minister of Welcome and Pastoral Care
Taylor McLemore, Minister for Youth Formation
Andy Meginniss, Folk Music Director
Cate Mehrer, Youth Ministries Assistant
Whitney Page, Music Director
Natalie Tally, Pianist
Emma Woolhouse, Nursery Director

FORMATION FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS - 10:15 TO 11:00 A.M. — RESUMES APRIL 7TH
Sunday Forum - Parish Hall 4K to High School - Carpenter Hall
Faith & Life Parents' Class - Room 228

SAINT STEPHEN'S REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE - RESUMES APRIL 7TH

7:45 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II — Nave
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II — Nave and via Livestream
10:15 a.m. Formation for Adults & Children
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II — Nave
5:00 p.m. Celtic Eucharist — Nave
6:00 p.m. Simple Community Supper — Parish Hall

Nursery Available at 9:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m., and 5:00 p.m.
Children's Chapel (4 yrs - 4th grade) at 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. in Carpenter Hall