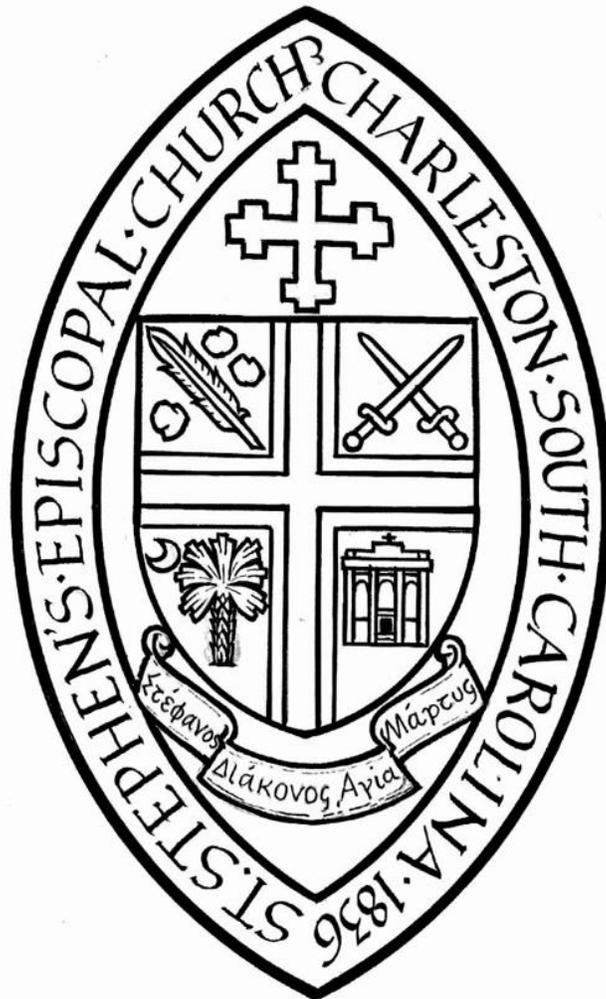


St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
In the City of Charleston, South Carolina



The Third Sunday of Easter

May 1, 2022
11:00 a.m.

*We welcome you to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church,
a house of prayer for all people.*

The Reverend Dr. Adam J. Shoemaker, Rector
The Reverend Laura Rezac, Associate Rector
The Reverend Courtney Davis-Shoemaker, Assistant Priest
The Reverend Greg Smith, Deacon
Wayne Helmly, Organist & Choirmaster

PRELUDE: Mediation on “St. Agnes”
Prelude on “Hyfrydol”
Easter Fanfare

Gilbert M. Martin
Flor Peeters
Gordon Young

OPENING HYMN 460

1 Alleluia! sing to Jesus!
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone;
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.

2 Alleluia! not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how:
though the cloud from sight received him,
when the forty days were o’er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
‘I am with you evermore’?

3 Alleluia! bread of Heaven,
Thou on earth our food, our stay!
Alleluia! here the sinful
flee to thee from day to day:
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth’s Redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia! King eternal,
thee the Lord of lords we own:
Alleluia! born of Mary,
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
thou within the veil hast entered,
robed in flesh, our great High Priest:
thou on earth both Priest and Victim
in the eucharistic feast.

5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
his the victory alone;
Hark! The songs of holy Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
hath redeemed us by his blood.

A LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Celebrant says

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

The Celebrant says

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

The following is sung, all standing

1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly King, al -
might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus Christ,
on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;
5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For
you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
7. you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of
God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

Please be seated.

FIRST READING: *Acts 9:1-20*

¹Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

ANTIPHON:



PSALM TONE:



Antiphon

1 I will exalt you O Lord because you have [lifted] me up * and have not let my enemies [tri]-umph over me.

2 O Lord my God [I] cried out to you, * and you re-[stored me] to health.

3 You brought me up O [Lord from] the dead; * you restored my life as I was going [down to] the grave.

4 Sing to the Lord you [servants] of his; * give thanks for the remembrance [of] his holiness.

Antiphon

5 For his wrath endures but the twinkling [of] an eye, * his favor [for] a lifetime.

6 Weeping may [spend] the night, * but joy comes [in] the morning.

7 While I felt secure I said, ... "I shall never [be] disturbed. * You Lord, ... with your favor, ... made me as [strong as] the mountains."

8 Then you [hid] your face, * and I was [filled] with fear.

Antiphon

9 I cried to [you] O Lord; * I pleaded with the [Lord] saying,

10 "What profit is there in my blood if I go [down to] the Pit? * will the dust praise you or de-[clare] your faithfulness?"

11 Hear O Lord and have [mercy] upon me; * O Lord [be] my helper."

12 You have turned my wailing [in]-to dancing; * you have put off my sack-cloth and [clothed me] with joy.

13 Therefore my heart sings to you with-[out] ceasing; *
O Lord my God, ... I will give you [thanks] for ever.

Antiphon

26 Blest is he who comes in the [name of] the Lord; *
we bless you from the [house of] the Lord.

**27 God is the Lord; ... he has [shined] upon us; *
form a procession with branches up to the [horns
of] the altar.**

Antiphon

SECOND READING: *Revelation 5:11-14*

¹¹I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²singing with full voice, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” ¹³Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, “To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” ¹⁴And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped.

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

Please stand.

HYMN 343

Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless
thy chosen pilgrim flock
with manna in the wilderness,
with water from the rock.

We would not live by bread alone,
but by thy word of grace,
in strength of which we travel on
to our abiding-place.

Be known to us in breaking bread,
and do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us, and spread
thy table in our heart.

Lord, sup with us in love divine
thy Body and thy Blood,
that living bread, that heavenly wine,
be our immortal food.

GOSPEL: *John 21:1-19*

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

¹Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. ⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. ¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

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

THE SERMON

The Reverend Laura A. Rezac

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy

catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: *Form IV*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect followed by our Bicentennial Prayer.

God of all times and seasons: we give you thanks for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the resurrection faith and commitment that have sustained and strengthened St. Stephen's for the last 200 years. As we look ahead, may the Spirit continue to guide and enable us to respond in ways old and new to the urgency of the Gospel, to our call to be a "house of prayer for all," and to bear witness to the breadth and depth of your reconciling love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence.

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

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

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord. In this season in which we are especially mindful of the need to keep everyone healthy, we invite you to pass the peace in the Eastern tradition (by clasping your hands in prayer, bowing to your neighbor, and saying, "Peace be with you.").

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY

The Priest offers an Offertory Sentence.

*Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet thy tribute bring;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King.*

*Praise him for his grace and favor
to our fathers in distress;
praise him still the same for ever,
slow to chide and swift to bless:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness.*

*Angels, help us to adore him;
ye behold him face to face;
sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace.*

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION *Hymn 193, vs 5*

All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to thee, who, dead, again dost live;
to God the Father equal praise,
and God the Holy Ghost, we raise.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A

The People remain standing.

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

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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:

Celebrant and People

The musical score is written on five staves of music. The lyrics are: 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.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

- Christ has died.**
- Christ is risen.**
- Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

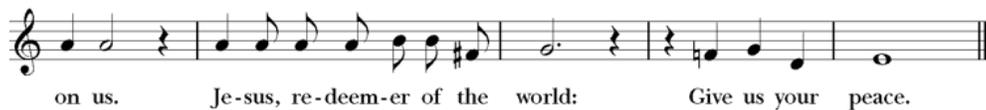
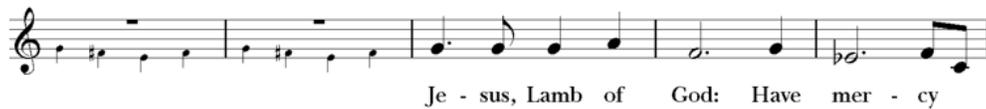
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

A period of silence is kept.



The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

...Come to this table you who have much faith, and you who would like to have more. You who come to this sacrament often, and you who have not come for a long time. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed. Come, it is Christ who invited us to meet him here... (Invitation, Iona Abbey, Scotland)

To the left of the Altar, you will notice a Prayer Station kneeler. During communion, you are welcome to come forward and ask for general prayer or a specific need with one of the St. Stephen's Prayer Team members.

Communion will be offered in two kinds, wine by intinction at the altar rail.

MUSIC AT COMMUNION: “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing” *in the style of Haydn* arr. Myra Shubert

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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 Officiant concludes with the Easter 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.**

CLOSING HYMN 492

Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness,
wake your noblest, sweetest strain,
with the praises of your Savior
let his house resound again;
him let all your music honor,
and your songs exalt his reign.

Sing how he came forth from heaven,
bowed himself to Bethlehem’s cave,
stooped to wear the servant’s vesture,
bore the pain, the cross, the grave,
passed within the gates of darkness,
thence his banished ones to save.

So, he tasted death for mortals,
he, of humankind the head,
sinless one, among the sinful,
Prince of life, among the dead;
thus he wrought the full redemption,
and the captor captive led.

Now on high, yet ever with us,
from his Father's throne the Son
rules and guides the world he ransomed,
till the appointed work be done,
till he see, renewed and perfect,
all things gathered into one.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth in the name of the Risen Christ.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia

POSTLUDE: Praise Him! Praise Him!

arr. Robert J. Powell

The worship is over. Now the service begins.

*The Flowers at the Altar are given to the Glory of God by Priscilla Quirk
and Greg Garvan with love and joy for 40 years of wedded bliss.*

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

The Reverend Courtney Davis-Shoemaker (Celebrant)
The Reverend Laura A. Rezac (Preacher)
The Reverend Gregory L. Smith (Deacon)
Wayne Helmly (Choirmaster & Organist)
Michael Shewan (Verger)
Bob Gebhardt (Lector)
Walker Smith (Eucharistic Minister)
Sandie Bishop (Crucifer)
Madison Wade (Torch Bearer)
Titus Gesin (Torch Bearer)
Team #2 (Usher Team)
Vicki Anthos (Flower Designer)

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

We invite you to join us in the church garden after the service for Fellowship Hour.

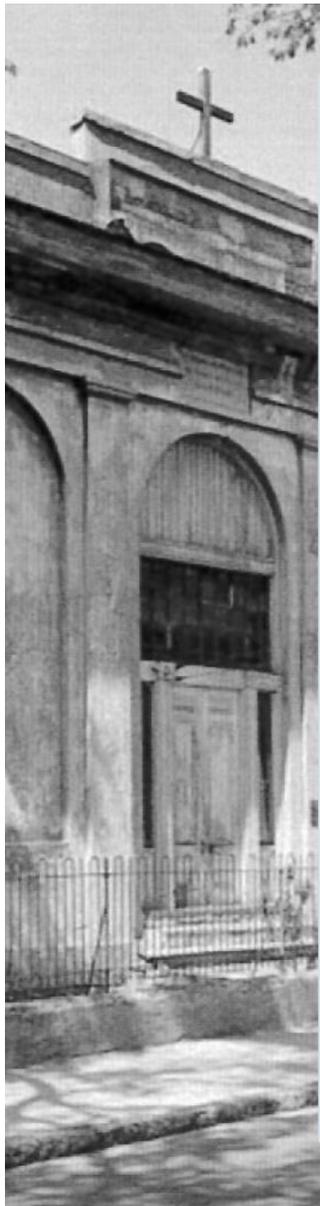
RECTOR AT GOOD SHEPHERD IN SUMTER

Our Rector is away this morning covering services at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Sumter,
a historically African American church of our diocese.

FREE PARKING FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

Free parking is available in The Gaillard Center Parking Garage (a short walk from the church at 33 Alexander Street) each Sunday for up to three hours. Simply hold onto your worship bulletin from St. Stephen's and on your way out, after inserting your ticket, you will see a red light to scan the barcode you see below.

If you have any issues, press the black assistance button located on the front of the machine in the upper right-hand corner. This will put you in touch with a real person.



BICENTENNIAL ROUNDTABLE CONVERSATION

SUNDAY, MAY 1 AT 5PM
ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

JOIN US IN THE CHURCH FOR A BICENTENNIAL ROUNDTABLE CONVERSATION ON ST. STEPHEN'S AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY, FOLLOWING OUR "3 SARAH'S" LECTURE IN MARCH.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO OUR NEXT EDUCATIONAL EVENT, FACILITATED BY OUR RECTOR AND DEACON GREG SMITH, FOCUSED ON THE MANY YEARS ST. STEPHEN'S WAS A VIBRANT BLACK PARISH OF THE DIOCESE. THERE WILL BE A SLIDE PRESENTATION AS WELL AS REMEMBRANCES SHARED BY SOME OF OUR AFRICAN AMERICAN PARISHIONERS. A LIGHT RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW THE EVENT ON THE LAWN, WEATHER PERMITTING.

NURSERY WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THIS EVENT.

EMMA WATSON BBQ & FUNDRAISER

Join us on **May 15** after our 11am worship service for our Emma Watson BBQ & Fundraiser!
An online silent auction will also be taking place.

If you would like to attend the BBQ, or can't attend but would like to donate, please contact our Parish Office at arucker@ststephenschs.com for further instructions. (Adults: \$20, Children 6-12: \$5, Children 5 and under: FREE) Please contact the office BEFORE sending in any payment.

All proceeds support community outreach and youth programs at St. Stephen's.

ST. STEPHEN'S POTLUCK DINNER

The Potluck is restarting after more than two years hiatus. After discussion with the Vestry and Clergy, we would like to make the Potluck reflect St Stephen's inclusivity policies. The Potlucks are an informal gathering at different hosts homes. It's a great way to get to better know your St. Stephen's community.

All St. Stephen's parishioners who are over 21 years of age are invited to come to the next Potluck on Monday **May 16** 6:00pm at Holly Blanchard's house (1004 Lighterman Way, Charleston 29412.) Please bring an hors d'oeuvres, side, salad, dessert or wine.

Contact Holly by text, email, or phone if you plan to come or have any questions. There is limited parking along the wooden fence on your left and by the pool when you arrive.

To RAVP or for questions, contact Holly at 843-534-6512 or hollybmom@gmail.com.

FOYER GROUPS TO BEGIN IN JUNE

An exciting ministry at St. Stephen's is our Foyer Group program. Foyer Groups are a fun and easy way for parishioners to gather together on a regular but informal basis for purely social reasons – to enjoy one another's company, to strengthen bonds of community, to meet new members and just to get to know other people who share a common interest in St. Stephen's. They provide a means to develop new friendships and deepen old ones. There is no agenda or plan – just casual fellowship and a refreshing meal. Groups are made up of singles, couples, young people, and retired folks - in other words, a cross section of the congregation. Newcomers are especially invited to join.

Each small group of eight people meet once every four to six weeks in the home of one of the members of the group. Generally, the host provides the main course while the other members fill in the rest of the meal, such as an appetizer, bread, salad, veggies, or dessert. The main idea is for the gatherings to simply focus on Christian fellowship, a refreshing meal and relaxed conversation. Foyer groups are put together randomly, in order to add an element of spontaneity, and to get to know others in the parish. Each member of the Foyer Group will be notified in early June to pass along information for the first gathering.

For 2022, the Foyer Groups will meet from June – December; sign-ups will begin now until **May 31**. Members may fill out a paper version found in the narthex (place in offering plate) or sign up digitally through The Deacon. Each person has the option of signing up for an Adult Foyer Group or for a Family Foyer Group.

Questions? Contact Janet Smith Coyne at janetscoyne@gmail.com.