



St. George's
Episcopal
Church

Sunday
September 27, 2020

The Seventeenth
Sunday after
Pentecost

You are welcome at
St. George's Church:
Regardless of race,
nationality,
sexual orientation,
gender expression,
or tradition.

September 27, 2020

The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.
- Book of Common Prayer, pg. 855

Welcome to St. George's!

Whether you are worshipping online or in person, we are glad you are here.

Handicap-accessible restrooms are available by the church office. Please ask any usher for directions.



St. George's
Episcopal
Church

Connect with Us

During this time of staying apart, we are finding new ways to connect. If you'd like to find out more about St. George's, please fill out an online Newcomer Card on our website at: bit.ly/stgnewcomer.

To stay up-to-date on the latest news and events, sign up for our weekly e-newsletter, The St. Georgian: bit.ly/stgenews.

Request Prayer

We share in each other's joys and concerns. Send us your prayer requests at: bit.ly/stgprayer.

Giving

Your gifts help fund our ministries and serve the community. You can give by check, electronically or text to give (send a text message with the dollar amount [e.g. \$50] to: 540.701.4133). For assistance, contact Business Manager Ben Hicks: ben.hicks@stgeorgesepiscopal.net.

Pastoral Care

If you have a pastoral emergency (e.g. death, hospitalization, loss of job), please text or call 540.361.8573 to reach the clergy on call. For other pastoral support, feel free to contact clergy directly or one of our lay leaders through the office.

Formation for All Ages

**“Make me to know your ways,
O Lord; teach me your paths.”
Psalm 25:4**

Learning and Growing in Christ

No matter where you are on your faith journey, there's a place for you here.

We offer a number of faith formation opportunities for all ages. You are invited to visit or join at any time.

Worship Schedule:

*New schedule begins next week.
See our website for reservations and updates*

Sundays:

9 am: This pre-recorded service features liturgies from the *Book of Common Prayer* and *Enriching Our Worship*. It is available on YouTube and our website and premieres at 9 am on Facebook.

10 am: Adult formation via Zoom
www.zoom.us/join or call
929.205.6099

Webinar ID: 392 738 239

Password: 107758

10:45 am: Virtual Coffee Hour via Zoom (same login as formation)

11:15 am: Socially Distanced Worship with Holy Communion (weather permitting). Reservations are required each week. This service will also be live streamed.

Thursdays:

12 pm: Noon Prayer on Facebook Live

For Children and Youth Ministry offerings, please contact Hecti Musa (hector.musa@stgeorgesepiscopal.net).

What Are You Looking For?

We'd love to get to know you and to hear your story. Speak with an usher or greeter or contact the church office (office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net).

The Seventeenth Sunday
After Pentecost
September 27, 2020 at 9 am

from the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP), and *Enriching Our Worship*, supplemental liturgical materials approved by the Episcopal Church.

During the prelude, we invite you to prepare for worship by observing silence or taking time for private prayer.

Prelude: Elegie

Louis Vierne

Hymn 686: "Come thou fount of every blessing"

Nettleton

1 Come, thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace!
Streams of mercy never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! O fix me on it,
mount of God's unchanging love.

3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee;
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, oh, take and seal it,
seal it for thy courts above.

2 Here I find my greatest treasure;
hither by thy help, I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy and living God.

People: **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Celebrant: Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

Mark 12:29-31

The Confession

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

All: God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Celebrant: 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.**

Song of Praise: Gloria

John H. Vreeland

Gloria, Gloria, Glory in the highest! (2 times)

To God be glory forever. (2 times)

Gloria, Gloria, Glory in the highest! (2 times)

Alleluia, Amen, Alleluia, Amen. (4 times)

The Word of God

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect (Prayer) of the Day

BCP 234

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Philippians 2:1 - 13

Common English Bible translation (CEB)

Therefore, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort in love, any sharing in the Spirit, any sympathy, complete my joy by thinking the same way, having the same love, being united, and agreeing with each other. Don't do anything for selfish purposes, but with humility think of others as better than yourselves. Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others. Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus: Though he was in the form of God, he did not consider being equal with God something to exploit. But he emptied himself by taking the form of a slave and by becoming like human beings. When he found himself in the form of a human, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God highly honored him and gave him a name

above all names, so that at the name of Jesus everyone in heaven, on earth, and under the earth might bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my loved ones, just as you always obey me, not just when I am present but now even more while I am away, carry out your own salvation with fear and trembling. God is the one who enables you both to want and to actually live out his good purposes.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Alleluia

John Vreeland

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (2 times)

The Word of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul.

The precepts of the Lord rejoice the heart and bring light to the eyes.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! (2 times)

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew 21:23 - 32

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

Common English Bible translation (CEB)

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and elders of the people came to him as he was teaching. They asked, "What kind of authority do you have for doing these things? Who gave you this authority?" Jesus replied, "I have a question for you. If you tell me the answer, I'll tell you what kind of authority I have to do these things. Where did John get his authority to baptize? Did he get it from heaven or from humans?" They argued among themselves, "If we say 'from heaven,' he'll say to us, 'Then why didn't you believe him?' But we can't say 'from humans' because we're afraid of the crowd, since everyone thinks John was a prophet." Then they replied, "We don't know." Jesus also said to them, "Neither will I tell you what kind of authority I have to do these things. "What do you think? A man had two sons. Now he came to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' "No, I don't want to," he replied. But later he changed his mind and went. "The father said the same thing to the other son, who replied, 'Yes, sir.' But he didn't go. "Which one of these two did his father's will?" They said, "The first one." Jesus said to them, "I assure you that tax collectors and prostitutes are entering God's kingdom ahead of you. For John came to you on the righteous road, and you didn't believe him. But tax collectors and prostitutes believed him. Yet even after you saw this, you didn't change your hearts and lives and you didn't believe him.

Deacon or Priest: The Gospel of our Savior.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily

The Rev. Robert M. Miller

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

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.

Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, let us pray to God, saying "God, have mercy."

For the Universal Church, and its members of all traditions across the world, we pray to you, O God.

God, have mercy.

For the mission of the church as the hands and feet of Christ in the world, we pray to you, O God.

God, have mercy.

For this nation and all nations and for all in authority. For wisdom, discernment, and kindness as we prepare for upcoming elections, we pray to you, O God.

God, have mercy.

For the welfare and peace of the world. For creativity and determination to promote flourishing for all and to work in harmony with the Earth which sustains all life, we pray to you, O God.

God, have mercy.

For the grace to give back to you, O God, and to share with others from the abundant blessings we have received from your hand. For the joyful embrace of generosity as a lifelong, joyful, transforming, and liberating response to your call to us, we pray to you, O God.

God, have mercy.

For all those who suffer or are in any kind of trouble. For prisoners, captives, and refugees. For victims of natural and human-made disasters. For all those who are targets of injustice and for the courage to stand with them. For all who are in ill-health, we pray to you, O God.

God, have mercy.

For an end to the COVID-19 pandemic. For all who are ill and caring for them. For all those whose lives have been turned upside down. For the wisdom and will to do what is helpful and loving, especially toward those who are vulnerable, we pray to you O God.

God, have mercy.

For all who have died, may they have eternal rest. For all who mourn, we pray to you, O God.

God, have mercy.

For all those concerns we name now, silently or aloud...*[silence kept]* we pray to you, O God.

God, have mercy.

Silence

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

All are now invited to exchange a sign of peace with a wave or bow.

Announcements

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. We invite you to share your gifts in support of our ministry within and beyond our congregation. You may place your gift in the offering plate. You can also give online (bit.ly/stggive) or text to give (send a text message with the dollar amount [e.g. \$50] to: 540.701.4133).

Hymn 679: "Surely it is God who saves me"

Thomas Merton

**1 Surely it is God who saves me,
trusting him, I shall not fear.
For the Lord defends and shields me
and his saving help is near.
So rejoice as you draw water
from salvations' living spring;
in the day of your deliverance
thank the Lord, his mercies sing.**

**2 Make his deeds know to the peoples;
tell out his exalted Name.
Praise the Lord, who has done great
things;
all his works his might proclaim.
Zion, lift your voice in singing;
for with you has come to dwell;
in your very midst,
the great and Holy One of Israel.**

Celebrant: Let us now join in the prayer that Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer for the Power of the Spirit Among the People of God

God of all power and love, we give thanks for your unfailing presence and the hope you provide in times of uncertainty and loss. Send your Holy Spirit to enkindle in us your holy fire. Revive us to live as Christ's body in the world: a people who pray, worship, learn, break bread, share life, heal neighbors, bear good news, seek justice, rest and grow in the Spirit. Wherever and however we gather, unite us in common prayer and send us in common mission, that we and the whole creation might be restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

The congregation responds

Thanks be to God!

Postlude: September in the Rain

Announcements

For details on these events
and more visit

stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Worship Schedule Changes

As of October 4, we will shift our in-person, outdoor worship service from 7:45 am to 11:15 am, a simple celebration of the Holy Eucharist that will also be shared live on Facebook. We also recently received permission from the Diocese to resume the Eucharist and know that many are eager to participate.

We are still confirming whether the service will happen in our graveyard or possibly in Market Square. We will send a special email next week confirming all these details as well as information on who to make reservations. Thank you for your understanding as we continue to adapt and offer our praise to God in these changing times. -Your rector, Joe+

Blessing of the Animals: October 4

On Sunday, October 4 from 4 - 6 pm at Hurkamp Park, St. George's clergy will offer "walk-by" blessings and greetings at a safe distance in honor of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Bring your four-legged, furry, feathered, friends!

300th Anniversary Celebrations

Make plans to join us on November 1 for a virtual panel discussion with Rev. Joe Hensley, Rev. Jim Dannals, Rev. Charles Sydnor, and Ann (Faulkner) Ridgway via Zoom. Rev. Ed Jones will moderate the discussion. Stay tuned for more information!

Children's Formation

For our children in Pre-K – 5th Grade, we will offer online formation from September 27 through Christmas. In lieu of in-person formation, St. George's will be offering pre-recorded formational videos each week that will invite children to worship and explore our traditions. We will also incorporate activities for different age levels, and hope to provide opportunities for in-person gathering this Fall. For more information please contact Hecti Musa (hector.musa@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

Youth Formation and Youth Group

Starting September 27 and continuing through Christmas, in lieu of our normal in-person gathering at church, St. George's will be inviting youth grades 6 - 12 into a deeper discussion on topics that inform our faith. Grades 6 - 8 will meet online on Sundays from 5 - 6 pm and grades 9 - 12 from 6 - 7 pm. The first 6-week conversation will explore working for justice for all in our world. The second 6-weeks will focus on environmental stewardship and caring for God's creation. We also plan to offer opportunities for in-person, distanced gatherings throughout the Fall. For more information please contact Hecti Musa (hector.musa@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

St. George's Prayer List

"Prayer is powerful"
James 5:16

Regarding the Prayer List: We strive to extend the power of the congregation's prayer to those who feel they would benefit from its embrace. Please submit prayer requests in writing. New additions this week are in italics. For rehabilitation, concerns, and grace and assistance lists, we keep a name on the list for 1 month, unless asked to do otherwise. If a name is removed that should still be on, please contact the church office to have their name returned to the list.

Pray for our leadership:

For our bishops, Justin, Michael, Susan, Porter, and Jennifer; for Joe, Areeta, Bob, Will and David our clergy; for those who are priests and pastors in our community; for our staff—John, Ben, Jan, Nicholas, Amy, Danielle, Lisa, Achim, Hecti, Laurel, Barbara, Emily, and Riley; and for our Vestry.

Pray for those expecting babies:

Andrea Wilkins and Thomas Cunningham, daughter of Marsha Wilkins; Christina and Baker Nicholaou, daughter of Anna and Paul Colopy; Jason Hudson and fiance Sam, son of Mary and John Vreeland; Hunter and Katie Guerin, son of Jane and Newton Guerin; Jordan and Chris Hinkebein; Lilian Seay and Eddie Larkin

Pray for those recently born:

Jacob James Long, son of Katie and Christopher Long, and grandson of Brian and Lisa Long.

Pray for those who have recently died:

Myles W.H. Gaythwaite, brother of Dori Eglevsky; John "Jack" Harris, brother of Bill Harris; Thomas "Tinker" Brown, Jr., father of Cynthia Ellis and grandfather of Morgan Ellis; Barbara "Jinxie" Forbush; *Barbara Creaser, mother of Caroline Pritchard.*

Pray for All who are affected during the COVID-19 pandemic, including:

All those sick with the novel corona virus and their loved ones, those who have died, health workers and chaplains, undertakers, food workers, internet service workers, educators, social service providers, families at home adjusting to new routines and roles, homeless neighbors with nowhere to shelter, government and community leaders, all who are out of work, and so many others.

Pray for healthcare workers and first responders:

Dr. Betsy Schinstock, Dr. Heather Masters, Cameron Simmons, Elizabeth Anderson, Morgan Ellis, Leilani Blose, John Gleason, Brad Houck, Jeffrey French, Susan Larson, Randi Thompson, Robin Rose, Zach Rose, Suzanne Simmons, William McNitt, Heidi Taft, Charlotte Martin, Ashley Ellsworth, Philip Pendleton, Dr. John Chinault, Dr. Mark Macedon, Dr. Jeniffer Huhn, Dr. Joe Lee, Amy Bogardus, Kristen Brandford.

St. George's Prayer List

"Prayer is powerful"
James 5:16

Pray for those serving our country overseas:

Ian Patrick Hume, Andrew Rodriguez, Mariah Stanton.

Pray for homebound parishioners:

Bill Poole, Judy Barton, All persons in care facilities who cannot receive visitors right now, Anne Brooks Brauer.

Pray for those in rehabilitation or in convalescence:

Al Sharp, Kitty Lacey, Kathleen Pool, Steve Cronk, Virginia Boyd, Dottie Davis, Wayne Harman, Russ Carter, Anne, Dwight, Paula Mullins, Marion Zimmerman, George Barnick, Bill Poole, Scott Ellsworth, Barbara Perry, Anne Irving, Margaret Martin, Dick Roth, Jim Weber, *Jennifer Dorigatti*.

Pray for those with ongoing concerns:

Arya Holmes, Molly Myers, Wayne and Dot Morris, Scott Boyd, Paris Swisher, Tom Pugh, Pam Allen, Just Thompson.

Pray for those who need God's grace and assistance:

Richard Hu, Pam Webb, Kathy Maxfield and the family of Mary H. Shortall, *Luke Miller, Herb, Jean Blose, Tim Waltonen, Peggy Conway*.

Pray for those in discernment: Kris Boyd.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for: The Episcopal House of Bishops

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we

pray for: Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan, The Most Rev. Ezekiel Kumir Kondo - Archbishop of the Province of Sudan & Bishop of Khartoum.

Pray for: Our Little Roses (Honduras); Notre Dame Parish and School (Port-au-Prince, Haiti), Père Frantz Cole; Red Door Young Adult Ministry; SAWS Virginia; Rev. Ōshin Jennings, No Barriers Zen Temple; Micah Ecumenical Ministries (our work to do justice, love, mercy, and walk humbly with our God along with other congregations in Fredericksburg).

Pray for: St. George's Preschool.

Pray for: Stephen Ministers, St. George's lay pastoral care visitors, and their ministry of spiritual and emotional support for others in the congregation.

Contact Staff

**For pastoral emergencies:
540.361.8573**

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Vestry

If you have questions or concerns,
please reach out to our Vestry
(elected lay leaders).

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Serving This Sunday

Thank you to our worship leaders serving today. If you would like to volunteer, contact the church office: office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net.

Clergy:

The Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.
The Rev. Will Dickinson
The Rev. David P. Casey, O.P.

Preacher:

The Rev. Robert M. Miller

Lector:

Chris Dorle

ASL Interpreter:

Beth Klein

Music:

John Vreeland, Organ
St. George Jazz Ensemble
Diane Powell, Vocals
Ralph Powell, Vocals

Videographer:

Nicholas Perron

St. George's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr., Rector
The Rev. Areeta D. Bridgemohan,
Associate Rector
The Rev. Will Dickinson,
Acting Associate Rector

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