



The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 23, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

Holy Baptism

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 a "soft space" is available in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, one of the two side chapels in the church. It allows children and parents to participate in the service if and when they need more room than a church pew provides. Children must be accompanied by a parent while using the soft space. 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 Psalm-Prelude (Set One, Number 2), Opus 32/2

Herbert Howells

The Word of God

Hymn 523 Glorious things of thee are spoken

Abbot's Leigh

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 299

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;

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

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

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

The Collect of the Day

Prayer Book, page 232

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson Exodus 1:8-2:10 *Please sit.*

Reader A reading from the Book of Exodus.

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The

midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

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

Psalm 124 *Said responsively by whole verse, seated.*

Prayer Book, page 781

1 If the Lord had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;

2 If the Lord had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;

3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive *
in their fierce anger toward us;

4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us *
and the torrent gone over us;

5 Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.

6 Blessed be the Lord! *
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.

7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; *
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

8 Our help is in the Name of the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth. *Silence is kept.*

Hymn 490 I want to walk as a child of the light *Sung by all, standing.*

Houston

The Gospel Matthew 16:13-20 *Please remain standing and face the reader of the Gospel.*

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

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

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates *Remain seated.*

Prayer Book, page 301

Celebrant The Candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Sponsor, standing:

I present Sepidar Chappell to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

I present William Ryan Chappell to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

The Celebrant asks each candidate when presented:

Question Do you desire to be baptized?

Answer I do.

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

Answer I renounce them.

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

Answer I renounce them.

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

Answer I renounce them.

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

Answer I do.

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

Answer I do.

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

Answer I do.

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

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

People **We will.**

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

The Baptismal Covenant *Remain standing, as able.*

Prayer Book, page 304

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

Prayer Book, page 305

Celebrant 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.
 People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Christ by water and the Spirit, may live reborn in the freedom and power of his resurrection, and so we offer thanks for the blessings of life, [especially for _____], and we commend to you those who have died [remembering especially _____]; with all the saints we offer our prayers, through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

As the baptismal candidates follow the cross to the font, all children are invited to come to the font to participate in blessing the water.

Thanksgiving over the Water

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

Prayer Book, page 306

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 God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant 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 Celebrant 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 Celebrant, 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.***

A priest 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.***

Celebrant

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.

The Peace

Prayer Book, page 360

Celebrant

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 My eyes for beauty pine *Sung by the choir.*

Text: Robert Bridges;

music: Elizabeth and Thomas Coxhead

My eyes for beauty pine, my soul for God's grace: no other care nor hope is mine, to heaven I turn my face.
One splendour thence is shed from all the stars above: 'tis named when God's name is said, 'tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love.
And every gentle heart, that burns with true desire, is lit from eyes that mirror part of that celestial fire.

At the Presentation

Sung by all, standing.

Old 100th

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



The Great Thanksgiving

Enriching Our Worship, Prayer 2

The people remain standing.

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 our thanks and praise.

Celebrant

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus

Sung by all.

The Hymnal S-129, Robert Powell

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.

Celebrant

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with Blessed Stephen; Blessed Mary, Mother of God; and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

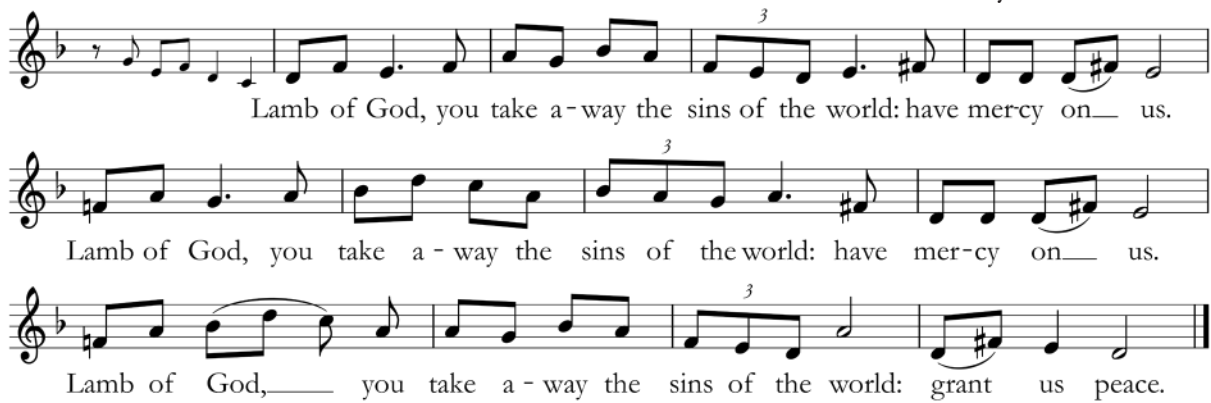
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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 Hymnal S-163, Robert Powell



Celebrant

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 who 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.

At the Communion of the People

All are welcome at the altar in this place. Communion is distributed at the chancel steps and in both side chapels. 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, cross one hand over the other, 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 You are the Christ, O Lord

Sung by the choir.

text: William Walsham How;

For text, see Hymn 254.

music: Richard Wayne Dirksen

Hymn 521 Put forth, O God, thy Spirit's might

Sung by all, seated.

Chelsea Square

Sending Forth Eucharistic Visitors

When a Lay Eucharistic Visitor is scheduled to visit a parishioner, the following is said.

Deacon *N.*, we send you out to share Communion with *N.*

People **Carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ's presence.**

Deacon We who are many are one body because we share one bread and one cup. **Amen.**

After Communion, the Celebrant says

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

All **Lord Jesus Christ,**
you have put your life into our hands;
now we put our lives into yours.
Take us, renew us and remake us.
What we have been is past;
what we shall be, through you, still awaits us.
Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.

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

Hymn 365 Come, thou almighty King

Sung by all, standing.

Moscow

Dismissal

Prayer Book, page 366

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Anyone wishing to listen more closely to the organ voluntary is welcome to move to the chancel and sit in the choir chairs.



Presented for Holy Baptism

Sepidar Chappell

William Ryan Chappell

Memorials

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of C. Coleman McGehee and Carden C. McGehee, Jr. by Caroline Brandt.

Participants

CELEBRANT: The Rev. William S. Stanley; DEACON: The Rev. John D. Rohrs; SUBDEACON: Ben Emerson; READER: Dave Davis
PREACHER: The Rev. Judy Webb Davis; INTERCESSOR: Ruddy Rose; LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR: Marty Easton; ASSISTING PRIEST:
The Rev. John W. A. Jenkins; CHALICE BEARERS: Beth Crews, Evan-Nilsa Karlson, Barbara Massey, Deborah Waters; ACOLYTES:
Maggie Boyd, Wyatt Hobbs, Lexie Hughson, Isabel Schaaf

The Parish Prayer List

Loretta Albertis, Kay Alley, Leilani Allwine, Patricia Atkins-Smith, Elizabeth Bannerman, Ben Barbot, Lash Barksdale, Nancy Beale, Linda Bennett, Christine Boeteger, Emma Bolduc, Genie Borum, Julia Bouck, Sturges Brian, Kathy Brock, Leslie Brockman, Alex H. Brown, Pat Brown, Sarah Jo Bryce, Turner Bruneau, Matt Boyd, Patti Bullen, Frances Caldwell, 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, Shirley Crim, the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Debbie Cuseo, Chris Davis, Patricia Delany, Ham DeRosa, Davis Dunn Dillard, Stephen Drake Sr., Reid Ebert, Kristen Estes, Jonathan Fava, Debbie Ferguson, Guy Frank, April Greenwood, *Vishal Iab Gunti*, Janis Hall, Rodger Hardy, David Harrell, Emma Hassmer, Katie Hellebush, *Trey Harrington*, Dan Hill, Ron Hunt, Anna Hurdle, Ginny Moncure Jamerson, Alan Jameson, John Turner Jenkins, Charles Johnson, Lena Jones, David Kean, Jane Kelly, *Brian Kemp*, Linda Lewis, Eva Lindsay, Ashley Loughan, Genie Lucyk, Margaret Lyle, Pam Lynch, Frank Maloney, Barbara Mathison, Adrienne Maxwell, Michael McCabe, Morgan McCall, Gertrude McLean, Nancy Meath, Jack Miller, Mary Miller, Tina Millner, Susan Minyard, Lee W. Mumford, Shelby Nichols, Ashley Nickerson, Mary Beth Noel, Sallie Nolte, Pauline O'Neill, Jan Orgain, Tricia Payne, Beth Pearce, Ivan Peramas, Ernest Perry, Courtney Phillips, Scott Pittman, Wilde Poole and family, Lyn Presson, Alma Price, Jamey Price, Julia Putney-Brandt, Brick Quinn, Jennifer Reed, Luke Robertson, Kaley Rosenthal, Aleta Richards, Emily Robinson, Ryan Rohadfox, David Ruffin and family, Bette Shiflett, Chrys Sills, Aiden Thomas Smith, *Ross Southward*, Josh Spain, Aaron Spicer, Margie Spicer, Regena Stith, Beth Thomas, Bruce Thomas, Margaret Thompson, Brian Trollope, Crystal Vines, Pam W., Timothy W., Ozzie Wade, Heather Walker, 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, Bill Wright, J. Morgan Wright, Margaret P. Young. **For the blessings of this life**, especially for *the baptisms of Sepidar and William Ryan Chappell and the marriage of Emma Connelly and David Hanson*. **For those who have died** especially the *Rev'd Dr. Paul "Peter" Hogg and Mary Ann Scherer*. **For those expecting a child**, especially Kristen and Hayden Glasstetter, Mason and Claire Mairead, Carlee and Robert Rhoton, 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 *Church of the Province of West Africa*. **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**: Col. Matthew Bryce Dibble, USAF, 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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