

STEPHEN MINISTRY SUNDAY / FATHER'S DAY

June 21, 2026

THE CHURCH GATHERS

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Be Thou My Vision”

Arr.: Lani Smith

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Connie Fritz, Liturgist

Leader: When the burdens of life feel heavy and the road seems uncertain...

People: God sends companions to walk alongside us on the journey.

Leader: When we are weary, hurting, or in need of a listening ear...

People: Christ invites us to cast our cares upon Him and find rest.

Leader: Let us worship the God who heals the brokenhearted.

People: We praise the Lord, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we may comfort others.

Let us worship God together!

*HYMN #488 *(see bulletin)*

“God of Our Fathers”

Roberts/Warren

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Before we hear the Word read and proclaimed, let us prepare our hearts through the confession of our individual and collective sins. Let us pray...

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Gracious and Loving God, you have called us to walk humbly with you and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We confess that we often fail to live up to your command. We are too quick to judge and too slow to listen. In our busyness, we pass by those who are hurting, and in our pride, we try to hide our own brokenness. We fail to bear one another's burdens, and we neglect to be your compassionate presence in a broken world. Forgive us, we pray. Open our hearts to the needs of those around us, and free us from our selfishness. By the power of your Holy Spirit, equip us to be caregivers—walking alongside the weary, offering a listening ear, and reflecting the unconditional love of Jesus Christ our Lord... Our prayers continue in silence

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Leader: Through Christ's death and resurrection, we are a new creation, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and freed.

People: Thanks be to God!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Share the peace of Christ with one another.

*HYMN #417 *(see bulletin)*

“Lord Jesus, Think on Me”

Synesius of Cyrene/Chatfield/Damon's *Psalmes*

WE RESPOND TO GOD WITH OFFERINGS AND PRAISE

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Setting.: Janet Linker

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD HUNDREDTH

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Savior God, your Word is a lamp to our feet on this discipleship road. Walk with us. Guide us with your wisdom and grace. Open us to discerning your will and your way. Amen.

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 40:1-11

ANTHEM

“His Grace Abounds”

Green/Harlan

SECOND READING:

Acts 6:1-7

SERMON

“God’s Love in Action”

Rev. Rick Douylliez

COMMISSIONING OF STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADERS *(see back page)*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Psalm 23 (KJV)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. ³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. ⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

***HYMN #54** *(see bulletin)*

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

Chisolm/Runyan

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

As we leave this sanctuary, remember that our service to Christ does not end at the church doors. We are all charged to carry the love, listening ears, and compassionate hearts of a Stephen Minister into our community.

Leader: May God our Creator hold you with everlasting grace.

People: **May God the Son, our Redeemer, guide our steps and grant us the wisdom to offer comfort to those around us in need.**

Leader: May God the Holy Spirit, our Sustainer, strengthen your spirit, giving you the peace that surpasses all understanding, so that you may be a beacon of hope in a weary world. Go forth and serve the Lord.

People: **Alleluia! Amen!**

POSTLUDE

Postlude on “Halifax”

Arr.: Lani Smith

(*) *We stand as we are able*

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God
and in memory of our fathers Thomas M. Stallings and Thomas E. Martin,
by Roscoe and Betty Stallings.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder of the Month: Joan White

Monday, June 22 at 12:30 p.m. Cornerstones Meeting
Tuesday, June 23 at 5:15 p.m. Session special discussion
Wednesday, June 24 at 5 p.m. DINNER at FIVE Green Tomato
Sunday, June 28 at 12:15 p.m. Cornerstones -VSU theatre trip
Wednesday, July 1 at 5 p.m. DINNER at FIVE at Long Horn Steakhouse
NO Finance meeting in July
Wednesday, July 8 at 5 p.m. DINNER at FIVE at BBQ Pit
Thursday, July 9 at 12:30 p.m. Cornerstones Lunch on the Road
Monday, July 13 at 10 a.m. Christian Service
Wednesday, July 15 at 5 p.m. DINNER at FIVE at Dalton's
Monday, July 20 at 1 p.m. Cornerstones Meeting at Dairy Queen
NO SESSION IN JULY
Wednesday, July 22 at 5 p.m. DINNER at FIVE at Margarita's

Mark Your August Calendars:

Saturday, August 1 FLINT RIVER PRESBYTERY MEETING at our church! .
Sunday, August 2 at Noon – THRIVE youth fun park trip
Tuesday, August 4 at 9 a.m. Shalom Bible Study
(5-week study begins, using *Second Thoughts About Hell* by Allen & Cornwall)
Saturday, August 8 at 3 p.m. OUR TIME – GAMES!
Sunday, August 9 at 3:30 p.m. RESONANCE – alternative worship, fellowship & discussion
Wednesday, August 12 at 5:30 p.m. WATCH SUPPERS RESUME!!

DINNER AT FIVE

This Wednesday, June 24th, our Dinner at Five crew will meet up at Green Tomato Buffet at 5 p.m.. Please let the office know by tomorrow (Monday) afternoon if you are interested: firstpresmoultrie@gmail.com. *Check the bulletin board & lobby tables for the full summer schedule.*

HELPING HANDS BOX: SERENITY HOUSE

Help us this quarter as we collect items to benefit our local refuge for victims of domestic violence. Serenity House needs these items: non-perishable food items, hygiene products, toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning supplies, trash bags, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, diapers/wipes, new socks and new women's underwear.

STEPHEN MINISTRY COMMISSIONING

A NOTE TO WORSHIPERS

Every Christian is called to care for others, and our Stephen Ministry is a powerful way of showing God's caring love in action. Today we are specifically recognizing our newly trained Stephen Leaders—those who will organize, teach, and supervise our Stephen Ministers, the trained caregivers who provide high-quality, one-to-one care to hurting people in our congregation and community.

PRESENTATION OF STEPHEN LEADERS

CHARGING OF RESPONSIBILITIES

STEPHEN MINISTRY VOWS

STEPHEN LEADERS

THE CONGREGATION

THE PASTOR

PRAYER

Gracious God, you have called servants of yours to a new path in caring ministry. You have gifted and empowered them for this task. Grant them joy in their service and a spirit of bold trust in you, that their ministry may stir us to greater caring and more fruitful service. Help us all to be both willing servants and thankful recipients of this ministry, so that your name may be glorified, your people live in peace, and your good and gracious will be done, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

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