



St. George's
Episcopal
Church

Invitation to a Holy Lent 2021

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

Invitation to a Holy Lent

Lent is our season to grow in faith and prepare for the celebration of new life at Easter. Although we are observing the season without gathering in-person, we are still invited to open our hearts to connecting in new ways with God and each other and setting apart these 40 days as a holy time. This year at St. George's, we are also celebrating and reflecting on our past 300 years. As such, we have selected 'Storytelling' as our theme for Lent. A time to meditate on the sacred story of scripture, the story of our community and that of our individual spiritual journeys.

Worship and Learning: Sundays

9 am: Live stream service via YouTube Live and posted to Facebook after the service ends.

10 am: Adult Forum on Zoom.

5:30 pm: 3rd Sundays of the month. Celtic Evensong live stream service via YouTube Live and posted to Facebook after the service ends.

8 pm: Facebook Live Sung Compline via our Compline Facebook Page.

Ash Wednesday - February 17

12 pm: Live stream service via YouTube Live and posted to Facebook after the service. You may impose ashes on yourself or members of your household, using ashes provided by St. George's, or you can make your own.

Holy Week: March 28 - April 4

March 28: Palm Sunday - our 9 am live stream service will include the Liturgy of the Palms and Passion.

Tuesday, March 29: Pre-recorded Compline service premieres at 7 pm on Facebook.

Thursday, April 1: Live stream Maundy Thursday Service with Stripping of the Altar at 7 pm on YouTube Live.

Friday, April 2: Live stream Good Friday Service at 12 pm on YouTube Live.

Saturday, April 3: Holy Saturday Service at 8:30 am on Facebook Live; Liturgy of the Light, 5 pm; Great Easter Vigil livestreamed at 8 pm via YouTube Live.

Sunday, April 4: Micah Churches Sunrise Service 6:30 am at FUMC (308 Hanover St.). Easter Sunday Service at 9 am via YouTube Live. TBA: Easter afternoon outdoor service at Fredericksburg Fairgrounds.

Special Events for Lent Haiti Benefit Concert - March 5

St. George's annual concert to benefit our shared ministry in Haiti, postponed from its usual New Year's Eve date, will premiere on our Facebook page on Friday, March 5th at 7:30 pm. This year's event will showcase our entire music program and feature our Choirs, Jazz Ensemble, Bell Choir and four organists. In addition, there will be short videos and other media highlighting our ongoing relationship and work in Haiti. The concert is free with donations to benefit our Haiti ministry accepted.

Youth Holy Hike - March 21

Middle and high school youth are invited to join Hecti and Fr. Will and seek new ways to experience the holiness of God in our own backyard. We will meet March 21, 2021 in St. George's graveyard at 1pm and the city we are blessed to call home.

Pick up is at Fredericksburg train station at 3:30 pm after a stop at Agora coffee shop for some coffee/tea (provided by the church). To sign up for the holy hike please contact Hecti Musa at: hecti.musa@st-georgesepiscopal.net by March 14, 2021.

ECW Quiet Day - March 6 11 am - 3 pm

Join us for a Lenten quiet day hosted by the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Virginia (ECW). The Very Rev. Kim Coleman will lead the retreat reflecting on these four questions: What do you love? What have you lost? Where do you hurt? What do you dream? Suggested donation of \$25 can be sent to the ECW treasurer, Kaaron Austin, 7319 Willson Road, Henrico, VA 23231. Please include your name and email address. Register online at: <http://bit.ly/2NfqJuY>.

Daughters of the King Retreat

All are invited to join the St. George's chapter for a retreat on Saturday March 20 from 10am – 2pm. It will be a reflective time of hiking, prayer, meditation and art projects. It will take place outdoors at Shelter 1 at Widewater State Park in Stafford County. There is a cost of \$5/car to park. Please contact Candace Allshouse (dominiceltic@aol.com) to register.

Outdoor Labyrinth Walk

Join us for an outdoor labyrinth and meditation path prayer walk (weather permitting) on Palm Sunday, March 28th from 2-3 pm. We will meet at 25 Chalice Circle, Fredericksburg VA 22405. If you are interested in joining us, please email the Rev. Areeta (areeta@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

Stories from St. George's

The History Committee is pleased to present a webinar on St. George's early History on March 9 at 7 pm. Join parishioners Craig Rains and Trip Wiggins to hear about the early days of our beloved parish. Zoom info forthcoming.

300th Anniversary History Lecture

On March 16 at 7 pm via Zoom, local historian John Hennessy will give a presentation highlighting the context of St. George's in history. Stay tuned to our website for the Zoom information.

Sharing Generosity

Give to St. George's:

You can make a gift in memory of or thanksgiving for a loved one or in celebration of the blessings in your life. Give [online](#) or mail a check to the church, designating your memorial/thanksgiving. We will publish memorials in the church bulletin and newsletter for Easter.

Giving Alms:

Let charitable giving become a spiritual practice. Support the United Thank Offering of the Episcopal Church through the blue giving box. Put money in the box as you count your blessings. The 2021 offering supports creation care projects. We will collect the boxes later in the spring. Or select another charity such as Micah Ministries and contribute regularly in Lent.

Individual and Household Practices

Come, Pray:

This Lent the brothers from the Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE) will be offering a weekly video and daily resources to nurture our prayer lives. If you have also signed up for the prayer partners, this resource will enrich your prayer. To sign up and for more information, you visit: www.ssje.org/comepray/

Rite of Reconciliation:

If you would like to arrange a private confession of sin, please contact one of the clergy directly. They will instruct you about how to prepare and arrange a safe way to meet in-person or by phone/online.

Micah Ministries Wednesday Prayers:

Continuing the tradition of worshipping in each other's churches during Lent, the nine member congregations of Micah Ministries will gather online for prayers and a homily by clergy on Wednesdays at noon in Lent. See the weekly St. Georgian for more information.

Lent-to-Go Bags:

These bags will contain lots of goodies for your Lenten journey, like ashes, a Lenten devotional, a Lent madness book (see description below), children's Lenten coloring book, and more! They will be available for pickup at the church on February 14, 2021 from 12 - 2 pm in front of Faulkner Hall. There is a suggested donation of \$10 (we ask that all donations be made online to help minimize contact). For more information, contact Hecti Musa at: hecti.musa@stgeorgesepiscopal.net.

Lent Madness:

Each year, congregations across the Church fill out their brackets and choose which saint will win the Golden Halo. This year's matchups include folks like Joan of Arc, Absalom Jones, and Euphrosyne of Alexandria (who disguised herself as a male to enter a monastery in the 5th century!). Vote in each day's matchup and follow the progress of your favorite saints until the winner is crowned on Wednesday of Holy Week. Each Lent bag contains a booklet with info about each saint and your very own bracket. Keep an eye on Facebook as the bracket's progress is announced each week.

Fasting?:

What does "fasting" mean in our tradition? Join our rector, Joe Hensley, to learn more about practices of fasting, abstinence and self-denial in Lent that are truly about self-love and health. Thursday, February 18, 7:30 pm on Zoom. Meeting ID: 819 5352 3375 Passcode: 834922

Stations of the Cross:

Keep an eye on the George Street courtyard of the church during lent! For centuries, Lent has been an opportunity to pray for ourselves and others by praying through 14 moments in Jesus' passion. We will be placing stations of the cross in the courtyard as a resource for prayer, complete with a suggested liturgy. Come by yourself or bring a friend and engage this embodied form of prayer. We will send out an announcement when the stations are in place.

Praying the Daily Office:

Would you like to include any or all of the daily prayers of the church into your Lent routine? (morning, noon, evening prayer or compline)? Please contact Rev. Will (will.dickinson@stgeorgesepiscopal.net) to be connected into a community that will offer encouragement and instruction and possibly find ways to pray together.

Bible Challenge Part 2: The Apocrypha

For those of you who have wondered about those books of the Bible between the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament, here's your opportunity to read them in community! We will also have two 10am Sunday forums led by parishioner and Ancient Near East scholar, Dr. Chris Rollston on Stories of the Apocrypha. To join the Bible Challenge part 2, please email Rev. Joe Hensley (joe.hensley@stgeorgesepiscopal.net). You do not have to have done Part 1 to participate.
