

# ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## The Third Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024, 8:00 and 10:30 am Worship Services



*The Appearance of Christ at the Cenacle*

## WELCOME TO ST. STEPHEN'S!

It is a joy to have you worship with us today. We believe everyone who worships with us is sent to us by God. So, welcome.

As we gather for worship, we want to remind everyone of a few important items:

- Please turn off or silence your electronic devices.
- We strongly encourage you to enter the sanctuary in silence as you prepare for worship.
- Before worship begins, we encourage you to speak to God. During worship, be ready for God to speak to you.
- After worship, we invite you to fellowship with one another, especially those God has brought to us — our visitors.

## WHY ARE YOU HERE?

As you come in this morning and settle into your seat, I invite you to think about the following:

- ❖ Wherever we go, we have a reason for going there. What is your reason for being here today?
- ❖ God is merciful and kind to us each and every day. What thanksgiving do you bring to God today?
- ❖ Because each day brings many challenges, what concern(s) do you bring to God today?
- ❖ As your Rector, I have come with thanksgiving for God's grace and mercy and to worship Him; because today is a reminder to me that another week has ended and a new week has begun. It is my hope that you have come to do the same. I encourage you to join me as we call upon our God and worship Him.

***Canon Wilmot—a son of God***

✠ *This symbol represents the point at which we sign ourselves with the sign of the cross during worship.*

❖ *Announcements* ❖

## **The Word of God**

*Please stand for the Opening Prayer.*

Opening Hymn

***He is Risen***

Hymnal 180

He is risen, he is risen!

Tell it out with joyful voice:  
he has burst his three days' prison;  
let the whole wide earth rejoice:  
death is conquered, we are free,  
Christ has won the victory.

Come, ye sad and fearful-hearted,  
with glad smile and radiant brow!  
Death's long shadows have departed;  
Jesus' woes are over now,  
and the passion that he bore—  
sin and pain can vex no more.

Come, with high and holy hymning,  
hail our Lord's triumphant day;  
not one darksome cloud is dimming  
yonder glorious morning ray,  
breaking o'er the purple east,  
symbol of our Easter feast.

He is risen, he is risen!

He hath opened heaven's gate:  
we are free from sin's dark prison,  
risen to a holier state;  
and a brighter Easter beam  
on our longing eyes shall stream.

*The People standing, the Celebrant says:*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

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

*The Celebrant and People say*

**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.**

*Song of Praise, all standing*

***Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee***

Hymnal 376

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,  
    God of glory, Lord of love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,  
    praising thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
    drive the dark of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness,  
    fill us with the light of day.

Thou art giving and forgiving,  
    ever blessing, ever blest,  
well-spring of the joy of living,  
    ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother:  
    all who live in love are thine;  
teach us how to love each other,  
    lift us to the joy divine.

## **The Collect for Third Sunday of Easter**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

***People*** ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant* 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.

***People*** ***Amen.***

## **The Lessons**

May we hear the Word of God through these words.

*A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 3:12–19*

Peter addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

The Word of the Lord

***People*** ***Thanks be to God.***

## **Psalm 4**

*To be read responsively by the Lay Reader and the Congregation.*

L Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause; \*  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**C "You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory; \*  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"**

L Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful; \*  
when I call upon the LORD, he will hear me.

**C Tremble, then, and do not sin; \*  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

L Offer the appointed sacrifices \*  
and put your trust in the LORD.

**C Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!" \*  
Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O LORD.**

L You have put gladness in my heart, \*  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

**C I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep; \*  
for only you, LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

*Celebrant and People*

**Glory to the † Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

May we hear the Word of God through these words.

*A Reading from the First Letter of John 3:1–7*

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The Word of the Lord

**People      Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn

*Alleluia, Alleluia*

Hymnal 191

*HYMN OF THE MONTH:* Open your hymnal if you choose

Alleluia, alleluia!

Hearts and voices heavenward raise:  
sing to God a hymn of gladness,  
sing to God a hymn of praise.

He, who on the cross a victim,  
for the world's salvation bled,  
Jesus Christ, the King of glory,  
now is risen from the dead.

Now the iron bars are broken,  
Christ from death to life is born,  
glorious life, and life immortal,  
on his resurrection morn.

Christ has triumphed, and we conquer  
by his mighty enterprise:  
we with him to life eternal  
by his resurrection rise.

*Please stand.*

*When the Gospel is being announced, a cross is made,*

✝ (on the forehead) in my mind to understand it,

✝ (on the lips) on my lips to proclaim it, and

✝ (over the heart) in my heart to live it.

*The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 24: 36b–48*  
**People      *Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

Jesus himself stood among the disciples and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

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



## Sermon Hymn

Christ is risen, Christ, the first-fruits  
of the holy harvest-field,  
which with all its full abundance  
at his second coming yield:  
then the golden ears of harvest  
will their heads before him wave,  
ripened by his glorious sunshine  
from the furrows of the grave.

Christ is risen, we are risen!  
Shed upon us heavenly grace,  
rain and dew and gleams of glory  
from the brightness of thy face;  
that, with hearts in heaven dwelling,  
we on earth may fruitful be,  
and by angel hands be gathered,  
and be ever, Lord, with thee.

❖ Sermon

*Wilmot T. Merchant* ❖

*Please use this time to silently reflect on what the Lord has spoken to you.*

*Please stand.*

## **The Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God**, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and 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

*(We bow for the two lines in bold.)*

**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.*

*Please sit or kneel for The Prayers of the People.*

## **The Prayers of the People**

*The Prayer Leader and People pray responsively.*

Leader      The Lord be with you.

**People      *And also with you.***

Leader      Let us pray.

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic and Apostolic Church;

**People      *That we all may be one.***

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

**People      *That your Name may be glorified by all people.***

We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, Ruth our Bishop, Wilmot our Priest, Kim our Deacon, and for all bishops and other ministers;

**People      *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.***

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world, for Joseph our President, Henry our Governor, and Marilyn our Mayor;

**People      *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.***

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

**People      *That our works may find favor in your sight.***

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**People      *That they may be delivered from their distress.***

Give to the departed eternal rest;

**People      *Let light perpetual shine upon them.***

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

**People      *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of our loved ones and others, for the men and women who are serving in the armed forces, and all others who serve to preserve and protect lives, and those who have asked us to remember them in our prayers, especially our families, friends, and loved ones.

Lord in your mercy

**People      *Hear our prayer.***

Let us pray for the people in disaster and troubled areas and those affected by acts of violence here at home and all around the world. Let us also pray for the many volunteers who are working to assist our brothers and sisters in those areas that have been devastated either by man-made or natural disaster.

Lord, in your mercy.

**People     Hear our prayer.**

Let us pray for God's people throughout the world, especially the Anglican Communion, The Episcopal Church, and The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina. Today we are praying for:

Lord, in your mercy.

**People     Hear our prayer.**

*\*Additional Prayers*

***LET US GIVE THANKS FOR OUR VISITORS.***

***LET US PRAY FOR OUR TRAVELERS THIS WEEK.***

***HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:*** Linda Crocker (4/14), Roberta Rowland-Raybold (4/15), Barb DiMartini (4/16), Jane Willard (4/17), Alex Bobir (4/19), Gary Strouse (4/19), B.J. Mills (4/20).

***HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:*** Ted & Judy Tattersall (4/14), Len & Cathy Arruzzo (4/15), Jerry & Andrea DeBerry (4/15), Dennis & Deb Davidson (4/16).

***LET US PRAY FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY.***

**INTERCESSORY AND THANKSGIVING PRAYER.** As we continue to hold one another up in prayer in this parish, this week we are praying for: **Betsy** Finamore, **Bill & Kathy** Finch, **John & Dolores** Foggo, **Rodney** Foushee, **Sandy** Frantom, **Barbara** Fredrick, **Kristin** Gable, **Ann** Geoghegan, **Lib & Jimmy** Gerald, **Eddie** Giacin.

*Celebrant and People*

**Gracious and most loving God, we join them in committing to you whatever concerns they may have, asking you to let your will be done for them. We also join them in giving you thanks, for your many blessings bestowed upon them and their loved ones. We praise you and thank you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Confession of Sin**

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Celebrant 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 Celebrant 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.

**People Amen.**

❖ *Installation of Joe Lenhard as Youth/Young Adult Minister* ❖

*Please stand.*

## **The Peace**

Jesus said, *Peace I leave with you; my Peace I give to you . . .* John 14:27

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

**People And also with you.**



***At the conclusion of the peace the Celebrant says:***

*Celebrant* God is Good!

**People All the Time.**

## The Holy Communion

Offertory                    *For the Beauty of the Earth*

J. Ferguson

*Doxology—to be sung*

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;**

**praise Him, all creatures here below;**

**O Praise Him! Alleluia!**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host:**

**praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**O Praise Him! O Praise Him!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving and Sanctus Eucharistic Prayer C

BCP 369

*Please 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 him thanks and praise.***

*Celebrant*    God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of  
glory and praise.

*People*        ***Glory to you for ever and ever.***

*Celebrant*    At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of  
interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses,  
and this fragile earth, our island home.

*People*        ***By your will they were created and have their  
being.***

*Celebrant* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*People* ***Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.***

*Celebrant* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*People* ***By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.***

*The Celebrant continues*

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

*Celebrant and People*

S130

*Bow during the underlined text*

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

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

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

**Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

*Please sit, kneel or remain standing.*

*Then the Celebrant continues*

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

***People We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.***

Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers; God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God of Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

***People Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.***

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

***People (respond with a loud ) AMEN.***

And now, let us sing in thanksgiving the prayer our Savior Christ taught us,



*Celebrant and People*

**Our Father, which 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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever. Amen.**



† † † † † † † † † †

**The Breaking of the Bread**  
*Celebrant and People to be sung*

S154

**Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.  
Christ our Pass-o-ver is sac-ri-ficed for us;  
There-fore let us keep the feast.  
Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.**

*The Celebrant says the following Invitation*  
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith,  
with thanksgiving.

*This is the Lord's 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.*

*Please join in singing our Communion Hymns.*

***Break Thou the Bread of Life***

LEVAS 146

Break thou the bread of life,  
Dear Lord, to me,  
As thou didst break the loaves  
Beside the sea;  
Beyond the sacred page  
I seek thee, Lord;  
My spirit pants for thee,  
O living word!

Bless thou the truth, dear Lord,  
To me, to me,  
As thou didst bless the bread  
By Galilee;  
Then shall all bondage cease,  
All fetters fall,  
And I shall find my peace,  
My all in all.

Teach me to live, dear Lord,  
Only for thee,  
As thy disciples lived  
in Galilee;  
Then, all my struggles o'er,  
Then, vict'ry won,  
I shall behold thee, Lord,  
The living one.

***Jesu, Jesu***

LEVAS 74

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve  
the neighbors we have from you.*

Kneels at the feet of his friends,  
silently washes their feet,  
Master who acts as a slave to them.

*Refrain*

Neighbors are rich and poor,  
neighbors are black and white,  
neighbors are near and far away.

*Refrain*

These are the ones we should serve,  
these are the ones we should love;  
all these are neighbors to us and you.

*Refrain*

Loving puts us on our knees,  
serving as though we are slaves,  
this is the way we should live with you.

*Refrain*

Kneel at the feet of our friends,  
silently washing their feet,  
this is the way we should live with you.

*Refrain*

*After Communion, the Celebrant says: Let us pray.*

***The People join in saying this prayer***

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant gives the blessing*

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and your loved ones far and near and remain with all of you for ever.

***People Amen.***

*Please be seated for a brief announcement.*

**Benediction** *To be sung—please stand.*

**God be with you till we meet again;  
By His counsels guide, uphold you,  
With His sheep securely fold you,  
God be with you till we meet again.**



## ***Christ is Alive***

Hymnal 182

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
His cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
His love in death shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound  
to distant years in Palestine,  
he comes to claim the here and now  
and conquer every place and time.

Not throned above, remotely high,  
untouched, unmoved by human pains,  
but daily, in the midst of life,  
our Savior with the Father reigns.

In every insult, rift, and war  
where color, scorn or wealth divide,  
he suffers still, yet loves the more,  
and lives, though ever crucified.

Christ is alive! His Spirit burns  
through this and every future age,  
till all creation lives and learns  
his joy, his justice, love, and praise.

***Celebrant*** We are called to be one with God and each other in Christ.  
***People*** ***By living the Gospel with love and compassion.***

***Celebrant*** Alleluia. Alleluia. Let us go in peace to love and serve God and one another.

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

Postlude

***The Risen Christ***

B. Culli

**THE WORSHIP HAS ENDED. LET THE SERVICE BEGIN.**

“... what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” (Micah 6:8)

God is good! All the time!



The flowers on the altar are given,  
In celebration of our first  
wedding anniversary.

*Jerry & Andrea DeBerry*

## This Week

- Mon, Apr 15, 11:00 am, Acolyte Training, Church.
- Mon, Apr 15, 7:00—9:30 pm, Parish Hall in use.
- Tue, Apr 16, 9:00 am, Rummage Ministry—LAST DAY OF DROP—OFFS AND PICK-UPS BEFORE MAY SALE.
- Tue, Apr 16, 4:00 pm, Parish Hall in use.
- Tue, Apr 16, Prayer Time, PH Conference Rm.
- Wed, Apr 17, 12:00 noon, Public Service of Healing and Holy Eucharist.
- Wed, Apr 17, Finance Committee, PH Conf Rm.
- Wed, Apr 17, 5:00 pm, Chancel Choir Rehearsal.
- Wed, Apr 17, 7:00—9:30 pm, Parish Hall in use.
- Thu, Apr 18, 10:00 am, Endowment & Trust, Parish Hall.
- Thu, Apr 18, 10:00 am, Alzheimer's Support Group, PH Conf Rm.
- Thu Apr 18, 1:00 pm, Outreach Commission, PH Conf Rm.
- Thu, Apr 18, ECM Dinner Meeting, Parish Hall.
- Sat, Apr 20, 11:00 am, Baptism, Church.
- Sat, Apr 20, 2:00 pm, Celebration of Life of Mary McLaren, Church.

Cover Brooklyn Museum, James Tissot (Nantes, France, 1836–1902, Chenecey-Buillon, France). *The Appearance of Christ at the Cenacle* (*Apparition du Christ au cénacle*), 1886-1894.

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**Our Mission**  
is to be one with God and  
humanity in Christ  
by living the Gospel  
with love and compassion.



**Our Vision**  
is to become comfortable  
with Jesus Christ  
and boldly proclaim Him.

### ***PARTICIPANTS IN THE CELEBRATION AT ST. STEPHEN'S***

Ministers: The Congregants of St. Stephen's, Family, Friends and Visitors

Celebrant: The Very Rev. Canon Dr. Wilmot T. Merchant II

Deacon: The Rev. Kim Hoop

Dir of Music: Roberta Rowland-Raybold, c.a.g.o.

Vergers: Cathy Fellows and Robert Dunn

### ***MINISTERS, LAYLEADERS AND STAFF***

The Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry, Presiding Bishop, The Episcopal Church

The Right Rev. Ruth Woodliff-Stanley, Bishop, The Diocese of SC

The Very Rev. Canon Dr. Wilmot T. Merchant, II, Rector

### ***Vestry Members***

- ❖ Betty Berginski, Senior Warden (2024) ❖ Will Bridges, Junior Warden (2025)
- ❖ Richard B. Martin, Jr. (2024) ❖ Bill Simpson, Jr. (2024)
- ❖ Veronica Brown (2025) ❖ Marrjo Shattuck (2025) ❖ Sue Crouch (2026)
- ❖ Robert Dunn (2026) ❖ Wayne Mumford (2026).

### ***Associate Vestry Members***

- ❖ Barbara DiMartini (2024) ❖ Bud Nelson (2024) ❖ Mike Raley (2024).

### ***Vestry Officers***

- ❖ Bill Mann, Treasurer ❖ Cheri Spence, Assistant Treasurer
- ❖ Jane Buckner, Parish/Vestry Clerk, Vickie Arrington, Asst Parish/Vestry Clerk

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 801 11th Avenue North, North Myrtle Beach SC 29582, 843.249.1169