



## ***Recognition of 2022 High School Graduates***

***May 15, 2022***

### ***Ethan Isaac Adkins***

Ethan is graduating from Brookland-Cayce High School. He will be attending Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College in the fall, where he will major in Electrical and Instrumentation Technology.

### ***Ella Alicia Blalock***

Ella is graduating from Spring Valley High School. She will be attending Clemson University in the fall, where she will major in Veterinary Science.

### ***Maggie Adele Cooley***

Maggie is graduating from River Bluff High School. She will be attending North Greenville University in the fall, where she will major in Biblical Studies and Communications.

### ***Bruce Lewie Merchant IV***

Tradd is graduating from Gray Collegiate Academy. He will be attending Midlands Tech in the fall, and he is interested in studying Business.

### ***Nathan Sampras Perry***

Sampras is graduating from River Bluff High School. He will be attending Clemson University Honors Program in the fall, where he will major in Biological Science with hopes to go on to medical school.

### ***Katelyn Elizabeth Welch***

Katie is graduating from Brookland-Cayce High School. She will be attending Clemson University in the fall, where she will major in Biological Science.

Today we honor our high school graduates. We honor them, not simply for their academic achievements, but because they are part of our church family. As they stand on the threshold of a new phase of life, we offer them our blessing and our promise to be in constant prayer for them as they face the many changes and challenges of the coming years.

We also recognize this day the parents of these graduates. We know of the commitment and sacrifice you have displayed for the well-being of your children. We honor you today for what you have meant to your child and what your leadership has meant to this church.

As a symbol of care for those graduating from high school, we are providing each graduate a blanket from the church. Graduates, as you have opportunity to wrap yourselves within these blankets, be reminded of the prayers and support of this church which will surround You each day.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, we congratulate you on this milestone of your life's journey. It is both a great achievement and a marker of your readiness to venture into new endeavors. Remember always that which you have received from parents, family, school leaders, and church family. Honor those who have kept you in their love, care, and prayers. Move forward with hope and confidence into the next season of your life. And hear the blessing our church gives you for that journey.

Almighty God, as the body of Christ we come before You now in humble thankfulness for all that You have graciously set before us. Especially do we praise You for the gift of these young men and women of this church whom we honor today. We celebrate with them and rejoice in their completion of high school.

Bless our graduates, we pray, with a life-long hunger for learning, with perseverance as they face the new challenges of higher education and work, and with abiding humility as they grow into adulthood. Most of all, bless them with an ever-increasing love of Your Son, Jesus Christ. May their futures be filled new milestones and markers that lead them, ultimately, to You.

Congratulations on your achievement. Please know that the prayers and hopes of our church go forth with you.

### **Congregational Prayer:**

**God of truth and knowledge, by Your wisdom we are taught the way and the truth. We thank You for those who have taught and worked beside these graduates and for the opportunity to watch them grow in strength and grace. We pray that Your Spirit will walk with these graduates as they move forward in life. Amen.**