



The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 17, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist, with the Rites of Confirmation, Reception, and
the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows

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 John 17:1-11 *Please remain standing and face the reader of the Gospel.*

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

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 Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation will now be presented.

The Candidates for Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation stand.

Rector I present these persons for Confirmation.

I present these persons to be received into this Communion.

I present this person who desires to reaffirm their baptismal vows.

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 417

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

A period of silence follows.

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 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

For Confirmation

Prayer Book, page 418

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

For Reception

Prayer Book, page 418

N., we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. **Amen.**

For Reaffirmation

Prayer Book, page 419

N., may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom. **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able. The Bishop concludes with this prayer.

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 blessings 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, 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 Blessed Stephen; Blessed Mary, Mother of God; and 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,

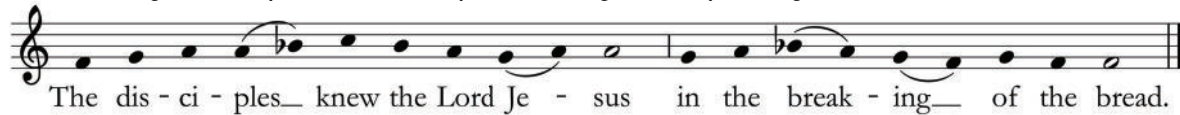
**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,**

**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 Breaking of the Bread *The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

The cantor sings the antiphon, then all repeat. All sing the antiphon again after each verse.

Mason Martens



Cantor:

- 1 The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ. *Antiphon*
- 2 One body are we, alleluia, for though many we share one bread. *Antiphon*

Bishop

The gifts of God for the people of God.

At the Communion of the People

All are welcome at the altar in this place. Communion is distributed at the chancel steps or in one of the side chapels (kneeling or standing). The altar also extends to your pew if you need us to bring the sacrament to you; just let an usher know. To receive Communion, place your hands together, palms up. You may consume the bread and then drink from the wine in the larger chalice. If you prefer to "intinct" or touch the edge of your bread to the wine, please use one of the smaller cups, available at all stations. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms against your chest.

Music at Communion

Anthem If ye love me *Sung by the choir.* text: John 14:15-18; music: Philip Wilby
If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever; e'en the spirit of truth. And ye know him, for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you.

Hymn 604 When Christ was lifted from the earth *Sung by all, standing.* *San Rocco*

After Communion, the Bishop says

Let us pray. *You may stand or kneel.*

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.

Prayer Book, page 365

The Blessing *The Bishop pronounces God's blessing.*

Hymn 494 Crown him with many crowns *Sung by all, standing.*

Diademata

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. John D. Rohrs; **SUBDEACON:** Barbara Massey; **READER:** Wingrove Croft; **INTERCESSOR:** Cotesworth Pinckney; **ASSISTING CLERGY:** The Rev. Judy Webb Davis, the Rev. William S. Stanley; **CHALICE BEARERS:** Mary Ball, Kristen Estes, Kim Spensieri, Deborah Waters; **ACOLYTES:** Andrew Everett, Rosie Ferrell, Luke Hudson; **MUSICIANS:** St. Stephen's Choir, Chris Edwards and Robert McCormick, *directors;* Diana Chou and Robert McCormick, *organ;* **VERGERS:** Dave Davis, Andy Luke

Candidates for Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows

Irene Donaldson Andersen
Diane Elaine Andrews
Reagan Grace Ayers
Margaret Lewis Boyd
Granger Lee Bradshaw
Charles Read Branch
Hunter Lewis Collier
Cameron McTavish Cross
Hannah Elizabeth Crowe
James Lake Curry
Hartwell Harrison Dillard
Harrison Fleet Golden
Mary Ann Howell
Alexandra Sophia Hughson
Austin Elizabeth Jonas
Nona Phyllis Kahn

Sadie Anne Kidd
Philip Turner Klim
Barry Michael Koski
Deborah Hope Koski
Rita Jeanne Landin Loderick
Murray Wells Mathews
Holden Page Montgomery
Blake Taylor Moorman
Aksel Harrison Nordin
Linley Holland Rose
Windsor Elizabeth Ross
Jacqueline De Pas Schlosser
Brian Eric Vickerman
Mary Sharp Vickerman
Amelia Carol Wright

The Parish Prayer List

Loretta Albertis, Kay Alley, Leilani Allwine, Patricia Atkins-Smith, Sue Atkinson, Elizabeth Bannerman, Lash Barksdale, Nancy Beale, Linda Bennett, Christine Boeteger, Emma Bolduc, Genie Borum, Julia Bouck, Gene Bowles, Sturges Brian, Kathy Brock, Leslie Brockman, Alex H. Brown, Pat Brown, Sarah Jo Bryce, Turner Bruneau, Matt Boyd, Patti Bullen, Tammy Carleton, Scott Carnohan, Paula Chambers, Michael Click, Nancy Cole, Sarah Cole, Susan Collier, Mary Cooke, Prior Cooper, Kathy Conrad, John Corey, Tracy Councill, Don Cowles, Michelle Crim, the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Debbie Cuseo, Chris Davis, Patricia Delany, Ham DeRosa, Terry Dickinson, Davis Dunn Dillard, Stephen Drake Sr., Kristen Estes, Jonathan Fava, Debbie Ferguson, Guy Frank, April Greenwood, Janis Hall, Rodger Hardy, David Harrell, Emma Hassmer, Katie Hellebush, Dan Hill, *Ron Hunt*, Anna Hurdle, Alan Jameson, John Turner Jenkins, Lena Jones, Justin Jones-Nickerson, Jane Kelly, Linda Lewis, Ashley Loughan, Genie Lucyk, Margaret Lyle, Pam Lynch, Barbara Mathison, Adrienne Maxwell, Michael McCabe, Schnucki McCabe, Morgan McCall, Stratton and Robin McCrady, Gertrude McLean, Nancy Meath, Jack Miller, Mary Miller, Tina Millner, Susan Minyard, Sallie Moncol, Susan Moore, Lee W. Mumford, Shelby Nichols, Ashley Nickerson, Mary Beth Noel, Sallie Nolte, Jan Orgain, Tricia Payne, Beth Pearce, Ernest Perry, Courtney Phillips, Scott Pittman, Wilde Poole and family, Lyn Presson, Alma Price, Jamey Price, Julia Putney-Brandt, Brick Quinn, Cary Ragland, Luke Robertson, Jennifer Reed, Aleta Richards, Ryan Rohadfox, Bette Shiflett, Chrys Sills, Aiden Thomas Smith, Josh Spain, Aaron Spicer, Margie Spicer, Regena Stith, Beth Thomas, Bruce Thomas, Margaret Thompson, Brian Trollope, Kenneth Valke, Pam W., Timothy W., Ozzie Wade, Suzanne Wallace, Tom White, Terri Wilcox, *Steve Wilson*, Donna Williams, Steve Williams, Martha Wilson, Claire Wood, Emily H. Wood, Rosalyn Wootten, Sue Wootton, Rick Wortham, J. Morgan Wright, Margaret P. Young. **For those who have died**, especially *Josie Bassoua, Robert Morris, Robert Avery Peay, Jr., and Charlotte Williams*. **For those expecting a child**, especially Coleman and Jessica Stewart, and Megan and Tim Watson. **For our missionaries**, Heidi Schmidt and Monica Vega, and the people they serve in Argentina. **In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer**, we pray for the *Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea*. **For ReWork Richmond**. **For an end to gun violence**. **For peace and reconciliation** in Haiti, Iraq, Iran, Israel/Palestine, Nigeria, North Korea, South Sudan, Syria, and Ukraine, and at our borders. **For those serving overseas in the military or diplomatic service**: CPT Anna Broadbent-Evelyn and Caroline Finn.

Names in italics were added to the prayer list this week.

In order to keep our prayer list current and facilitate the intentionality and mindfulness with which we pray, we print names on the list for three months or less. If you would like for someone to remain on the list for more (or less) time, please call the office or email Kitty Ball at kball@ststephensRVA.org.

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