



The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 17, 2026 at 11:15 a.m.

Holy Baptism with the Rite of Confirmation

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church ☩ Richmond, Virginia

Welcome to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. We are glad you are here. We welcome and include all people without exception and we extend a special greeting to any visitors. Throughout this bulletin, helpful guidance is printed in italics. Visitor guides are found in racks at the entrance doors. When you wish to be known here, please fill out a welcome card (found in each pew or online); you may drop the card into the offering plate as it is passed. Children are very welcome in this service, and child care is also available for infants and children through age four in our nursery on the lower level near the main parking lot entrance; greeters are happy to guide you. The church is open for prayer from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday. We hope to see you again soon!

Voluntary Chorale Prelude on *Llanfair*

McNeil Robinson

The Word of God

Hymn 214 Hail the day that sees him rise

Llanfair

Sung by all, standing as you are able. All hymns are found in The Hymnal 1982, the blue book in your pew rack.

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, page 413

Bishop Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

Bishop There is one Body and one Spirit;

People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Bishop One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

People **One God and Father of all.**

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Bishop Let us pray. *A period of silence is kept.*

The Collect of the Day

Prayer Book, page 226

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The Lesson Acts 1:6-14 *Please sit.*

Reader A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.** *A period of silence is kept.*

Hymn 483 The head that once was crowned with thorns *Sung by all, standing.* *St. Magnus*

The Gospel Luke 24:13-35 *Please remain standing and face the reader of the Gospel.*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. "I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon The Rt. Rev. Mark A. Bourlakas

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates *Remain seated.*

Prayer Book, page 415

Bishop The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Sponsors **I present Isabel Harrison McCormack to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.**

I present Clifford Thomas Owen to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

I present Sonya Owen to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

I present Edward Dixon Trunick to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Bishop asks each candidate in turn:

Bishop *N.*, do you desire to be baptized?

Candidate I do.

The Bishop then asks the following questions of the baptismal candidates.

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

Candidates I renounce them.

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

Candidates I renounce them.

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

Candidates I renounce them.

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

Candidates I do.

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

Candidates I do.

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

Candidates I do.

Bishop The other candidates may now be presented.

The Candidates for Confirmation stand.

Rector I present these persons for Confirmation.

Bishop Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Candidates **I do.**

Bishop Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?
Candidates **I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.**

The Bishop invites the congregation to stand and addresses them, saying

Bishop Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?
People **We will.**

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

The Baptismal Covenant *Remain standing.* Prayer Book, page 416

Bishop Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Bishop 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.**

Bishop 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.**

Bishop 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.**

Bishop 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.**

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

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

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

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

Bishop 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 Prayer Book, page 305

Bishop Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send them into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory with all who have died, especially _____.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bishop 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 forever. **Amen.**

As music is played, the baptismal candidates and sponsors follow the cross to the font. All children are invited to join them there.

Thanksgiving over the Water

Please remain standing, as able, and face the font.

Prayer Book, page 306

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Bishop 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.

At the following words, the Bishop touches the water.

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 Baptism

Prayer Book, page 307

Each candidate is presented by name to the Bishop, who then pours water upon the candidate, saying
*N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.***

The Bishop then anoints the newly baptized with oil, saying

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

Bishop Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, 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 an inquiring and discerning heart, 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.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All **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.**

As music is played, the Bishop, baptismal candidates and sponsors return to their seats, following the cross.

At Confirmation

Prayer Book, page 309

Bishop Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

A period of silence follows.

Bishop Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of the Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The congregation sits.

The Bishop lays hands upon each candidate and says

Defend, O Lord, your servant *N.* with your heavenly grace, that *heshelthey* may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more, until *heshelthey* come(s) to your everlasting kingdom **Amen.**

The Bishop concludes with this prayer; please stand.

Bishop Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Prayer Book, page 360

Bishop The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Ministers and People greet one another in the name of the Lord. After exchanging the Peace, please be seated.

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

All comes from God, so from what God has given, we offer gifts as we participate in God's work in the world. You may offer your gift in an offering plate as they come by or make a gift online by scanning the QR code or texting STSTEPHENSVA to 73256.



At the Offertory Now the eleven disciples *Sung by the choir.*

David Hurd

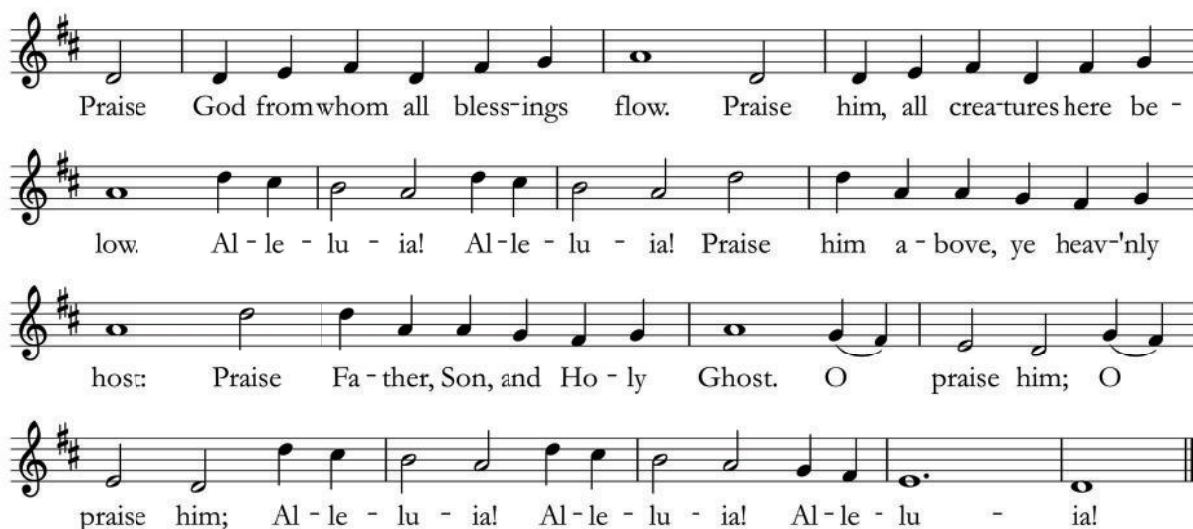
Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age."

At the Presentation

Sung by all, standing.

Lasst uns erfreuen

The fruits of our labor are presented to God, along with gifts for our food ministry.



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow. Praise him, all creatures here be -
low. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise him a - bove, ye heav-'nly
hos:: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. O praise him; O
praise him; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The people remain standing.

Bishop The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Bishop Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Bishop Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Bishop It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. *Here a proper preface is said.*

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

Sung by all.

The Hymnal S-128, William Mathias

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of power and might, — heaven 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.

You may stand or kneel.

Bishop

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,

Bishop and People

We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

Bishop

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,

Dismissal

Prayer Book, page 366

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Voluntary Improvisation

Robert McCormick



Memorials

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Anna Stockdell and Barbara Stockdell by Dede Stockdell Welch.

Participants

CELEBRANT AND PREACHER: The Rt. Rev. Mark A. Bourlakas; **DEACON:** The Rev. Cate Anthony; **SUBDEACON:** Bob Dibble; **READER:** Sarah Bartenstein; **INTERCESSOR:** Gayle Royals; **ASSISTING CLERGY:** The Rev. Judy Webb Davis, The Rev. John D. Rohrs, the Rev. William S. Stanley; **CHALICE BEARERS:** Iffet Araniti-Davis, Bill Gray, Stephanie Peramas, Audra Tuttle; **ACOLYTES:** Parker Birdsey, Abigail Moore, Lowndes Peple; **MUSICIANS:** Members of St. Stephen's Choir, Chris Edwards and Robert McCormick, *directors*; Diana Chou and Robert McCormick, *organ*; **VERGERS:** Dave Davis, Andy Luke

The Candidates

Holy Baptism

Isabel Harrison McCormack

Clifford Thomas Owen

Sonya Owen

Edward Dixon Trunick

Confirmation

Sara Jane Becker

Daniel Christopher Estrada

Evan Nilsa Karlson

Virginia Elizabeth Keeney

David Raymond Long

Wells Tiller Lucas

Berkeley Elizabeth Macfarlane

Loch Hamilton Macfarlane

Isabel Harrison McCormack

John Charles Oakey

Michael Hunter Owen

William Harrison Packard

William Lowndes Peple

Elizabeth McLean Proutt

Ellie R. Purcell

Andrew Cholmeley-Jones Rogers

Thomas Everett Rohrs

William David Rohrs

Isabel Anne Sarkees

Mary Hart Spivey

Jackson Reade Studebaker

William Edward Thurmond

William Bridges Tigani

Charles Granville Valentine

Lauren Elise Voyles

Marshall Taylor Ware

David Paul Weimer

Caroline Hayes Williams

William Mason Witt

The Parish Prayer List

Copies of the parish prayer list are available at Information Central outside the parish office and in the narthex (the church vestibule). To ask that a name be added to or removed from the prayer list, please contact Kitty Ball in the office, kball@ststephensRVA.org or 804.288.2867.

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