
Liturgy of the Light

March 30, 2024



The Liturgy of the Light service celebrates the Light of Christ that has come into the world and shines anew in the dawn of Easter.

The service is prepared by the children, for the children.



St. George's
Episcopal
Church

Liturgy of the Light

March 30, 2024

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 worshiping online or in person, we are glad you are here.

Office Hours

Please note our office is closed April 1 - 2. If you have a pastoral emergency and need to speak with clergy, please call or text 540.361.8573.

Connect with Us

We'd love to get to know you and help get you connected with our parish ministries, formation, and fellowship groups.



Visit StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/connect or scan the QR code and we'll be in touch. You can also fill out the Newcomer Card in your pew and drop it in the offering plate.

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

Giving

We believe in a generous, loving, and giving God. We invite our church family to embrace generosity as a lifelong, joyful, transforming, and liberating response to God's call to us. Thank you for your generous support.

Note that cash or offerings designated "Good Friday Offering" will be given to the four dioceses of the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Loose and offerings designated "Easter Offering" will be given to our Haiti Mission Partners in Port-au-Prince.



You can make a financial gift:

- **In-person:** place gift in collection plate in the aisle.
- **Online - one-time or recurring:** StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/giving. Or scan the QR code.
- **Text:** Send a text message with the dollar amount [e.g. \$50] to: 540.701.4133)

You can also mail a check to the church office:

P.O. Box 7127

Fredericksburg, VA 22404 *Thank you!*

The Liturgy of the Light

inspired by the Book of Common Prayer
(BCP)

March 30, 2024

The Lighting of the Paschal Candle

The children gather on the small side of Sydnor Hall, while the adults and other family wait on the large side.

All stand.

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his Sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

The Paschal Candle is a remembrance to us that Jesus has died, but is risen. Please repeat after me:

God, we share in your light.

All: God, we share in your light.

The taper is lit.

Christ, yesterday and today. The beginning and the end. The Alpha and the Omega.

All time belongs to Christ. And all ages. To Him be glory and power.

Through every age, forever. **Amen.**

The Paschal Candle is lit from the taper.

Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again.

Loving God, accept this Easter Candle.

May it always dispel the darkness of the night. **Amen.**

Procession

All process into the large side of Sydnor Hall, chanting as we follow the Paschal Candle.

Processional Hymn: "The Light of Christ"

Donald E. Fishel

led by the Children's Choir of St. George's

The choir will sing and the congregation will echo.

The light of Christ has come into the world,

the light of Christ has come into the world.

The light of Christ has come into our hearts,

the light of Christ has come into our hearts.

The Exsultet

All are seated for the singing of the Exsultet, an ancient chant of praise inspired by the light of Christ. The Exsultet is sung by cantors, the words are provided to help you focus.

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout salvation for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, Mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor, for the work of bees and of your servants' hands, and the gift of your most holy Church. May it mingle with the lights of heaven and shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning - he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Spreading the Light

The Light of the Risen Christ has come into the World. He calls us each by name to come and share the light.

Each child will be invited to come forward to receive a candle lit from the Paschal Candle and return to their seat.

Silent reflection

The First Reading

Isaiah 60:19 *New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)*

The sun shall no longer be your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you by night; but the LORD will be your everlasting light, and your days of mourning shall be ended.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8 - 10 *New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)*

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light-- for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Song: "This little light of mine"

During the singing, each child will walk their candle back to the Paschal Candle.

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine...

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine...

All around the world, I'm gonna let it shine...

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine . . .

Celebrant: May this flame be found still burning by the Morning Star: the one Morning Star who never sets, Christ your Son, who, coming back from death's domain, has shed his peaceful light on humanity, and lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Easter Gospel

Matthew 28:1 - 10 *New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)*

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.

People: Thanks be to God.

Celebrant: Let us boldly proclaim the Easter message.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Song: "Hallelu, hallelujah"

As the song is sung, bells may be rung, keys jingled, or other joyful noises made.

Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord!

Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord!

Praise ye the Lord! Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord! Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord! Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord!

The Peace

Celebrant: May the peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The people share a sign of peace with one another.

Offertory Anthem: "I am the Light"

Terry D. Taylor

by the Children's Choir of St. George's

Presentation of Gifts

Celebrant: All you have made is good. Your love continues for ever.

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord is with us.

People: God's Spirit is here.

Celebrant: We lift our hearts to God.

People: Let us give our thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

Loving God, you are always thinking about your people. You never forget us.

You sent your Son, Jesus, who gave his life for us and who came to forgive us

and taught us to forgive each other.

On the very night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread and gave you thanks. He broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks. He gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Together

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

The Celebrant continues

Look with kindness, O God, on your people gathered here before you. Send forth the power of your Spirit so that these gifts may become for us the Body and Blood of your beloved Son, Jesus, the Christ, in whom we have become your own.

God of love, Spirit of compassion, bless us and this bread and wine. May this meal be food and drink for our journey - renewing, sustaining, and making us whole. When we eat this bread and drink from this cup, we experience Jesus in our midst.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray in the words that Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!


Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

The clergy will give instructions about receiving communion or receiving a blessing.

Communion Music

performed by the Children's Choir of St. George's and Youth Instrumental Ensemble of St. George's

Taize



The Lord is my light, my light and salva-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust. The

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant: Let us pray.

People: Holy God, we thank you for feeding us at your table. We have been your guests, now help us to become hosts and welcome others into your family. You have given us your body and blood, now help us remember that we are your body, your hands and heart on earth. Send us forth to serve the world in your name. Amen

Blessing

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Song: "Marching in the light of God"

We are marching in the Light of God (4x)

**We are marching, marching, in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.**

After the service, the children are invited to choose a candle to take home.

Worship and Formation

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

Regular Worship Schedule (Sept - May) Sundays:

- **7:45 am:** Holy Eucharist (Communion), Rite I, spoken
- **9:00 am:** Holy Eucharist with Jazz Band and Choir. This service is also livestreamed via YouTube Live
- **11:15 am:** Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with organ and choir.
- **5:30 pm:** Holy Eucharist with Celtic Evensong, with Celtic ensemble

Summer Worship Schedule Begins May 25:

- **7:45 am:** Holy Eucharist (Communion), Rite I, spoken
- **10 am:** Holy Eucharist with diverse music offerings. This service is also livestreamed via YouTube Live.
- **5:30 pm:** Holy Eucharist with Celtic Evensong, with Celtic ensemble

Wednesdays:

12 pm: Rite II Eucharist with prayers for healing

Daily Office:

The Daily office (Morning and Evening Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer) is offered on Zoom and led by a group of lay persons on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8 am and 5:30 pm. All are welcome.
Meeting ID: 890 4918 9545
Passcode: 638538
Dial in: +1 301 715 8592

Formation for All Ages Resumes Apr 7 Adults

10 am every Sunday in Sydnor Hall: Our next series is all about **Relationships**, including sessions on Friendship, Parenting, and what Scripture says about it all, with a mix of small group discussion, guided reflection, and teaching. Runs April 14 – May 12.

Young Adults (18 - 45)

Our Young Adult Missioner, Rev. Ethan Lowery leads a range of activities - both spiritual and social for college age students and older. To get involved, contact Rev. Ethan at: missioner@thehousefxbg.org.

Youth (6th - 12th Grade)

Youth group meets on 1st and 3rd Sundays from 5 - 7 pm for dinner, community and fun. Contact Fr. Will (will.dickinson@stgeorgesepiscopal.net) to learn more.

Youth Café

Sunday mornings at 10 am, youth in grades 6-8 and grades 9-12 meet with adult leaders and head to a nearby café or a room at church for conversation and treats.

Children (pre-K - 5th grade)

Sundays at 10 am, children gather to learn about our story as the people of God.

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.

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.

YogaVoice returns April 26-28

The YogaVoice Weekend is a wonderful opportunity to improve your breathing, singing, and relaxation techniques. Instrumentalists and non-musicians can benefit as well. Created by opera singer and yoga teacher Mark Moliterno, the YogaVoice program helps people discover their authentic voice for singing, public speaking, and more. Plan to join us for this 3 day session in a relaxing and supportive environment. Contact john.vreeland@stgeorgesepiscopal.net for more information.

Concert Series Continues: April 21

Our monthly concert series continues on Sunday, April 21 at 3 pm with The Portland Guitar Duo. Don't miss this afternoon of classical guitar music. The concert is free with donations accepted at the door.

Save the Date: Youth Service Week: June 17-21

The St. George's Youth Group (rising grade 8-12) are participating in a week of fun, formation, and service June 17-21! This is a time to grow stronger in our connections with one another and the wider community through activities like serving at our food ministries, floating on the Rappahanock, beautifying our green spaces, and catching some rays at the pool. More information to come, but please contact Jake DeNap with questions:
jake.denap@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Shrine Mont Sunday - April 28

Join us at the Adult Forum on Sunday, April 30 at 10:15 am as we unveil the theme for this year's Parish Weekend Oct. 11 -13 at Shrine Mont! Registrations open that day. Any questions, please contact Danielle Davis
danielle@stgeorgesepiscopal.net.

Ascension Day Service May 9, 7 pm

Join us at 7 pm on Thursday, May 9 for a regional celebration of Christ's Ascension with worship and Holy Eucharist.

Outdoor Worship and Parish Picnic

We will hold our 10 am service and parish picnic on June 2 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 services: in-front and behind-the-scenes roles
- Music ministries - singers and instrumentalists
- Feeding our neighbors at Monday night Community Dinner and at The Table - our market-style food pantry
- Media and technical support for livestream services
- Extending care and prayer for church members
- Volunteering with our children and youth ministries
- Hospitality and fellowship ministries that bring us together for fun, food, and making friends.

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, the love of Christ is revealed.

If you need support or encouragement, please consider reaching out to our church office (540.373.4133; office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net). You may also contact clergy directly to make an appointment.



Prayer Ministers are available to pray with you during our worship services and outside of worship times on the phone. Our Prayer Group provides intercessory prayer weekly. Our One Body Response Team (OBRT) offers prayers, sends cards, and responds to other needs as able, such as meals or rides.



Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs) are available to bring Holy Communion to the homebound.

Our Wednesday Noon Eucharist service in the nave includes prayers for healing and anointing.

Prayer Shawls are available upon request for those going through a difficult time. These mantles of healing and comfort are prayerfully made by our parishioners who knit or crochet.

To join one of these ministries, contact the church office or speak to a member of clergy.



Contact Staff

**For pastoral emergencies:
540.361.8573**

the Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.
Rector
joe.hensley@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Laurel E. Loch
Chief of Staff
laurel.loch@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

the Rev. William S. Dickinson
Associate Rector
will.dickinson@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Kevin Carey
Parish Finance Manager
kevin.carey@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

the Rev. Ethan Lowery
Young Adult Missioner
missioner@thehousefxbg.org

Barbara Miller-Richards
Parish Secretary
barbara@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Jake DeNap
Director of Mission and Evangelism
jake.denap@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Michael Cooper-Smyth
Ministry Assistant
michael@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

John Vreeland
Director of Music Ministries
john.vreeland@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Riley Mullen
Facilities Manager
Cell: 540.361.8708

Achim Loch
Assistant Director of Music Ministries
achim.loch@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Lisa Bogardus
Handbell Choir Director
lisa.bogardus@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Juliann Jones
Director of Children's Music
juliann.jones@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Danielle Davis
Preschool Director
danielle@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

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.

Michele Prout Alston, 2024

Senior Warden

John Graham, 2024

Junior Warden

Mac Smith, 2024

Building and Grounds Warden

Anne Carey O'Connor, 2024

Brian Davis, 2025

Brooke Di Lauro, 2025

Pete Kelly, 2025

Peggy Verdine, 2025

Katie Green, 2026

Gabi Kelly, 2026

Rogers Lawson, 2026

Jennifer Vaughan, 2026

Peggy Mathias

Treasurer

Serving Today

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. William S. Dickinson

Altar Guild:

Candace Allshouse

Contact Our Vestry:

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

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

St. George's Episcopal Church

905 Princess Anne Street
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
