



St. George's
Episcopal
Church

Liturgy for Holy Saturday

April 4, 2026
8:30 am

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

April 4, 2026

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 worshipping online or in person, we are glad you are here.

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.

Families with Children

Nursery is available during the 10 am service on Sundays. Our nursery room is in the office hallway, one level below the main church. Ask an usher for directions.

Office Hours

Please note our office is closed April 6 - 7. 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 "Good Friday Offering" will be given to the four dioceses of the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Loose and offerings designated "Easter Offering" will be divided between the Micah Ministries Jeremiah Community housing initiative and Notre Dame School in Port au Prince, Haiti.



You can make a financial gift:

- **In-person:** place gift in collection plate in the aisle.
- **Online - one-time or recurring:**
StGeorgesEpiscopal.net/giving. Or scan the QR code.
- **Text:** Send a text message with the dollar amount [e.g. \$50] to: 540.701.4133)

You can also mail a check to the church office:

P.O. Box 7127

Fredericksburg, VA 22404 *Thank you!*

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 Sunday 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 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.

Holy Saturday

April 4, 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.

Celebrant: Let us pray

O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with him the coming of the third day, and rise with him to newness of life; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24 *New Revised Standard Version*

I am one who has seen affliction under the rod of God's wrath; he has driven and brought me into darkness without any light; against me alone he turns his hand, again and again, all day long. He has made my flesh and my skin waste away, and broken my bones; he has besieged and enveloped me with bitterness and tribulation; he has made me sit in darkness like the dead of long ago. He has walled me about so that I cannot escape; he has put heavy chains on me; though I call and cry for help, he shuts out my prayer; he has blocked my ways with hewn stones, he has made my paths crooked. The thought of my affliction and my homelessness is wormwood and gall! My soul continually thinks of it and is bowed down within me. But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

- 1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame; *
deliver me in your righteousness.
- 2 Incline your ear to me; *
make haste to deliver me.
- 3 Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold; *
for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.
- 4 Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, *
for you are my tower of strength.
- 15 My times are in your hand; *
rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.
- 16 Make your face to shine upon your servant, *
and in your loving-kindness save me."

I Peter 4:1-8 *New Revised Standard Version*

Since Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same intention (for whoever has suffered in the flesh has finished with sin), so as to live for the rest of your earthly life no longer by human desires but by the will of God. You have already spent enough time in doing what the Gentiles like to do, living in licentiousness, passions, drunkenness, revels, carousing, and lawless idolatry. They are surprised that you no longer join them in the same excesses of dissipation, and so they blaspheme. But they will have to give an accounting to him who stands ready to judge the living and the dead. For this is the reason the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does. The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Silence

The conclusion of the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 19:38-42

New Revised Standard Version

Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, though a secret one because of his fear of the Jews, asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. Pilate gave him permission; so he came and removed his body. Nicodemus, who had at first come to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, according to the burial custom of the Jews. Now there was a garden in the place where he was crucified, and in the garden there was a new tomb in which no one had ever been laid. And so, because it was the Jewish day of Preparation, and the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

The Homily

Anthem

BCP 492

In the midst of life we are in death;
from whom can we seek help?
From you alone, O Lord,
who by our sins are justly angered.

**Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy and merciful Savior,
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.**

Lord, you know the secrets of our hearts;
shut not your ears to our prayers,
but spare us, O Lord.

**Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy and merciful Savior,
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.**

O worthy and eternal Judge,
do not let the pains of death
turn us away from you at our last hour.

**Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy and merciful Savior,
deliver us not into the bitterness of eternal death.**

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:
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.

Concluding Grace

The Grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

At the conclusion of the service, all are invited to bow in body or spirit before the altar and depart in silence.

Worship, Fellowship, and Formation/Education

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

Sunday Schedule

Sundays:

- **8 am:** Traditional, Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- **9 am:** Formation/Education for All Ages
- **10 am:** Welcoming, multi-generational Holy Eucharist. This service is also livestreamed via YouTube Live.
- **11-ish am:** Coffee Hour Fellowship
- **5:30 pm:** Holy Eucharist with Celtic Evensong, with Celtic ensemble

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.

Formation for All Ages Resumes Apr 12 **Children**

- 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. Meets in the Library.

Youth *An inclusive, welcoming community*

- Youth in grades 6-12 gather on the Youth Floor for conversation and explorations of faith related topics
- Youth Group: Meets first and third Sundays 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

Adults gather in Sydnor Hall for forum presentations on a variety of faith topics by diverse presenters.

Young Adults (18 - 45)

Our Campus and 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.

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

Interested in Baptism? We welcome anyone seeking life in Christ for themselves or a child through baptism. Please contact our Rector or Interim Associate Rector to begin the conversation.

Mark Your Calendars

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

Special Thanks to Our Flower Guild

The beautiful flowers you see are thanks to the loving artistry and ministry of our flower guild. We hope you enjoy these blooms as a living symbol of resurrection.

Easter Egg Hunt Returns!

Our beloved Annual Easter Egg Hunt is back Easter Sunday at 9:15 am. A big thank you to all of our volunteers who helped stuff and hide the eggs. 1-3 years search in Sydnor Courtyard, 4-7 years search Renwick Courtyard, and 8-11 years search in Market Square.

Concert Series – April 19 at 3 pm

Our monthly Concert Series closes out the season with an Organ Concert featuring the Organist Friends of St. George's. The concert is free with donations accepted at the door.

Shrine Mont Sunday - April 26

Join us at the Adult Forum on Sunday, April 26 at 9 am as we unveil the theme for this year's Parish Weekend Oct. 10-12 at Shrine Mont! Registrations open that day. Any questions, please contact Danielle Davis (danielle@stgeorgesepiscopal.net).

Outdoor Worship and Parish Picnic

We will hold our 10 am service and parish picnic on May 31 outside, weather permitting, at Hurkamp Park. More information to come.

Youth Summer Service Week -

Save the Date: June 15-19, 2026

Youth Summer Service Days are back this year! Save the dates for June 15-19. We will meet each morning at 9 am at St. George's before going offsite for various service projects. All rising middle and high school students are welcome to participate. Scan the QR Code to register.



Vacation Bible School Music Camp –

Save the Date: July 20-24, 2026

VBS and Music Camp will be back again this summer! Save the dates of July 20-24 for what will be a splendid week of fun, fellowship, crafts, and music! Any children, rising K-6, are welcome to join us. Scan the QR code to register.



Join a Small Group

Want to connect with other St. Georgians? Our new small group cohort is starting soon. Scan the QR code to sign up! Contact Deacon Joyce Beschta with questions: 828.388.1199, joyce-beschta@gmail.com.



St. George's Celebrates the Faulkners

Join us May 3, 2-4 p.m., to celebrate the legacy of the Rev. Tom and Mary Faulkner who served St. George's for 30+ years. Speakers include Anne Faulkner Ridgeway and the Rev. Charles Sydnor. Includes a reception in newly restored Faulkner Hall, part of our Open to All in Love project.

Connecting in Community

Questions? Or would you like to get connected with clergy? Please contact the church office: 540.373.4133 office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

Connect with Us



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

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. Or, stop by the Newcomer Cart in the narthex (by the church entrance).

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

Open to All in Love Capital Campaign Update

Our Open to All in Love Capital Construction Project addresses four core areas: Maintenance, Endowment, Accessibility, and Columbarium. So far, we have received pledges totaling just over \$3M towards the \$5M anticipated total project cost.

In Summer of 2025, we began the first phase of our Open to All in Love Construction Project. This portion, now complete, included building an interior accessibility ramp connecting Sydnor Hall with the church offices, transforming the office hallways (once of which becoming ADA compliant), and addressing structural repairs needed in Faulkner Hall. In the process, Faulkner Hall, the Nursery, and Elsie Lewis Meeting Room all received a refresh with new flooring and paint.

Phase II of the project includes building an ADA ramp in the graveyard so all can access the church with dignity, constructing a columbarium, adding a handrail along the graveyard path to the church office, and addressing significant water infiltration on the interior and exterior of the building. Currently, we are finalizing the contract for with our contractor, Daniel & Co., with an estimated beginning date for construction in early summer.

St. George's Open to All in Love Capital Campaign emerged from the dreams of parishioners – like you – to make sure our facilities are truly welcoming and accessible to all both today and for generations to come. Thank you to all who have given and have made a financial pledge.



Scan the QR code to learn more about the project and for information on how to make a financial gift to support it. If you have any additional questions, please contact the church office: 540.373.4133 office@stgeorgesepiscopal.net.

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

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

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.

Preacher:

the Rev. Joseph H. Hensley, Jr.

Reader:

Jeanette Cadwallender

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

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 7127

Fredericksburg, VA 22404

540.373.4133 (office)

Pastoral Emergencies:

540.361.8573 (call or text)

StGeorgesEpiscopal.net
