

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Day

 $10 \ am$ The Feast of the Incarnation, Christmas Day December 25, 2024

You are welcome at St. George's Church: Inclusive of race, nationality, sexual orientation, gender expression, and tradition. December 24, 2024 and December 25, 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. Additional seating for the 4 pm service with a live feed of the Pageant is available in Sydnor Hall.

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 <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.

Nursery

Nursery care is available for little ones ages 0 - 4 years old during Christmas Eve at the 4 pm and 7.30 pm services. On Christmas Day, the nursery is unattended, but open as a cry room. Please see an usher for directions to the nursery.

Office Hours

Please note our office is closed

December 23 - 27 and at 12 pm December 31 - January 1. If you have a pastoral emergency and need to speak with clergy, please call or text 540.361.8573.

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 "Christmas Outreach" at Christmas Eve and Day services benefit our mission partners at Notre Dame Parish and School in Port Au Prince, Haiti.



You can make a financial gift:

- In-person: place gift in collection plate.
- Online one-time or recurring: <u>StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/giving.</u> 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!*

Worship Notes



Historic Inspiration for this Year's Christmas Flowers This 1924 Christmas photograph of St. George's Nave by Judson Smith provided the inspiration for our Flower Guild as they prepared the Christmas decorations in the nave.

In the photo, the nave reflects the Anglican arrangement of the Holy Table surrounded by a rail and placed against the east wall with the lectern, pulpit, and baptismal font placed outside the chancel. This Anglican form included the use of the brass cross, candles, and flowers, as well as vested choir and clergy. These symbolic expressions gradually became a theological emphasis in church architecture and ceremony.

The words, "Take Heed Therefore Now Ye Hear" were painted over the arch at the front and, speaking of paint, note that the pews were unpainted. During a major 2008 renovation, decorative painting along the walls was added and the altar moved forward with communion rail brought below the chancel steps.

Land and Labor Acknowledgment

We give thanks for the land which God created as a precious gift. We honor the Indigenous peoples who long knew the land of our parish more than 10,000 years before it was established over 300 years ago, including the Patawomeck and Rappahannock Tribes who still live here. Please see our website for the full text of our land acknowledgment: www.stgeorgesepiscopal.net/about-us/land-acknowledgment.

We also honor the people of African descent whose enslaved labor supported the parish for the first half of its history. Rooted in the Gospel, repentant of sin, we are nurturing faith and seeking justice, healing, and repair of relationships amid the complexity of our times.

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ: Christmas Day December 25, 2024

from the red Book of Common Prayer (BCP)

We invite you to prepare for worship by observing silence or taking time for private prayer.

Prelude: Canonic Variations on "Vom Himmel hoch da komm' ich her" BWV 769 Johann Sebastian Bach

Opening Hymn 83 (st.1, 2, 3, &6): "O Come, all ye faithful"

Adeste fidelis

Celebrant: Alleluia! Unto us a child is born. People: Come, let us adore him, Alleluia!

Collect for Purity

BCP 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord **Amen.**

Glory Be to God on High All Sing

The St. James Christmas Service

Glory be to God on high, to all people, peace on earth,

Angels, shepherds, drawing nigh, Join to celebrate his birth.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Jesus Christ, we now declare Lamb of God and Lord of Love.

Grant us mercy, hear our prayer, Give us grace from heav'en above.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Praises to the Holy One, Praises sing in highest heav'n;

To the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit giv'n.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

The Word of God

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect of the Day

BCP 213

Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Isaiah 52:1 - 7 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 98 read in unison

BCP 726

Hebrews 1:1 - 4 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Reader: The Word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 79 (st.1, 3, &5): "O little town of Bethlehem"

St. Louis

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John 1:1 - 14 People: Glory to you, O Christ.

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Deacon or Priest: The Gospel of our Savior.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Sermon The Rev. Jamie Samilio

The Nicene Creed BCP 358

Prayers of the People (Form VI) BCP 392

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord 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 and Offertory

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).

Offertory Hymn 107: "Good Christian friends, rejoice"

In dulci jubilo

Presentation Hymn 84: "Love came down at Christmas"

Garten

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer A) BCP 361

Franz Schubert

David Hurd

Sanctus: S130
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic prayer on p. 362

The Lord's Prayer BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread BCP 334

Fraction Anthem: S154
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Christ our passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.
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, either by receiving the Sacrament or receiving a blessing. If an usher is present, they will invite you forward. You may stand or kneel at the communion rail. For those receiving the Body of Christ (in a wafer of bread or "host") extend your hands over each other, palms up. To receive the Blood of Christ (in the wine), sip lightly from the cup (chalice). You may consume the host before or after receiving the wine. To receive the Body and Blood of Christ simultaneously, simply point to the nearby cup of wine and then extend your hands. The minister will slightly dip the host in the wine and place it in your hand. For those sensitive to gluten, extend your hands over one another, palms facing down. The minister will offer a container for you to take a host (a separate cup is also available; please request). For those receiving a blessing, cross your arms over your chest. Reception of the Sacrament in one kind only (body or blood) is considered a full and sufficient participation. Please return to your seat by the side aisle. Please notify an usher if you cannot come forward and would like communion or a blessing at your seat.

Hymn 101: "Away in a manger"

Cradle Song

Music During Communion

Instrumental Music

The Prayer After Communion

BCP 365

The Christmas Blessing

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthy and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Hymn 87: "Hark, the herald angels sing"

Mendelssohn

The Dismissal

The congregation responds Thanks be to God!

Postlude: "Vom Himmel hoch da komm' ich her" BWV 606 and BWV 738 Johann Sebastian Bach

Thank you to all who offered financial gifts in celebration of God's blessings!

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:

Donna and Ernie Darlak, Col. Kenneth Noland

by Candace D Allshouse PhD MD

Rose and John Alston

by Michele and Michael Alston

Jerry Beschta

by Joyce Beschta

Stan and Jean Jarosz

by Sheryl and Dave Bryant

Loved ones of the Bumsted, Shailer, Branson and Ryan families

by Sara Bumsted

Loved ones departed

by Nick and Jeanette Cadwallender

James M. Davis

by Brian and Danielle Davis

Harriet Modersohn

by Scott and Mary Ellsworth

Diane Powell

by Scott and Mary Ellsworth

Janet Fray

by Mike Fray

Betty Golembiewski

by Aron Golembiewski

Loved Ones

by Lewis and Susan Graves

Empsie Sullivan, Connie S Davis, Nancy S. Atkins and Doris Ann Sullivan

by Pat Hillman

Charles Hurlock

by Pat Hurlock

The Rev. and Mrs. David Fyodor Gurniak

by Susan and Reggie Harrison

Dorothy Borland

by Marilyn and Dick Juergens

Harald Loch and Walter and Daureen Perdue

by Achim and Laurel Loch

Thank you to all who offered financial gifts in celebration of God's blessings!

Charles Hurlock

by Pat Hurlock

Jim and Barbara McDonald

by Jane McDonald

Peter Carmichael

by Elizabeth Parnicza

Diane Powell

by Peggy Mathias and Peter Rasmussen

Diane Powell

by Jan and Tom Meredith

Sharon O'Bannon and Justin O'Bannon

by Kevin O'Bannon

Bob O'Neill

by Mary Jane O'Neill

Peter Carmichael

by Beth Parnicza

My loved ones, especially Diane

by Ralph Powell

Joel A. Gingras and Sylvia Gingras-Baker

by Mary and Bob Ryan

Norman Schlemm

by Rose Marie Schlemm

Diane Powell

by St. George's Handbell Choir

Dale and Gretta Brudvig

by Karin and Jim Weber

Steven Dodd

by Patricia and Kevin Wiedel

Thank you to all who offered financial gifts in celebration of God's blessings!

In Thanksgiving for:

We are grateful for our grandchildren, Margaret and Virginia Bass and Henry Cleland

by Sarah and Marty Bass

Our family and friends

by Harrison and Gail Braxton

Our children and grandchildren

by Peter and Barbara Bumsted

Andrew, Kate, Teddy, and Hugo

by Helen Foiles

Scott, Joanna, Maureen, Charlie and Mike

by Mike Fray

Our Family

by Lewis and Susan Graves

Our children, Monecia and Thomas Shelton, William and Karen Helton

by Bill and Cindy Helton

The ministry of Charles and Pamela Jewett-Bullock

by Ann Holt

Rev. Joseph Hensley, Jr; Lydia Byrd; and Perry Vance

by Pat Hurlock

Our children and grandchildren: Jimmy and Cheryl Lewis, Lori and Tom Sullivan, Melissa and Derek Stone, Cason, Ava, Cali, Megan and Nick, Katie, Savannah and Corey

by Vicki and Jim Lewis

Kate McDonald

by Jane McDonald

Our family and friends

by Jan and Tom Meredith

Charlie and Charlotte Fletcher

by Connie Smith

Our family

by Mark and Joyce Steele

My Fellowship Commission Sisters

by Linda Wickersham

The Withers and Fines Families

by Alma and Billy Withers

Our grandchildren

by Chuck and Janet Ziegler

Thank you to all who offered financial gifts in celebration of God's blessings!

In Honor of:

Vicki Harrison and the Altar Guild by Susan Graves The Flower Guild by Susan Graves Barbara McCormack by Marilyn and Dick Juergens St. George's Clergy and Staff by Jan and Tom Meredith Our families by Bryn and Dick Roth My Parents by Linda Wickersham

Worship and Formation

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

Upcoming Worship

Wed., Dec. 25: Christmas Day 10 am Sun., Dec, 29: Lessons and Carols at 10 am

Sun., Jan. 5: Regular worship and formation schedule resumes **Mon., Jan. 6:** Epiphany Worship 7.15 pm with Trinity Episcopal Church **Sun., Jan. 26:** Combined worship and Annual Parish Meeting at 10 am

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

Wednesdays:

12 pm: Rite II Eucharist with prayers for healing and anointing

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 Jan 5 Adults

We have a number of different ways for adults to deepen their understanding of scripture, faith, and more. Sundays at 10 am, we offer adult forums on a variety of topics, often featuring guest speakers. Additionally, we have Bible studies, an upcoming course on Christian faith lived out in the Episcopal Church, and preparation for baptism and confirmation.

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 Rev. Joe (joe.hensley@stgeorgesepiscopal.net) to learn more.

Youth Café

Sunday mornings at 10 am, youth grades 6-12 meet with adult leaders on the youth floor 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. Contact <u>stephanie.dolezal@stgeorgesepiscopal.net</u> to learn more.

Mark Your Calendars

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

Christmas Offering

All cash or offerings to St. George's designated, "Christmas Outreach" (check or electronic) received at our Christmas services will benefit our mission partners at Notre Dame de l'Anonciation parish and school in Port Au Prince, Haiti. St. George's has been connected with Notre Dame for over 10 years and provides essential support which allows the school to remain open as a beacon of hope in one of the neighborhoods in the Haitian capital most impacted by gang violence.

Annual Meeting: January 26, 2025

All members of the St. George's family are invited to our annual meeting Sun., Jan. 26 during a combined, 10 am worship service. We will elect four new vestry members and hear brief reports about our ministries and our finances. Please watch for announcements in the bulletin, e-newsletter, and your email.

Baptism and Confirmation

Baptism is formal initiation into the Christian faith. We will offer baptism for adults, youth, and children Jan. 12, Apr. 19 and 27, and Jun 6. Our Bishop visits Mar. 30 to offer the sacrament of confirmation, the affirmation of Baptism, as well as reception into the Episcopal Church for those already confirmed in other traditions.

Concert Series Continues - Jan. 19

Make plans to attend our next concert at 3 pm on Sun., Jan. 19. Local favorite Hazel Run returns for an afternoon of folk and Americana music. Concert is free with donations accepted at the door.

Shrove Tuesday Returns

Our annual Mardi Gras celebration returns Mar. 4 with red beans and rice, pancakes, music, and more! Stay tuned for more information. To volunteer, please email: fellowship@stgeorgesepiscopal.net.

St. George's Preschool

Priority registration for the 2025-2026 school year begins Jan. 13, for current, alumni and parish families. Our Silent Auction returns on Sun., Feb. 9. We are collecting art, hand-crafted items, experiences, and other unique collectibles to offer for bid. For more info, contact Danielle Davis (danielle@stgeorgesepiscopal.net).

Save the Date - YogaVoice® Returns

Mark Moliterno, founder of YogaVoice® returns for a special workshop Feb. 21-23. All are invited to learn how to combine voice techniques and yoga methods to empower your voice and discover your true Self. No yoga or singing experience needed. Registration details to follow in January.

Save the Date - Lenten Weekend

Our Annual Lenten Weekend is March 7-9. Our focus will be on how we tell our personal stories as part of God's greater story. We are delighted to welcome well-known author and Episcopal priest, the Rev. Dr. Lauren Winner as our guest speaker. Rev. Winner is Associate Professor of Christian Spirituality at Duke Divinity School and the author of numerous books including "Girl Meets God" and "Mudhouse Sabbath." She will lead us in a book study, a writing workshop, and a Sunday forum.

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
- 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 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, or other crisis) 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.

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.

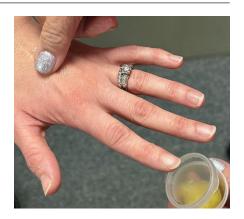
Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs) are available to bring Holy Communion to the homebound.

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

Prayer Shawls are available upon request. These mantles of healing and comfort are made by our ministry teams.

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

Would you like to join one of these ministries? Contact the church office or speak to a member of clergy to share your gifts with our parish family.







Contact Staff

For pastoral emergencies: 540.361.8573

the Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.

Rector

joe.hensley@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

the Rev. Jamie Samilio

Interim Associate Rector jamie.samilio@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

the Rev. Ethan Lowery

Young Adult Missioner missioner@thehousefxbg.org

Jake DeNap

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Achim Loch

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Barbara Miller-Richards

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Stephanie Dolezal

Ministry Assistant stephanie.dolezal@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Riley Mullen

Facilities Manager Cell: 540.361.8708

Vestry

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

To reach the Vestry, please email: <u>vestry@stgeorgesepiscopal.net</u>. To reach an individual vestry member, please contact the church office at <u>office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net</u> 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. Jamie Samilio

Preacher:

The Rev. Jamie Samilio

Lectors:

Michael Alston Peggy Verdine

Lay Eucharistic Minister

Michael Alston

Greeter: Trip Wiggins

Usher:

Tommy Thompson

Altar Guild:

Candace Allshouse

CJ Black

Barbara Blose Cindy Helton Marvin Stearns

Flowers:

The St. George's Flower Guild

Music:

Brooks Kuykendall

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