



# ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*All Are Welcome!*

## The Presentation of Our Lord

February 2, 2025, 8:00 and 10:30 am Worship Services



*The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple*

## 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.***

Prelude

***Be Still, My Soul***

D. Cherwien

Opening Prayer

*Please stand.*

Opening Hymn ***Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*** Hymnal 436

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;  
behold the King of glory waits!  
The King of kings is drawing near;  
the Savior of the world is here.

O blest the land, the city blest,  
where Christ the ruler is confessed!  
O happy hearts and happy homes  
to whom this King of triumph comes!

Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
make it a temple, set apart  
from earthly use for heaven's employ,  
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! I open wide  
my heart to thee: here, Lord, abide!  
Let me thy inner presence feel:  
thy grace and love in me reveal.

So come, my Sovereign; enter in!  
Let new and nobler life begin;  
thy Holy Spirit guide us on,  
until the glorious crown be won.

**The Word of God**  
Opening Acclamation

*The People standing, the Celebrant says:*

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

**People**     *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

*The Celebrant and People continue*

**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.**

*Gloria—All standing, the Celebrant and People sing*

***Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis***

S280

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father;  
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## **The Collect for The Feast of The Presentation**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

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

*Please be seated.*

## **The Lessons**

May we hear the Word of God through these words.

*A Reading from the Prophet Malachi 3:1–4*

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight —indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord

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

**Psalm 84**      *To be read responsively by the Lay Reader and Congregation.*

L How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! \*  
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

**C The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*  
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,  
my King and my God.**

L Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*  
they will always be praising you.

**C Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.**

L Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, \*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

**C They will climb from height to height, \*  
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.**

L LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*  
hearken, O God of Jacob.

**C Behold our defender, O God; \*  
and look upon the face of your Anointed.**

L For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, \*  
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

**C For the LORD God is both sun and shield; \*  
he will give grace and glory;**

L No good thing will the LORD withhold \*  
from those who walk with integrity.

**C O LORD of hosts, \***  
**happy are they who put their trust in you!**

*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 Letter to the Hebrews 2:14–18*

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord

**People      Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

Gradual Hymn

***Christ, Be Our Light***

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has pow'r to save us.

Make us your living voice.

Refrain

*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 2:22—40*  
**People      *Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."



Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word;  
for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord

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

## Sermon Hymn

Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.

Refrain

❖ Sermon      *Wilmot 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 following 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 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 The Archbishop of Canterbury, Sean 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 Donald 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, especially Marilyn Brucks;

*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: Heavenly Rest, Estill, Ms. Laura Marshall, Sr. Warden, and *The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.*

Lord, in your mercy.

**People Hear our prayer.**

*\*Additional Prayers*

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

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

***HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:*** Cathy Arruzzo (2/3), Rosalie Dye (2/3), Dave Herron (2/4), Judy Mohr (2/5), Carmen Royall (2/6), Terry Barbee (2/8).

***HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO:***

***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: **Karen & Leon** Faso, **Cathy & Peter** Fellows, **Betsy** Finamore, **Kathy & Bill** Finch, **Dolores & John** Foggo, **Rodney** Foushee, **Sandy** Frantom, **Barbara** Fredrick, **Ann** Geoghegan, **Lib & Jimmy** Gerald.

*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**

*The Celebrant continues*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence is kept.*

*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.**

*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!***



*Please sit.*

## **The Holy Communion**

Offertory ***Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*** Arr: W. Gardiner

*Please stand.*

*Doxology*

**From all that dwell below the skies**

**let the Creator's praise arise!**

**Let the Redeemer's Name be sung**

**through every land, by every tongue!**

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

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

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

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

## **The Great Thanksgiving and Sanctus Eucharistic Prayer A**

*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.***

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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*  
*Bow during the underlined text*

S130

**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.*

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:

*Celebrant and People*

**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.

**People     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*

**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.*

***I Come with Joy***

Hymnal 304

I come with joy to meet my Lord,  
forgiven, loved, and free,  
in awe and wonder to recall  
his life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near  
to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love  
in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,  
each proud division ends.  
That love that made us makes us one,  
and strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord.  
His presence, always near,  
is in such friendship better known:  
we see, and praise him here.

Together met, together bound,  
we'll go our different ways,  
and as his people in the world,  
we'll live and speak his praise.

## ***Just a Closer Walk***

LEVAS 72

I am weak but thou art strong;  
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long  
As I walk, let me walk close to thee.

*Just a closer walk with thee,  
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,  
Daily walking close to thee,  
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.*

Through this world of toil and snares,  
If I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares?  
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.

*Refrain*

When my feeble life is o'er,  
Time for me will be no more;  
Guide me gently, safely o'er  
To Thy kingdom shore, to thy shore.

*Refrain*

## ***Rock of Ages***

Hymnal 675

Rock of ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood  
from thy wounded side that flowed,  
be of sin the double cure,  
cleanse me from its guilt and power.

Should my tears for ever flow,  
should my zeal no languor know,  
all for sin could not atone:  
thou must save, and thou alone;  
in my hand no price I bring,  
simply to thy cross I cling.

While I draw this fleeting breath,  
when mine eyelids close in death,  
when I rise to worlds unknown  
and behold thee on thy throne,  
Rock of ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee.

*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*

May Christ, the Son of God be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; 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 you for ever.

**People Amen.**

*Please sit for a brief announcement.*

**Benediction** *to be sung*

**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.**



Closing Hymn

***Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart***

Hymnal 556

Rejoice, ye pure in heart!  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!  
Your glorious banner wave on high,  
the cross of Christ your King.

*Rejoice, rejoice,  
rejoice, give thanks, and sing.*

With all the angel choirs,  
with all the saints of earth,  
pour out the strains of joy and bliss,  
true rapture, noblest mirth.

*Refrain*

Your clear hosannas raise,  
and alleluias loud;  
while answering echoes upward float,  
like wreaths of incense cloud.

*Refrain*

At last the march shall end;  
the wearied ones shall rest;  
the pilgrims find their Father's house,  
Jerusalem the blest.

*Refrain*

*The Celebrant dismisses the people.*

*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

***Ceremonial Procession***

R. Haan

**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*

The Flowers on the Altar are given,  
In thanksgiving for the  
courageousness of Bishop Budde.

*Jeanne Evans*

**God is good! All the time!**

Cover: Latimore, Kelly. La presentación de Cristo en el templo, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54414> [retrieved January 28, 2025]. Original source: Kelly Latimore Icons, <https://kellylatimoreicons.com/>.

Music not in Public Domain covered by One License #729456-A and St. James Music Press #15729.



**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, Rector  
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. Sean Rowe, 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***

❖ Will Bridges, Senior Warden (2025) ❖ Richard B. Martin, Jr. (2024)  
❖ Mike Raley (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)

### ***Vestry Officers***

❖ Bill Mann, Treasurer ❖ Cheri Spence, Assistant Treasurer  
❖ Jane Buckner, Parish/Vestry Clerk

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