



St. George's
Episcopal
Church

Celtic Evensong with Holy Communion

Easter Sunday

April 9, 2023 at 5:30 pm

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

Easter Day

from the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP), *Enriching Our Worship*, and forms of prayer from around the world.

April 9, 2023

We invite you to prepare for worship by observing silence or taking time for private prayer. Please take a moment to silence cell phones and alarms. We are glad you are here!

We welcome you to this service, whether you have been here often or if this is your first time. Please use this bulletin as your guide to participate. Please note the announcements about ways to connect and upcoming events. May this time of worship and prayer be a blessing to you.

Prelude

One minute of silence follows the prelude. Please rise or rise in spirit at the ringing of the bell.

Opening Reading:

"For all who have never seen the Easter light"

Stephen Charleston

Let us hold high a single candle,
a beacon of invitation.

Remember, the light came not for those in dawn
but shadow.

We have walked this way before, but for others
it is a detour uncertain.

How many have no idea of what it is we do
or why? Can we count them? Before I step
into the warmth, I will recall the cold,
for I once knew how precious a thing
a single candle could be.

Hymn 178: "Alleluia, alleluia"

Alleluia No. 1

Gather in God's Name

A Prayer for the Evening

Officiant: We light a candle in the name of the Maker,

People: who lit the world and breathed the breath of life for us...

Officiant: We light a candle in the name of the Son,

People: who saved the world and stretched out his hand to us...

Officiant: We light a candle in the name of the Spirit,

People: who encompasses the world and blesses our souls with yearning...

Proclaim and Respond to the Word of God

The Reading from the Gospel

Matthew 28:1 - 10

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Silence is observed after the reading

Meditation

the Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.

Two minutes of silence will follow.

Music for Meditation

Pray for the World and the Church

Officiant: He is risen indeed, O God. We join together in prayer and praise in this joyful season, saying

Hear us, risen Christ: Alleluia, hear our prayer.

Leader 1: We tell out the Good News with joyful voice! Bless the whole Church throughout the world, especially our Diocese and St. George's Church.

Hear us, risen Christ:

Alleluia, hear our prayer.

Leader 2: You have opened heaven's gate! Inspire all ministers who witness to your glory on earth, especially our lay and clergy leaders, Jane, Michele, Joe, Will, Rosemary, Ethan, and Jake.

Hear us, risen Christ:

Alleluia, hear our prayer.

Leader 1: Jesus has burst his three days' prison! Help us proclaim release to all in captivity, freedom to all oppressed, food for those who hunger, and safety to those who fear.

Hear us, risen Christ:

Alleluia, hear our prayer.

Leader 2: Death's long shadows have departed. Bring peace to places ravaged by violence, especially Ukraine and Haiti, and bring peace to the fear and anger in our own hearts.

Hear us, risen Christ:

Alleluia, hear our prayer.

Leader 1: We are risen to a holier state! Help us to live out the grace we have been given, and hear the prayers we bring with us today, silently or aloud:

Silence

Hear us, risen Christ:

Alleluia, hear our prayer.

Officiant: Jesus Christ, alive and risen, keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to pray together with one voice and one heart; for you are alive and give us life through the power of the spirit to the glory of God. **Amen.**

If you like, please come forward during the music and light a candle as an embodied symbol of your prayer. Please help us to keep a bit of distance between one another.

Music for Meditation

"Come and fill"

Taize

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone O Lord are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, alleluia!

Officiant: Let us pray, alternating sides of the church, beginning on this side (lectern/north):

Lectern/north side: Eternal Spirit Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Pulpit/south side: source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all.

Lectern: Loving God, in whom is heaven,

Pulpit: the hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

Lectern: The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth!

Pulpit: Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Lectern: Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

Pulpit: With the bread we need for today, feed us.

Lectern: In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

Pulpit: In times of temptation and test, spare us.

Lectern: From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

Pulpit: For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.

Amen.

Exchange the Peace

Officiant: Christ has broken down the dividing wall and has proclaimed peace and wholeness to those who were far off and to those who were near. My siblings, brothers, and sisters, the Peace of our Savior Jesus Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

All are now invited to exchange a sign of peace.

Prepare the Table

As we prepare to make Eucharist, the holy feast of thanksgiving and grace, we present ourselves and our gifts to God and remember that Jesus said, "Abide in my love...I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete."

It is a joy to gather together this evening, and we especially welcome anyone who is visiting or here for the first time. Please see more information in the bulletin notes and feel free to introduce yourself after the service. There are also printed instructions about receiving communion or a blessing.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. As the table is prepared, we invite you to consider a gift in support of our ministry within and beyond our congregation. Make your offering online (<http://bit.ly/stggive>), in the alms basin provided in the aisle, or by mail to the church. Please note the announcements at the rear of this bulletin. For the latest updates and messages of encouragement, check our website (StGeorgesEpiscopal.net) and subscribe to our email newsletter (<http://bit.ly/stgenews>).

Music for Meditation

Make Eucharist

Please stand.

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And with your spirit

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Holy Ruler of all creation.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds:

O God of mystery and promise, you invite us to discover you in the intimate places of ourselves and our lives. You invite us to discover you within the complexities of our humanity, in passionate and tender loving, in struggle and pain, in confusion and unknowing, in flashes of insight and wisdom. You also call us beyond ourselves to places of imagination, beyond the silent stars, in the deep rhythms of the ocean, in the unending cycles of day and night, seasons of life and death. With saints and ancestors, with the seas and earth and sky, with animals and birds, with our friends and those unknown to us, with all creation we join in the song of your unending glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest, the highest.**

The Celebrant proceeds:

We praise you that in Jesus Christ you make known to us the wonder and richness of our humanity. We give thanks for his life-giving love, for his healing touch, for his vulnerability and for his gentleness. Before he gave up his life, he shared his humanity, his flesh and blood with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks for it, broke it and gave it to them saying:

Together

"This is my own body given for you. Do this to remember me."

So too after they had eaten, he took wine, gave thanks for it and gave it to them saying:

Together

"This is my blood, poured out in love for you. Do this to remember me."

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Come now, Spirit of God, come upon us and upon this bread and wine. Make us one body, food for the world, one blood to be poured out for the life of all. Touch us with your gentle creativity and fire us with longing for the new age of justice and peace. We ask this through Jesus who gave his body that we might be one and his blood that we might find new life. With him, and through him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be to you, O God, all honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: I invite us to pray as Jesus taught his disciples:

People and Celebrant:

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 for ever. Amen.

Break the Bread and Share the Gifts of God

"O, Risen Lord"

Ralph R. Stewart

All echo the cantor.

**O risen Lord, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**O risen Lord, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**O risen Lord, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.**

Celebrant: This is the table, not of the Church, but of our God. It is made ready for those who love God and those who want to love 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 God who invites you. It is Love's will that those who want God should meet Love here.

Those who wish to receive communion may come forward when invited by an usher, staying single file and maintaining a generous distance. To receive the wafer of bread, the body of Christ, extend your open hands and we will gently drop a wafer into your hand without making contact. Gluten free wafers are available; just tell us of your need. Once you have received the wafer, return to your seat when you can briefly remove your mask and reverently consume the bread. If you do not wish to receive the bread and would like a blessing, come forward with you hands across your chest.

Music during Communion

After Communion

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Please stand.

All: Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew us and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.

A Blessing for Easter

May the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Savior Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, make you perfect in every good work to do the will of God; and the blessing of the one, holy and undivided Trinity, the author of creation, the bearer of salvation, and the advocate of life, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go into the World

Hymn 193: "That Easter day with joy was bright"

Puer nobis

The Dismissal

Officiant: Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be upon you always. **Amen.** *Source: Clare of Assisi*

Postlude

Acknowledgments

The Opening Reading by Steven Charleston. The Prayer for the Evening is from Iona. Prayer inspired by The Lord's Prayer from A New Zealand Prayer Book, Harper Collins, 1977.

Gratitude Offering

Thank you to all those who donated to St. George's in gratitude for blessings or in memory or honor of others. Every gift is a reminder of God's gift of grace.

In Memory of:

Rose Alston

by Michael and Michele Alston

Alexandra and Robert Randall Apperson

by Jack A. Apperson

Lost loved ones

by Jessica B. Atkinson

Curtis and Virginia Backus and Herbert and Sue Millet

by Curtis and Barbara Backus

Ellen Alvey Montllor

by Pamela Booth

John Garretson Brokaw III

by Brenda Brokaw

Frances Gay DeGaris Bullock and Robert Oliver Bullock

by Pam Jewett Bullock and Charles Bullock

Beryle Cooper Pyle and Chester Vernon Pyle

by Pam Jewett Bullock and Charles Bullock

Daniel and Phyllis Poppen

by Pam Jewett Bullock and Charles Bullock

Howard Burns

by Kit Burns

Mark Burroughs

by Joyce Burroughs

Rachel Carey

by Kevin Carey

William Cheatham

by Iris Cheatham

Carole Coen and Leon Rose

by Ron Coen and JoAnne Rose

Ginny Morton

by Bill Cole

James Durham (David's father) and Clifford Goulette (Lisa's father)

by David and Lisa Durham

Janet Fray

by Mike Fray

Gratitude Offering

Max and Luise Goerlinger

by Lorey Goerlinger

Betty Golembiewski

by Aron Golembiewski

Our parents

by Lewis and Susan Graves

Loved Ones

by Lucy Harman

Michael Kole, husband, father and grandfather

by Marcia Kole

Sue C. Lang and William Schwarz

by Julie and Bob Lang

Harald Loch and Walter Perdue

by Laurel and Achim Loch

Our men and women in the Armed Services who went before us

by Elizabeth Martel

Edward W. McElhinney

by Shaun McElhinney

Loved Ones

by Jan and Tom Meredith

Loved Ones

by Liz Myers

My parents, James and Marjorie Graham

by Judy G. Norton

John Francis O'Connor, Cline D. Barton, Jr., Judith H. Barton and Shawn T. Endler

by Michael and Anne Carey O'Connor

Bob O'Neill

by Mary Jane Pitts O'Neill

Robert and Thomas Poisal

by Georgine B. Poisal

Tom Pugh

by Leslie Pugh

Norman Schlemm, Jr.

by Schlemm Family

Matt Sers

by Soni and Joe Sers

Robert Austin Smith

by Peter and Judy Smith

Gratitude Offering

Marilyn Smith

by Susan Smith Karp

Jinxie and Warren Forbush

by Sarah Forbush Southworth

Mary Elizabeth and Garrick Lightowler

by Carol Sweaney

Our parents and grandparents

by Bob and Pam Thompson

Steven Patrick Dodd

by Patricia Wiedel

Barbara Pratt Willis, Jere M.H. Willis, Phoebe E. Willis, Richard T. Pratt, Jr., Frances B. Pratt

by Jere M. H. Willis, Jr.

My grandmother, Helen Gunther

by Kathy Wirtala

Our parents and grandparents

By Ed and Karen Wright

In Thanksgiving for:

Cindy Helton for her service/ministry- women of Virginia Diocese

by Anonymous

Vicki Harrison for her service/ministry-Altar Guild

by Anonymous

St. George's

by Kathleen Bonck

Our children: Harrison III, Grace Anne and Bill

by Harrison and Gail Braxton

Our family, friends and St. George's

by Peter and Barbara Bumsted

Our children and grandchildren

by Champe and Ranny Corbin

Our abundant blessings

by Brian and Danielle Davis

All the blessings of this life

by Jacqueline DePaulitte

Our great-grandson, Max

by Joe Dreyer and Peggy Verdine

Suzan Voga Duffee passing her US citizenship test

by Lawrence and Voga Duffee

Gratitude Offering

Joanna, Mike, Scott, Maureen and Charlie

by Mike Fray

Our family

by Lewis and Susan Graves

The Haliday children: Emily, Christian and Catherine

by Debbie Haliday

Our children: Monecia Shelton and William L. Helton, Jr.

by Bill and Cindy Helton

Our children and grandchildren: Vanessa, Elizabeth, Lauren and Charles, Ella,

Owen Eliza and Lily

by Alan and Gail Howard

My children and my grandchildren

by Beverley G. King

All the blessings of this life

by Marcia Kole

My parish family

by Elizabeth Martel

All those who are helping my handicapped great-grandson, Jesse Rudolph

by Miriam Parsons

Jack Simmons

by Jane Shelhorse

Austin, Abigail, Corbin and Greer

by Susan Tyler

My children and grandchildren

by Sharon Wasington-Kohler

Our family

by Mark and Nancy Williams

In Honor of:

Our family

by Jack Allison and Mary Ann Stana

The Uffs

by Jessica B. Atkinson

St. George's Staff and Clergy

by Anne Beals

Healthcare professionals

by Pam Jewett Bullock and Charles Bullock

Maur

by Mike Fray

Gratitude Offering

Paul Mauck

By Maureen Friedheim

Herb and Martha Smith

by Thomas and Kathy Hitt

Easter Season

by Brenda H. Hynson

Father Joe Hensley

by Elizabeth Martel

St. George's Staff

by Peggy Mathias

St. George's Clergy and Staff

by Jan and Tom Meredith

The faculty and staff at Fredericksburg Academy

by Karen Moschetto

Ann and Ron Tebbutt

by Mary and Bob Ryan

Stephanie Sers

by Soni and Joe Sers

Charlie and Charlotte Fletcher

by Connie Smith

Bill and Cindy Helton

by Mollie H. Taylor

Our children and grandchildren

by Bob and Pam Thompson

In gratitude:

by Tina Bell

For healing

by Susan and Reggie Harrison

For the staff and vestry of St. George's

by the Rev. Joe Hensley and Sarah White

by Liz Myers

by David Ramsey

Mark Your Calendars

For the latest news and events,
sign up for our weekly e-newsletter,
The St. Georgian:
StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/enews

Special Thanks to Our Flower Guild

The beautiful flowers you see are thanks to the loving artistry and ministry of our flower guild. We hope you enjoy these blooms as a living symbol of resurrection. As a special thank you, those who donated to our Gratitude Offering are invited to take home an Easter Lily following the 11:15 am service on Easter Sunday.

Easter Egg Hunt Returns!

Our beloved Annual Easter Egg Hunt is back Easter Sunday at 10:15 am. A big thank you to all of our volunteers helping stuff and hide the eggs. 1-3 years search in Market Square; 4-7 years search Renwick Courtyard, and 8-11 years search our Graveyard.

Youth Confirmation Classes Coming!

Classes for youth (13 and up) interested in confirmation begin April 16 during the Formation Hour at 10 am and continue for 7 weeks, taught by Fr. Will and some guest stars. We'll explore owning our own faith, what role church might play in our lives as we mature. These classes prepare youth for our bishop visitation on May 7 and continue until the end of the program year. Contact Fr. Will to sign up!

Rogation Sunday: May 14

We will pray for Mother Earth and invite you to bring garden tools, seeds, or plants to be blessed at morning worship services.

Concert Series Continues: April 16

Our monthly concert series continues on Sunday, April 16 at 3 pm with music by Laurie Rose Griffith and Peter Mealy with John and Mary Vreeland. Don't miss this eclectic mix of classics, including Crosby, Stills, and Nash, Paul Simon, and more, plus original music. The concert is free with donations accepted at the door.

Shrine Mont Sunday - April 30

Join us at the Adult Forum on Sunday, April 30 at 10:15 am (in person or on Zoom) as we unveil the theme for this year's Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont! Registrations open that day, and everyone who registers and pays in full on Sunday will be entered into a drawing for one free registration for our weekend (October 6-8). Any questions, please contact Danielle Davis at danielle@stgeorgesepiscopal.net.

Ascension Day Service May 18, 7 pm

Join us at 7 pm on Thursday, May 18 for a regional celebration of Christ's Ascension with worship and Holy Eucharist.

Summer Schedule Resumes May 28

On Sunday, May 28 - Pentecost Sunday - we will shift to our "summer schedule" with services at 7:45 am, 10 am, and 5:30 pm. Our Compline service takes a break as well as Sunday school classes.

Outdoor Worship and Parish Picnic

We will hold our 10 am service on June 4 outside, weather permitting, at Hurkamp Park. More information to come.

Get Involved

Questions? Or would you like to get connected with clergy? Please contact the church office: 540.373.4133
office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

How are you called to serve?

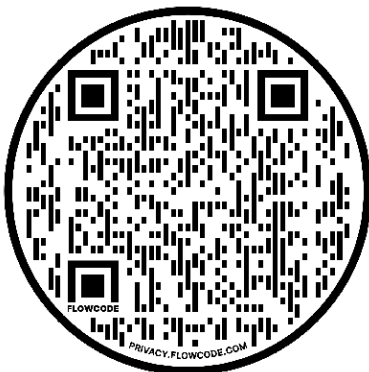
Serving builds our parish and local community as we give thanks to God and follow Christ's example.

There are a number of ways you can get involved at St. George's:

- Worship leaders and support teams
- Music ministries (singers and instrumentalists)
- The Table - our market style food pantry that shares fresh produce with those experiencing food insecurity
- Media and technical support for livestream services
- Extending care and prayer for church members
- Volunteering with our children and youth ministries

Want to learn more?

Contact the church office (540.373.4133, office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net), visit: www.stgeorgesepiscopal.net/share, or scan the QR code below.



Pastoral Care

If you have a pastoral care emergency (death, serious illness, job loss) and need to speak with clergy, please call or text 540.361.8573 to reach clergy on call.

Pastoral Care at St. George's is a ministry of the clergy and the laity. By walking with each other through times of joy and times of sorrow, we show the love of Christ to all.

Need prayer? We offer an email prayer chain as well as an intercessory prayer group. Our One Body Response Team (OBRT) offers prayers, sends cards, and responds to other needs as able. Request prayers online (stgeorgesepiscopal.net/prayer) or by contacting the church office.

Prayer Quilts and Prayer Shawls are available upon request. These mantles of healing and comfort are made by our ministry teams and prayers are said for the recipient in the making of each shawl or quilt.

We also offer a "Writing our Way to Wholeness" group on Zoom for anyone experiencing loss. For more information and to enroll contact our church office (540.373.4133; office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net).

If you need support or encouragement, please consider reaching out to our church office (540.373.4133; office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net).

Can you pray, knit, quilt, write, or cook? Contact the church office or speak to a member of clergy about sharing your gifts with our pastoral care ministries.



Contact Staff

**For pastoral emergencies:
540.361.8573**

the Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.
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Vestry

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

To reach the Vestry, please email: vestry@stgeorgesepiscopal.net. To reach an individual vestry member, please contact the church office at office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net or 540.373.4133.

Jane McDonald, 2023

Senior Warden

Michele Prout Alston, 2024

Junior Warden

Meghan O'Connor, 2023

Finance Warden

Mac Smith, 2024

Grounds Warden

Casey Hu, 2023

Beth Klein, 2023

John Graham, 2024

Anne Carey O'Connor, 2024

Brian Davis, 2025

Brooke Di Lauro, 2025

Pete Kelly, 2025

Peggy Verdine, 2025

Serving This Sunday

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

Preacher:

The Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.

Celebrant:

The Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.

Officiant:

David C. Primmer

Chalice Bearers:

David C. Primmer

Mary Jane O'Neill

Candle Set up:

Marilyn Farrington

Reader:

Gina Moriarty

Greeter:

Marilyn Farrington

Usher:

Jack Farrington

Prayers:

Sharon Null

Musicians:

Jon Bachman, guitar

Laurel Loch, voice

Achim Loch, piano

Contact Our Vestry:

The Vestry is our elected, lay leadership council led by our Senior Warden Jane McDonald and Junior Warden Michele Prout Alston.

The Vestry welcomes your questions, concerns, and feedback. Email them at: vestry@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

St. George's Episcopal Church

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Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 7127

Fredericksburg, VA 22404

540.373.4133 (office)

Pastoral Emergencies:

540.361.8573 (call or text)

StGeorgesEpiscopal.net
