



St. George's
Episcopal
Church

Holy Eucharist

Rite I - 8:00 am

The Third Sunday in Lent
March 8, 2026

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

Welcome to St. George's!

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

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 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:

- 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. 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

- **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 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.

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

from the red Book of Common Prayer
(BCP)

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!

Penitential Order

BCP 319

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People: His mercy endureth for ever.

Decalogue

BCP 317

Confession

BCP 320

Kyrie

BCP 324

Celebrant: Lord, Have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Celebrant: Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Word of God

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect of the Day

BCP 166

Almighty God, who seest that we have no power of 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 liveth and reigneth with thee 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: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95

BCP 724

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: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

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 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 the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.

The Nicene Creed

BCP 326

A special "peace" candle is lit and this prayer is offered

Almighty God our heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into the way of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

BCP 383

The Peace

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

People: And with thy spirit.

All are now invited to exchange a sign of peace.

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. 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, "I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice; holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship." (Romans 12:1). *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. Thank you!*

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer I

BCP 333

Sanctus + Benedictus

BCP 341

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 337

O Lamb of God, Prayer of Humble Access

BCP 337

Invitation to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. 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.

The Prayer After Communion

BCP 339

Solemn Prayer over the People

Celebrant: Bow down before the Lord. *the people may kneel or sit*

Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us bless the Lord

The congregation responds **Thanks be to God!**

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: 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

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@thehousefxbg.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

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.

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.

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) (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!

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, 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

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. Rock Higgins
The Rev. Frank Uwaezuoke

Preacher:

The Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.

Lector:

Michael Alston

Greeter:

Michele Prout Alston

Altar Guild:

Lee Anne Hecker
Joyce Steele
Leslie Pugh
Marilyn Farrington

Flower Guild:

Cindy Helton

Coffee Hour:

Trip Wiggins

Contact Our Vestry:

The Vestry is our elected, lay leadership council led by our Senior Warden Kit Burns and our Junior Warden Wendy Cannon. 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
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Fredericksburg, VA 22404
540.373.4133 (office)
Pastoral Emergencies:
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