



**St. George's**  
Episcopal  
Church

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# Holy Eucharist

## 10:00 am

*with Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation of  
Baptismal Vows and visitation by the Rt. Rev. Mark  
Bourlakas, Assistant Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese  
of Virginia*

**The Third Sunday in Lent  
March 8, 2026**

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

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# Welcome to St. George's!

View Our Complete Weekly  
Worship Schedule on our Website:  
[StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/worship](http://StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/worship)

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Whether you are worshipping 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](http://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](mailto: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:

- Support persons seeking deeper life in Christ through preparing them for confirmation, reception, or reaffirmation.
- Reach hundreds of people who worship and connect with St. George's via our livestreamed services.

You can make a financial gift:

- **In-person:** place gift in collection plate in the aisle.
- **Online - one-time or recurring:**

[StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/giving](http://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/stgeorgesfxbg](http://www.paypal.com/paypalme/stgeorgesfxbg)
  - **Mail:** P.O. Box 7127, Fredericksburg, VA 22404
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# Walking Together

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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](mailto: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 Patowomeck 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.

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# The Third Sunday in Lent March 8, 2026

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from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP)

*We are delighted that you have come to St. George's. This bulletin will guide you through the worship service, including times when you need to open one of the books in the pew rack. Take a breath and know that this is a friendly community. Ask for help or directions if you need it. In preparation for the service, we try to observe silence and take time for prayer. Please take a moment to silence cell phones and alarms. We hope this worship service is a time of joy and wonder for all.*

**Prelude:** *O Gott, du frommer Gott*, op. 122 no. 7

Johannes Brahms

## **Welcome**

*Welcome is offered to all, including those worshipping via livestream and the children arriving from their Christian formation classes who will join their families.*

*The congregation is encouraged, as able, to turn in the blue Hymnal 1982 or green Wonder Love and Praise (WLP) for musical notation to aid in singing.*

**Opening Hymn 516 : "Come down O love Divine"  
Come down, O Love divine, seek thou this soul of mine,  
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;  
O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear,  
and kindle it, thine own holy flame bestowing.**

*Down Ampney*

**O let it freely burn, till earthly passions turn  
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;  
And let thy glorious light shine ever on my sight,  
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

**And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,  
Shall far out pass the power of human telling;  
For none can guess its grace, till Love create a place  
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.**

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## Opening Sentences

BCP 413

Bishop: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins

**People: God's mercy endures forever.**

Bishop: There is one Body and one Spirit;

**People: There is one hope in God's call to us;**

Bishop: One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

**People: One God and Father of all.**

Bishop: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Bishop: Let us pray.

*The Celebrant says the Collect (Prayer) of the Day*

BCP 218

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

**Exodus 17:1-7** *New Revised Standard Version*

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

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*said antiphonally<sup>1</sup> (alternating sides of the church) by whole verse beginning on the left (Eagle lectern) side, standing as able and facing the aisle*

**1 Come, let us sing to the LORD; \***

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

**2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \***

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

**3 For the LORD is a great God, \***

and a great King above all gods.

**4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \***

and the heights of the hills are his also.

**5 The sea is his, for he made it, \***

and his hands have molded the dry land.

**6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \***

and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

**7 For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \***

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

**8 Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness, \***

at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.

**9 They put me to the test, \***

though they had seen my works.

**10 Forty years long I detested that generation and said, \***

"This people are wayward in their hearts; they do not know my ways."

**11 So I swore in my wrath, \***

"They shall not enter into my rest."

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1 This method reminds us of the monastic roots of psalm recitation, allows us to listen as well as speak in prayer, and gives us another opportunity to look for the face of Christ in one another.

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**Romans 5:1-11** *New Revised Standard Version*

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person-- though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

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Sequence Hymn 673: "The first one ever, O ever to know"<sup>2</sup>

*Ballad*

The first one ever, oh, ever to know  
of the birth of Jesus, was the Maid Mary,  
was Mary the Maid of Galilee,  
and blessed is she, is she who believes.  
Oh, blessed is she who believes in the Lord,  
oh, blessed is she who believes.  
She was Mary the Maid of Galilee,  
and blessed is she, is she who believes.

The first one ever, oh ever to know of Messiah,  
Jesus, when he said, "I am he,"  
was the Samaritan woman who drew from the well,  
and blessed is she, is she who perceives.  
Oh, blessed is she who perceives the Lord,  
oh blessed is she who perceives.  
T'was the Samaritan woman who drew from the well,  
and blessed is she, is she who perceives.

The first ones ever, oh ever to know  
of the rising of Jesus, his glory to be,  
were Mary, Joanna, and Magdalene,  
and blessed are they are they who see.  
Oh, blessed are they who see the Lord,  
Oh, blessed are they who see.  
They were Mary, Joanna and Magdalene,  
and blessed are they, are they who see.

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<sup>2</sup> Words and music by Linda Wilberger Egan (b.1946.) During Women's History Month we are noting the women authors and composers of hymns and prayers.

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## The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John 4:5-42 *NRSV*

### People: Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit

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for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

Deacon or Priest: The Gospel of our Savior.

**People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **The Sermon**

The Rt. Reverend Mark Bourlakas  
*Assistant Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia*

### **Presentation and Examination of Candidates**

BCP 415

#### *Those to be confirmed*

Elizabeth Jane Byrd	Francis Cameron Carter, Jr.
Ann Robyn Castles	Kathryn Georgianna McLure Clark
Miguel Angel Garcia	Brian Matthew Tarleton Drebing
Mia Catherine Guillie	Sherry Ame'leah Miller
Terri Sue Peer	Susannah Evangeline Naa Amanuah Mills
Barbara Jean Talley	Vivienne Elizabeth Stafford Mitchell
Caleb Clore Riordan	Crystal Jill Robinson
David Mark Whitley	Levi Alexander Augustine Walburn
Michael Anthony Tharp	

#### *Those to be received*

Edna Patricia Dumas	Thomas Hunter Mitchell
Margaret Ann O'Neal	Ryan Marshall O'Neal
Debra Diane Tharp	

#### *Those reaffirming their vows*

Gabriela A. Kelly

### **The Examination**

Bishop: Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil.

Candidates: I do.

Bishop: Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Candidates: I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Savior and Lord.

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*The congregation stands.*

Bishop: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

**People: We will.**

**The Baptismal Covenant** (*said by all*)

BCP 416

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Father?

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Bishop: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**People: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Bishop: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**People: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Bishop: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Bishop: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Bishop: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Bishop: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Bishop: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**People: I will, with God's help.**

Bishop: Let us now pray for these persons who have renewed their commitment to Christ.

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**Prayers for the Candidates**      *Adapted from BCP 305 and Common Worship*  
God of new life, we pray to you for the church and the world, especially those who seek to be confirmed, received, and to reaffirm their faith, and we ask you to show us your glory through them.

We thank you for claiming those who have been washed in the waters of rebirth. Renew them through your Holy Spirit, that they may ever remain steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and rooted in your love.

Giver of life,

**Show us your glory.**

The whole creation is filled with the light of your grace. Dispel the darkness of our hearts, and forgive our sins and negligences, that we may come at last to the light of your glory.

Giver of life,

**Show us your glory.**

We see your good works in all your whole Church. We give thanks for all the churches who raised and cared for these candidates for reception in past seasons, for all the traditions they will bring with them, and for our own Communion which they have chosen to join.

Giver of life,

**Show us your glory.**

We seek new life in your Spirit. Nourish in all of us the gifts you have given, especially those who present themselves for confirmation, that your whole Body may flourish together.

Giver of life,

**Show us your glory.**

You are with us in every season. Come among those seeking to reaffirm their vows, that they would help us all to feel the waters of baptism afresh and witness to your love in the world.

Giver of life,

**Show us your glory.**

Pour your blessing on all your people, especially those who offer themselves today. May our hearts ever praise you and find their perfect rest in you. Grant us the freedom of your service and peace in doing your will.

Giver of life,

**Show us your glory.**

*A period of silence follows.*

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Bishop: Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you have made with them at their Baptism. Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The congregation is seated. Each candidate approaches the bishop, who prays over them according to whether they are being confirmed or received or are reaffirming their baptismal vows.*

*Candidates for Holy Baptism at Easter are presented to the Bishop. The bishop then offers this prayer*

O God of truth, beauty, and goodness, we give you thanks that from the beginning you have revealed yourself in your creation; and that in every nation, culture, and language there have been those who, seeing your works, have worshiped you and sought to do your will. Accept our prayers for *Chris Miller, Matthew Smith, and Theodore Smith*, whom you have called to know and love you as you have been revealed in Jesus Christ, and bring them with joy to new birth in the waters of Baptism; through the same Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

*The bishop concludes with the following prayer*

Almighty and everlasting God, let your hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

Bishop: The peace of Christ be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*All are now invited to exchange a sign of peace.*

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## Offertory and Announcements

Celebrant: As we prepare the altar to receive the offering of Christ in the sacrament, we make our offerings in gratitude for God's abundant grace. Please see the instructions later in the bulletin about participating in Communion or receiving a blessing, and the invitation to pray with the personal prayer minister. Know that you are most welcome. Thank you for sharing your gifts in commitment to God and to our ministry together. As we give thanks for God's abundant grace, "Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God (Ephesians 5:2). *You can make your offering in the plate as you come forward for communion or send your offering electronically, by mail, or by automated bank withdrawal. See details on the inside cover of this bulletin for an easy to use QR code. The loose offering today (or checks or e-gifts made to St. George's with "Bishop" in memo) will benefit the Bishop's Discretionary Fund. Thank you!*

**Offertory Anthem:** "Just as I am without one plea"<sup>3</sup>

Woodwort

Just as I am - without one plea,  
But that Thy blood was shed for me,  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am - though tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am - poor, wretched, blind;  
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am - Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am - Thy love unknown  
Has broken every barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am - of thy great love  
The breadth, length, depth, and height to prove,  
Here for a season, then above,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

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3 Words by Charlotte Elliott (1789-1871)

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**Presentation Hymn WLP 761: "All Who Hunger Gather Gladly"<sup>4</sup>** *Holy Manna*

**All who hunger gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.**

**Come from wilderness and wand'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.**

**You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.**

**Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.**

**All who hunger, never strangers, seeker, be a welcome guest.**

**Come from restlessness and roaming. Her, in joy we keep the feast.**

**We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.**

**Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.**

**All who hunger, sing together, Jesus Christ is living bread.**

**Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been fed.**

**Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude.**

**Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.**

**Eucharistic Prayer A**

*Expansive Language Version*

**Celebrant:** The Lord 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.**

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Sanctus: S124**

David Hurd

**Holy, holy holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker and of all. Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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

**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.**

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## The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem: S161

David Hurd

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

### 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. Communion is the sacramental body and blood of Jesus Christ received in bread and wine blessed by the Holy Spirit.*

- *Proceed forward when prompted (notify an usher if you need to receive at your seat)*
- *To receive the bread, hold your hands out, palms up.*
- *To receive the wine, sip from the cup (a.k.a. chalice) or point to the cup for the bread to be dipped by the minister.*
- *Gluten-free? Hold your hands palms down, then take the wafer from the separate container when offered. Ask for the gluten-free cup if preferred.*
- *To receive a blessing (prayed by the minister), cross your arms over your chest.*

*Receiving just the bread or just the wine is a full and valid participation.*

*For more information about participation in the sacraments of Holy Communion or Holy Baptism, contact the clergy.*

### Personal Prayer Ministers During Communion

*The Celebrant prays for the Personal Prayer Minister in front of the altar. Those desiring to ask for personal prayers of healing, thanksgiving, or for other concerns are invited to come to the prayer minister in the corner to the left. If you would like to receive prayer, please receive Communion from the left line. Those waiting for prayer are asked to stand to the side or may be seated in the nearby reserved front pew.*

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Communion Hymn LEVAS 218: "Jesus loves me, this I know"<sup>5</sup> Anna B Warner

Jesus loves me! This I know,  
For the bible tells me so;  
Little ones to Him belong;  
They are weak but He is strong.

Refrain: Yes Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died,  
Heaven's gate to open wide;  
he will wash away my sin,  
Let His little child come in.  
*Refrain*

Jesus take this heart of mine,  
Make it pure and wholly thine;  
on the cross you died for me,  
I will try to live for thee.  
*Refrain*

**Music During Communion**  
Instrumental Music

"De noche iremos" Taize  
De noche iremos, de noche, que para encontrar la fuente.  
Solo la sed nos alumbra, solo la sed nos alumbra.  
*Translation: By night, we hasten in darkness to search for living water.  
Only our thirst leads us onwards.*

**Lay Eucharistic Minister 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.**

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## The Prayer After Communion

BCP *Expansive Language Version*

Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Savior. Amen.

## The Blessing

Closing Hymn 511: "Holy Spirit, ever living"

*Abbot's Leigh*

Holy Spirit, ever living as the Church's very life;  
Holy Spirit, ever striving through her in a ceaseless strife:  
Holy Spirit, every forming in the Church the mind of Christ;  
thee we praise with endless worship for thy fruits and gifts unpriced.

Holy Spirit, ever working through the Church's ministry;  
quickenng, strengthening and absolving, setting captive sinners free;  
Holy Spirit ever binding age to age, and soul to soul,  
in a fellowship unending thee we worship and extol.

## The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God!

Postlude: *O Gott, du frommer Gott*, BWV 767/IX

Johann Sebastian Bach

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# Formation for All Ages at 9 am:

View staff directory on our website:  
[StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/staff](http://StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/staff)  
Or call the church office: 540.373.4133

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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](mailto:bogardae@yahoo.com) or 540-226-5183.

## Adults:

*Coffee and Fellowship in Sydnor Hall*

- **Adult Forum: A Conversation with Bishop Mark Bourlakas**  
Join the candidates for confirmation and reception and those who are reaffirming their baptismal vows this Sunday as Bishop Bourlakas shares some reflections on discipleship in the Episcopal Church. The Bishop will first address our candidates then take questions and comments from the wider forum. The forum will begin a few minutes after 9 am. The Bishop and candidates will arrive after their ceremony rehearsal in the nave following the 8 am service.

## Questions about formation offerings?

General inquiries:

Church Office - 540.373.4133

[office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

Children: age 3 - 5th grade

Stephanie Dolezal

[stephanie.dolezal@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:stephanie.dolezal@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

Youth: 6th - 12th grade

Rev. Rock Higgins

[rock.higgins@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:rock.higgins@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

Young Adults: age 18 - 45

Rev. Ethan Lowery

[missioner@thehousefxbg.org](mailto:missioner@thehousefxbg.org)

Adults

Rev. Joe Hensley

[joe.hensley@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:joe.hensley@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

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## Announcements

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

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### Bishop Visit - Today

Today the Right Reverend Mark Bourlakas, Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia, will visit St. George's to preside and preach at our 10 am service. Worship will include the rites of Confirmation, Reception into the Episcopal Church, and the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows. A festive reception, including a Q and A with the bishop, will immediately follow. Please join the fellowship team in welcoming our Bishop and our parish family. Your table ready finger foods are much appreciated, as is help cleaning up following the reception.

### St. George's Writers Group – Today

The St. George's Writers group will meet Sunday, March 8 at 2 pm in Faulkner Hall. All are welcome! Contact Linda Wickersham for more information.

### Shrine Mont Planning Meeting - Mar 15

If you are interested in helping to plan Shrine Mont 2026, please join us on Sunday, March 15 in Sydnor Hall after Coffee Hour. If you cannot attend and have ideas, please email Danielle Davis at [danielle@stgeorgesepiscopal.net](mailto:danielle@stgeorgesepiscopal.net).

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### Today's Altar Arrangement:

The altar arrangement is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Jinxie and Warren Forbush by their daughters, arranged by Flower Guild member Cindy Helton.

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### Concert Series March 15 – Chamber Chorale of Fredericksburg

The Chamber Chorale of Fredericksburg returns Sunday, March 15 at 3 pm for our Concert Series. The Chamber Chorale will perform *Songs of Love*. The concert is free with donations accepted at the door.

### Small Groups at St. George's

It's time to begin St. George's Small Groups again, and Hosts are needed! The expectations of a Small Group Host are few and easy. All you need is a desire to meet new people, space in your home for six or more people (including yourself) to have a simple meal and fellowship for at least the first meeting (Place and format of following meetings will be determined by the group at the first meeting,) and a schedule that can commit to regular group meetings once a week for six weeks. If you're interested or want more information, please contact Deacon Joyce Beschta ([joyce-beschta@gmail.com](mailto:joyce-beschta@gmail.com)) (828.388.1199) by March 16.

### Silent Auction Update

Thank you to everyone who donated, bid, and purchased raffle tickets for our Silent Auction. We were able to raise just over \$2,000 for our scholarship program. It truly takes a community to support our preschool, and we are so thankful to have you as part of ours!

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# 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](mailto:StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/signup)

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## 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](mailto: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, Teresa Gordon, Stacy Glessner, Abraham Cochin, Alec Benso, Mary Miller, Martha Wilson, Douglas Ferris, Dao Arthur, Sharon Gibson, Marcia Kole, Dan King, Donna Daniels, Kevin Compton, Mark Steele, Rev. Aaron Dobyne, Zee Sprouse, Sue Hu (Mother of Stephen Hu), Cathy Powers, Paul Sungenis, Helen Soheili, Soheili Family, Emily Croner, Chris McRae

## Those in convalescence:

Joyce Snead, Gunnar Burns, Ellen Sharp, Vicki Harrison, Barry Krause, Barbara Atkins, Charles Bullock

## Those expecting children:

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

## Those who have died:

James L. Kreider, Beth Kost, Barbara Deal, Christian Lincoln

## Those recently born:

Marshall John O'Neal; *David Alphonso Maxfield, son of Daniel and Erin Maxfield and grandson of James and Kathy Maxfield*

## 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:

St. Paul's Haymarket; St. George's, Fredericksburg; Christ Church Winchester

## In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East

**Our Partners:** St. George's Episcopal Pre-school; 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

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# Vestry

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

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

**Kit Burns, 2027**

*Senior Warden*

**Wendy Cannon, 2027**

*Junior Warden*

**Robert Powers, 2027**

*Buildings and Grounds Warden*

**Katie Green, 2026**

**Gabi Kelly, 2026**

**Rogers Lawson, 2026**

**Jennifer Vaughan, 2026**

**Linda Wickersham, 2027**

**Caleb Cherry, 2028**

**Joseph Lyttle, 2028**

**Kathy Maxfield, 2028**

**Elvin Rivera-Orellano 2028**

**Peggy Mathias**

*Treasurer*

**Laurel Loch**

*Register*

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# Serving This Sunday

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

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## Clergy:

The Rt. Reverend Mark Bourlakas  
The Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.  
The Rev. Rock Higgins  
The Rev. Ethan Lowery  
The Rev. Deacon Joyce Beschta

## Preacher:

The Rt. Reverend Mark Bourlakas

## Liturgical Coordinator:

Mary Ellen Arthurs

## Lectors:

Katie Green and Bill Green

## Lay Eucharistic Ministers:

Mary Ellen Arthurs  
Jeanette Cadwallender  
Joseph Lyttle  
David C. Primmer

## Personal Prayer Minister:

The Rev. Dr. Rosemary Beales

## Lay Eucharistic Visitors:

Kathryn Willis and Connie Smith

## Organist:

Brooks Kuykendall

## Acolytes:

Grace Rollins  
Margaret Ford  
Caroline Di Lauro  
Marina Di Lauro

## Greeters:

Laurie Carter  
Malanna Henderson

## Ushers:

Tommy Thompson  
Bob Carter  
Mark Steele

## Livestream Tech:

Josh Rollins

## Altar Guild:

Lee Anne Hecker  
Joyce Steele  
Leslie Pugh  
Marilyn Farrington

## Flower Guild:

Cindy Helton

## Coffee Hour:

Fellowship

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## 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](mailto:vestry@stgeorgesepiscopal.net)

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## 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](http://StGeorgesEpiscopal.net)

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