

Holy Eucharist 9:00 am

The Sixth Sunday of Easter Rogation Day May 5, 2024

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

Welcome to St. George's!

View Our Complete Weekly Worship Schedule on our Website: StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/worship

Whether you are worshiping online or in person, we are glad you are here. We hope you will find comfort in the beauty of the worship and encouragement in your personal faith journey.

New to St. George's?

Thank you for joining us today!

You can use this bulletin to follow along with the worship service. We use liturgies based in the red *Book of Common Prayer*. Hymns are from the blue *Hymnal 1982* and green *Wonder, Love, and Praise*. All are located in your pew. Watch fellow worshipers for when to stand or sit, and please only do what is comfortable for you.

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



Visit <u>StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/connect</u> 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.

Our rector (lead priest), Rev. Joe Hensley, would welcome the chance to speak with you. Please introduce yourself after the worship service. You can also contact him at: joe.hensley@stqeorgesepiscopal.net

Thank You for Your Generous Gifts!

Your financial gifts fund our ministries so we may show the Love of God to all. This month your gifts have helped:

- the St. George's Youth Group craft and send care packages to St. Georgians who are away at college.
- sustain our partners in ministry at Notre Dame Parish and School in Port-au-Prince,
 Haiti with over \$5000 collected through our Easter outreach offering.



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!

Formation for All Ages:

View staff directory on our website: <u>StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/staff</u>
Or call the church office: 540.373.4133

One way we explore our spirituality is through learning - be it presentations, reading, or even talking with one another during coffee hour.

Nursery

Nursery care is available for little ones ages 0 - 4 years old during the 9 am and 11:15 am worship services and the 10 am formation hour. Please see an usher for directions to the nursery.

Children

Montessori-based faith exploration

- Age 3 2nd Grade: Godly Play, a Montessori-based program of stories, wondering, and expressive art or play. In the Godly Play room of the Preschool floor.
- Grades 3 5: SPLASH (Spirit, Play, Love All Spoken Here) using a curriculum designed by the Episcopal Church. In the Youth area of the 3rd floor.

Youth

An inclusive, welcoming community

 Youth Café is back! Youth will gather in the small side of Sydnor and head to a local coffee shop for fellowship.

Youth Group meets for fellowship 5 - 7 pm on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, on the Youth Floor

Adults

Forum Presentation (Sydnor Hall): This Sunday is the next session in our series, *Life Together*; this week we explore a [modern] Christian understanding of sex. We've been told many times what not to do (and not always in responsible ways), so what is good sex, and what makes it different?

Questions about formation offerings? General inquiries: Church Office - 540.373.4133 office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Children: age 3 - 5th grade Rev. Joe Hensley joe.hensley@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Youth: 6th - 12th grade Adults Rev. Will Dickinson will.dickinson@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Young Adults: age 18 - 45 Rev. Ethan Lowery missioner@thehousefxbg.org

The Sixth Sunday of Easter Rogation Day May 5, 2024

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

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!

Prelude: Blessed Relief Frank Zappa

Hymn WLP 751: "Ev'ry Time I Feel The Spirit"

Spiritual

Refrain:

Ev'ry time I feel the spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray. Ev'ry time I feel the spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray.

Up on the mountain my Lord spoke, out of his mouth came fire and smoke. All around me looked so fine, asked my Lord if all was mine. [Refrain]

Jordan river chilly and cold, chills the body but not the soul. There ain't but one train runs this track, runs to heaven and runs right back. [Refrain]

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen. **People: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Words of Welcome

Song of Praise 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) John H. Vreeland

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 225

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Collect for Rogation Sunday

BCP 258

Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth: We humbly pray that your gracious providence may give and preserve to our use the harvests of the land and of the seas, and may prosper all who labor to gather them, that we, who are constantly receiving good things from your hand, may always give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ezekiel 47:6 - 12 Common English Bible (CEB)

He said to me, "Human one, do you see?" Then he led me back to the edge of the river. When I went back, I saw very many trees on both banks of the river. He said to me, "These waters go out to the eastern region, flow down the steep slopes, and go into the Dead Sea. When the flowing waters enter the sea, its water becomes fresh. Wherever the river flows, every living thing that moves will thrive. There will be great schools of fish, because when these waters enter the sea, it will be fresh. Wherever the river flows, everything will live. People will stand fishing beside it, from En-gedi to En-eglayim, and it will become a place for spreading nets. It will be like the Mediterranean Sea, having all kinds of fish in it. Its marshes and swamps won't be made fresh (they are left for salt), but on both banks of the river will grow up all kinds of fruit-bearing trees. Their leaves won't wither, and their fruitfulness won't wane. They will produce fruit in every month, because their water comes from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for eating, their leaves for healing."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Alleluia John H. Vreeland

Choir: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Choir: 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!

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John 15: 9 - 17

Common English Bible (CEB)
People: Glory to you, O Christ.

"As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete. This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you. No one has greater love than to give up one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I don't call you servants any longer, because servants don't know what their master is doing. Instead, I call you friends, because everything I heard from my Father I have made known to you. You didn't choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you could go and produce fruit and so that your fruit could last. As a result, whatever you ask the Father in my name, he will give you. I give you these commandments so that you can love each other.

Reader: The Gospel of our Savior. **People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Homily
A brief silence follows

the Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.

Prayers of the People

Let us ask the God of creation to send a blessing upon us.

Upon the rich earth send a blessing, O God. Let the earth be fruitful and its resources be hallowed.

We ask you in faith:

Hear us, O God.

Upon human labour send a blessing, O God. Prosper the work of our hands; may all find dignity and just reward in their work; free the exploited and oppressed.

We ask you in faith:

Hear us, O God.

Upon the produce of the earth send a blessing, O God. Guide into a sustainable future, and give us the will to share the fruits of the world.

We ask you in faith:

Hear us, O God.

Upon the seas and waters send a blessing, O God. Teach us to cherish the water of the earth, and to conserve the seas, lakes and rivers.

We ask you in faith:

Hear us, O God.

Upon our people gathered send a blessing, O God. Hear the prayers we bring today, offered silently or aloud:

The people offer their prayers and thanksgivings.

We ask you in faith:

Hear us, O God.

Upon our efforts to resist temptation send a blessing, O God. Remove from us the will to control the earth and to waste it away. Give us the will to sacrifice for the generations to come.

We ask you in faith:

Hear us, O God.

The celebrant invites those with gardening supplies and tools to raise them up.

Celebrant: We praise you, O God, for the richness of your bounty, for the beauty of your earth. Bless these tools and the hands that wield them, that we might learn from one another and from your Creation how you loved us first and how to love one another; let a new spring of faith well up and overflow; bless the fruits of the harvest, that all might be drawn into your life; in the Name of the most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity. **Amen.**

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

All are now invited to exchange a sign of peace.

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.lylstggive) or text to give (send a text message with the dollar amount [e.g. \$50] to: 540.701.4133).

Birthday Blessing said in unison

BCP 830

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anthem: The Road Home

Stephen Paulus

Tell me, where is the road I can call my own, that I left, that I lost, so long ago?
All these years I have wandered, oh when will I know there's a way, there's a road that will lead me home? After wind, after rain, when the dark is done, as I wake from a dream in the gold of day, through the air there's a calling from far away, there's a voice I can hear that will lead me home. Rise up, follow me, come away is the call, with love in your heart as the only song: there is no such beauty as where you belong, rise up, follow me, I will lead you home.

St. Kevin

Presentation Hymn 199 (2, 3): "Tis the spring of souls today" 'Tis the spring of souls today; Christ hath burst his prison, and from three days sleep in death as a sun hath risen; all the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor, with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render; comes to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer 3)

Enriching Our Worship

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus John H. Vreeland

Holy, holy holy Lord, God of power, God of 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, the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant: Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

People: Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

Celebrant: We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Dying, you destroyed our death. Rising, you restored our life. Christ Jesus, come in glory!

The Celebrant continues

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love.

People: Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

People: Blessed are you now and forever. Amen.

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

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.

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept. Fraction Anthem at the Breaking of the Bread

"Alleluia! Christ our Passover"

John H. Vreeland

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Choir: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast.

All: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. *and may add*Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to participate in Communion through receiving the Sacrament in the form of Bread and Wine or receiving a blessing. You may come forward as invited by an usher. For those receiving the Sacrament, hold out your hands over each other, palms up. If you require a gluten-free wafer, hold your hands palms down. You may sip the wine from the chalice or simply touch the base. For those receiving a blessing instead, please cross your arms over your chest. After, please return to your pew by the side aisle.

A personal prayer minister is in the front left corner of the nave to hear prayer requests confidentially and offer prayer. If someone is already at the corner, please wait in the front pew.

Hymn 204: "Now the green blade riseth"

Now the green blade riseth from the buried grain, wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain; love lives again, that with the dead has been:

Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

Noël nouvelet

In the grave they laid him, Love whom hate had slain, thinking that never he would wake again, laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen: Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, he that for three days in the grave had lain, quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen: Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, thy touch can call us back to life again, fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been: Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

Music During Communion Instrumental Music

"Eat this bread"
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to him and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in him and you will not thirst.

Taizé

Lay Eucharistic Visitor Sending Said on Sundays when a LEV visit occurs. Celebrant: [Name of LEV], in the name of this congregation of St. George's, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that [name of parishioner] may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People: We who are many are truly one body, because we all share one bread and one cup.

The Prayer After Communion

Enriching Our Worship
Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing
us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send
us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love
to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Blessing for Rogation Sunday from the Church of England God the Creator, who clothes the lilies of the field and feeds the birds of the air, provide us with all we need for life in its fullness. **Amen.**

God the Savior, who fed the five thousand and turned water into wine, feed us with his life and transform us in his love. **Amen.**

God the Spirit, who hovered over the waters of creation and formed the world from chaos, form us in the likeness of Christ and renew the face of the earth. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the most glorious, holy, and undivided Trinity, be upon you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Gathering of Children

Celebrant: Jesus said: "Truly, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." (Matt 19:14)

As the hymn begins, children are invited to join the procession to Sunday School.

Dismissal Hymn: "Halle, halle, hallelujah!" Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Traditional Caribbean

The Dismissal The congregation responds Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

All services today (weather permitting) will participate in a Sanctuary Evacuation Drill, in lieu of the postlude music at the conclusion of the services. Parishioners are asked to exit through the front of the church via the door that corresponds with their pew aisle. After exiting the church, please proceed across George Street to the Renwick Courtyard, as you are able, where ushers will dismiss you.

Announcements

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

Exit Drill Today

Our vestry is working to enhance our safety and emergency readiness. To-day after each service we will practice exiting the nave in a calm and efficient manner. Verbal instructions will be provided. After the drill, parishioners are welcome to return to the church.

Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Tuesday, May 7, as our staff conduct some long-term organizing, cleaning, and planning. If you have a pastoral emergency (e.g., death, loss of job) and need to speak with clergy urgently, please call or text our pastoral emergency phone at: 540.361.8573 to reach clergy on call.

Ascension Day Service - May 9 at 7 pm One of the major feasts of the Christian year, Ascension Day occurs 40 days after Easter and commemorates Jesus' rising to heaven (as depicted in our Ascension stained glass window). We will hold a Eucharist service with choir at 7 pm in the nave with guest preacher, the Rev. Denise Bennett, rector of St. Asaph's Episcopal Church in Bowling Green.

Today's Altar Arrangement: is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of my mother, Wilma Schaible by Karen Pierce.

Notre Dame School in Haiti Benefit Concert – Today at 3 pm

As we continue to offer support to our siblings in Christ at Notre Dame Parish and School in Port Au Prince, Haiti, we are excited to welcome percussionist Alberto "Limon" Perez and the Latin Feeling Band to St. George's today at 3 pm for a concert, with donations to benefit the school. During this time of chaos and gang violence in Haiti, the school remains open as a beacon of hope by the grace of God and through our ongoing support. As always, if you would like to contribute to our Haiti funds, visit our giving portal and select "Haiti" in the giving menu.

Writing our Way to Wholeness Group

The group "Writing our Way to Wholeness" is beginning another 8-week session from May 7 - June 25 on Tuesday mornings from 10 am - 11:15 am on Zoom. Guided by the book Pilgrimage into the Last Third of Our Lives by Jane Marie Thibault and Richard Morgan, we will encounter both the joys and the challenges of these years as we discover how our God walks the path with us ever more closely as we age. This study was developed by Marjorie George of the Diocese of West Texas and offers questions (as well as our own) to reflect on, write on and discuss together. For more information and to join this group please contact Kate Hardy (703 229 3864). Participants will need to purchase the book.

St. George's Prayer List

For the most up-to-date list of prayers and thanksgivings, sign up to receive our email prayer list: StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/signup

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 to office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net. Names remain on the list for 1 month.

Our leadership:

For our bishops, Justin, Michael, Mark, Gayle, and Bud; for Joe, Will, and Ethan, our clergy; for those who are priests and pastors in our community; for our staff—Laurel, John, Jake, Kevin, Danielle, Barbara, Michael, Achim, Lisa, Riley, Amy, and Juliann; and for our Vestry.

Those needing God's grace:

Melanie Goodpasture, Ashley Johnson, Pamela Haley, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Hannah Cannon, Valerie

Those in convalescence:

Paul Metzger, Ralph Powell, Deborah York, Marcia Russell, Jan Waltonen, Joyce Snead (mother of Joyce Steele), Karen Primmer, Eleanore Spears, Jan Fensterer, Liz Myers, Julius, Kari N.

Those expecting children:

Michael and Maria Strickland, daughter of Anna and Paul Colopy; Andrea and Cody Bryant

Those recently born:

Kieran Joseph Dzurenda, son of Joseph and Jenna Dzurenda

Those serving our country overseas: Jeff Bryant, Travis Weber

Those attending seminary:

Kris Rose, Anne-Tillery Melson, John Hager

Those homebound: Betty Stephens, Cornelia Bryant

Those who have died:

Valerie Kelly, sister of Pete Kelly

Those with ongoing concerns:

Arya Holmes, Dick Roth, Molly Myers, Randy Donaldson, Martha and Sarah Turner, Claire Simpson, Paula Mullins, Mina Sabik, Beryl Harrison, Bill Marshall, Christina Shiel, Annette, Russ Carter, Diane Powell, Ron Tebbutt, Reggie Harrison, Betsy, Isobel Hornung, Janis Hales, Margot VanHorn

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Paul's, Haymarket

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

Our Partners: St. George's Episcopal Preschool; Notre Dame Parish and School (Port-au-Prince, Haiti), Père Geffrard Ricot; The House college chaplaincy and young adult ministry; SAWs Virginia; Rev. Öshin Jennings, No Barriers Zen Temple; Micah Ecumenical Ministries; Our Little Roses - Honduras

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. William S. Dickinson the Rev. T. Ethan Lowery

Preacher:

the Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.

Liturgical Coordinator:

David Morgan

Lectors:

Katie Green David Morgan

Acolytes:

Sandi Davis Crockett Webb Claire Kaiman Katherine Webb

Lay Eucharistic Ministers:

Kit Burns David Morgan Jennifer Vaughan Anne Beals

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

Personal Prayer Minister:

Nick Cadwallender

Ushers:

Mark Steele Mac Smith Jim Lewis

Greeters:

Tommie Woollven Elvin Rivera-Orellano

Altar Guild:

Jane Bailey Michael Cooper-Smyth Lee Anne Hecker Lilchy Huffman Liz Talbot

Flowers:

Kathryn Willis

Coffee Hour:

Buildings and Grounds Committee

St. George's Episcopal Church

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