



St. George's Episcopal Church

The Liturgy for Ash Wednesday

7 am
February 18, 2026

You are welcome at
St. George's Church:
Inclusive 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.

Families with children: Nursery services are available during the 10 am service. Our nursery room (in the office hallway, one level below the main church) is now ready after a period of construction! Please see an usher or greeter for directions.



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. Our rector (senior pastor), Rev. Joe Hensley, would welcome the chance to meet you, either after the worship service or via email: joe.hensley@stgeorgesepiscopal.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:

- Prepare and welcome new church members and their families through baptism.
- Feed, clothe, and house vulnerable neighbors through our ministries and ministry partners

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
 - **Automated bank withdrawal** (contact our parish finance manager, Kevin Carey, to arrange this)
 - **Paypal:** www.paypal.com/paypalme/stgeorgesfbg
 - **Mail:** P.O. Box 7127, Fredericksburg, VA 22404



Walking Together

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; office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net). You may also contact clergy directly to make an appointment.

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.

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 acknowledgement.

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 Liturgy of the Day for Ash Wednesday

from the red Book of Common Prayer
(BCP)

*Please take a moment to silence cell
phones and alarms.*

The ministers enter in silence. The people stand as able.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy Spirit.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant prays the Collect of the Day

BCP 166

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Joel 2:1-2, 12- 7

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness spread upon the mountains a great and powerful army comes; their like has never been from of old, nor will be again after them in ages to come. Yet even now, says the LORD, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD, your God? Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep. Let them say, “Spare your people, O LORD, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103:8- 4

Said by all in unison

BCP 733

2 Corinthians 5:20b - 6:10

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see-- we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 6:1 - 6, 16 - 21

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Jesus said, "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Reflection

Please stand as able.

Invitation to a Holy Lent

BCP 264

Silent reflection follows, kneeling as able.

The Imposition of Ashes

The people may kneel or sit. All are invited to come forward to the communion rail to receive ashes imposed on the forehead in the sign of the cross. Return to your pew by the side aisles.

Psalm 51 (led by the Celebrant)

BCP 266

Litany of Penitence (kneeling as able)

BCP 267

Solemn Prayer Over the People

Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with thy Spirit.

Please depart in silence.

Formation for All Ages at 9 am:

**View staff directory on our website:
StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/staff**
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 formation hour and the 10 am worship service. 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. Located 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. We will meet in the Library behind Sydnor Hall.

Youth

An inclusive, welcoming community

- Youth in grades 6-12 gather on the Youth Floor for some interesting conversation and explorations of topics related to our faith and how we practice it in the world.
- Youth Group: Meets first and third Sunday evenings from 5 - 7 pm on the youth floor. To be added to our text and/or email list, contact Youth Group Coordinator, Amy Bogardus at bogardae@yahoo.com or 540-226-5183.

Adults:

Coffee and Fellowship in Sydnor Hall

- **Adult Forum**
- **Becoming Disciples: The Episcopal Way - Sunday at 9 am in Faulkner Hall**

Our rector is leading this series on how we follow Jesus in the Episcopal Church. Open to all and required for adults preparing for Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirmation.

Questions about formation offerings?

General inquiries:

Church Office - 540.373.4133
office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Children: age 3 - 5th grade

Stephanie Dolezal
stephanie.dolezal@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Youth: 6th - 12th grade

Rev. Rock Higgins
rock.higgins@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Young Adults: age 18 - 45

Rev. Ethan Lowery
missioner@thehousefbg.org

Adults

Rev. Joe Hensley
joe.hensley@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Announcements

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

Observing the Season of Lent

The season of Lent is a special time of renewing our relationships with God, ourselves, and others as we prepare for Easter. These 40 or so days, for centuries, have been a time of intentional practices for Christians and those preparing for baptism into the faith. Whether you are new to Lent or seeking a new way to observe the season, we hope you will see our website for more information and resources on observing Lent.

ECW Meeting – February 25

ECW invites all St. Georgians (men too!) to its February 25th meeting, 5-7 pm in Sydnor Hall. John Hennessy, former Chief Historian for Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Park, will present "Crisis and Chaos: St. George's Amidst War." Through letters, diaries, and memoirs—primarily from St. George's women—he'll explore how the Civil War transformed the community and shaped their experiences, fears, and responses during and after the conflict. The program begins at 6 pm. Questions? Please email Maureen Aylward (mmavab@gmail.com) for more information on ECW.

Coldest Night of the Year - February 28

Join us Saturday, February 28, 2026 for the Annual *Coldest Night of the Year Walk* in downtown Fredericksburg. Choose between a 3K or 5K route, joining a parade of hundreds of other friends from the area, all sharing one goal: to raise awareness and funds to support the many services Micah Ministries provides our unhoused local neighbors. All who register to walk with our team and raise a minimum \$75 before the event begins will earn the cool and classy knit hat known as a *toque*. Those who can't join us to walk can also support Team St. George's with your 2026 tax-deductible donations. For more information, contact Team Co-Captains Pam Jewett-Bullock 540.729.0840 or Charles Bullock 540.729.1054.

Scan the QR code to sign up!



Newcomer Event – March 1

We welcome those who have come to St. George's in recent months with another upcoming event! On Sunday, March 1 there will be a luncheon after church with information about our ministries shared. All newcomers are welcome.

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. All new additions listed in *italics*.

Our leadership:

For our bishops, Sean, Mark, Gayle, and Mark; for Joe, Rock and Ethan, our clergy; for those who are priests and pastors in our community; for our staff—Laurel, Jake, Kevin, Danielle, Barbara, Achim, Riley, Amy, Juliann, and Stephanie; and for our Vestry.

Those needing God's grace:

Dennis and Cindy Sale, Jim Davis, Barbara Deal, Teresa Gordon, Stacy Glessner, Abraham Cochin, Alec Benso, Mary Miller, Martha Wilson, Douglas Ferris, Dao Arthur, Sharon Gibson, Marcia Kole, Dan King, Donna Daniels, Kristen Schlee, Dave Schlee, Kevin Compton, Mark Steele, Rev. Aaron Dobynes, Zee Sprouse, Sue Hu (Mother of Stephen Hu), Cathy Powers, Paul Sungenis, Helen Soheili, Soheili Family, Emily Croner, Beth K.

Those in convalescence:

Joyce Snead, Gunnar Burns, Peter Bumsted, Ellen Sharp, Vicki Harrison, Barry Krause, *Barbara Atkins*

Those expecting children:

Paola and David Stever, Emma and Alberto Means; Captain Charles Lewis and Olivia Lewis, Chris and Jordan Hinkebein

Those recently born:

Marshall John O'Neal, son of Maggie and Ryan O'Neal

Those who have died:

James L. Kreider

Those attending seminary:

Anne-Tillery Melson, John Hager

Those serving our country overseas:

Jeff Bryant, Travis Weber, Avery Endler

Those with ongoing concerns:

Arya Holmes, Dick Roth, Molly Myers, Randy Donaldson, Martha and Sarah Turner, Claire Simpson, Paula Mullins, Logan Vaaler, Bill Marshall, Christina Shiel, Annette, Russ Carter, Ron Tebbutt, Betsy, Isobel Hornung, Janis Hales, Helen Taylor, Stephanie Cumming (stepdaughter of Vicki Harrison), John Janney and family, Scott Fray, Bill Becker, Makai Kingston Bernardi Brown, Elizabeth Martel, Frank Rowe

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

The Diocese of West Tennessee – The Episcopal Church

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Diocese of West Tennessee – The Episcopal Church

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. Ōshin Jennings, No Barriers Zen Temple; Micah Ecumenical Ministries; Our Little Roses - Honduras

Contact Staff

For pastoral emergencies:
540.361.8573

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

The Rev. Rock Higgins
Interim Associate Rector
rock.higgins@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

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

Jake DeNap
Director of Mission and Evangelism
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Achim Loch
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Kevin Carey
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Barbara Miller-Richards
Parish Secretary
barbara@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Stephanie Dolezal
Ministry Assistant and
Children's Ministry Coordinator
stephanie.dolezal@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Riley Mullen
Facilities Manager
Cell: 540.361.8708

Amy Bogardus
Nursery Supervisor and
Youth Ministry Assistant

Meredith Walburn
Nursery Assistant

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.

Kit Burns, 2027

Junior Warden

Katie Green, 2026

Gabi Kelly, 2026

Rogers Lawson, 2026

Jennifer Vaughan, 2026

Wendy Cannon, 2027

Robert Powers, 2027

Linda Wickersham, 2027

Caleb Cherry, 2028

Joseph Lyttle, 2028

Kathy Maxfield, 2028

Elvin Rivera-Orellano 2028

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. Rock Higgins

Lector:

Michael Alston

Greeter:

Michele Prout Alston

Altar Guild:

Clergy

Contact Our Vestry:

The Vestry is our elected, lay leadership council led by our Senior Warden and our Junior Warden Kit Burns.

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
