



St. George's
Episcopal
Church

Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist 10:00 am

The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday
March 29, 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
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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 Sunday of the Passion: from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP)
Palm Sunday
March 29, 2026

The Liturgy of the Palms takes place in front of the Presbyterian Church, before processing to the two churches. There will be a simpler version led in the Nave. Please take a palm frond to hold during the service, available in the narthex entryway. Once the outdoor procession reaches St. George's, the service continues below with the hymn.

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. 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 154: "All glory, laud and honor" *Valet will ich dir geben*
Refrain: All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King!
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

**Thou art the King of Israel, thou David's royal Son,
who in the Lord's Name comest, the King and Blessed One.**
Refrain

**The company of angels in praising thee on high;
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.**
Refrain

**The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
our praise and prayers and anthems before thee we present.**
Refrain

**To thee before thy passion they sang their hymns of praise;
to thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.**
Refrain

**Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring,
who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.**
Refrain

The Word of God

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect (Prayer) of the Day

BCP 219

Almighty and everliving God, in your tender love for the human race you sent your Son our Savior Jesus Christ to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross, giving us the example of his great humility: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Isaiah 50:4-9a *New Revised Standard Version*

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens--wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able and face the aisle. The Psalm is said antiphonally¹ (alternating sides of the church) by whole verse beginning on the left (Eagle lectern) side.

9 Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble; *

my eye is consumed with sorrow,
and also my throat and my belly.

10 For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing; *

my strength fails me because of affliction,
and my bones are consumed.

11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors,
a dismay to those of my acquaintance; *

when they see me in the street they avoid me.

12 I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; *

I am as useless as a broken pot.

13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;

fear is all around; *

they put their heads together against me;
they plot to take my life.

14 But as for me, I have trusted in you, O Lord. *

I have said, "You are my God.

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."

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.

Sequence Hymn 435 (St. 1-4): "At the name of Jesus"

King's Weston

At the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow,
every tongue confess him King of glory now;
'tis the Father's pleasure we should call him Lord,
who from the beginning was the mighty Word.

Humbled for a season, to receive a Name
from the lips of sinners, unto whom he came,
faithfully he bore it spotless to the last,
brought it back victorious, when from death he passed;

Bore it up triumphant, with its human light,
through all ranks of creatures, to the central height,
to the throne of God-head, to the Father's breast;
filled it with the glory of that perfect rest.

Name him, Christians, name him, with love strong as death,
name with awe and wonder and with bated breath;
he is God the Savior, he is Christ the Lord,
ever to be worshiped, trusted, and adored.

The congregation is seated. The Passion Gospel is divided into two sections: Matthew 26:14-27:31 and 27:31-66. The second section will be read at the conclusion of the service.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 26:14-27:31 NRSV
People: Glory to you, O Christ.

One of the twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What will you give me if I betray him to you?" They paid him thirty pieces of silver. And from that moment he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is near; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he took his place with the twelve; and while they were eating, he said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me." And they became greatly distressed and began to say to him one after another, "Surely not I, Lord?" He answered, "The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born." Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Surely not I, Rabbi?" He replied, "You have said so."

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters because of me this night; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Though all become deserters because of you, I will never desert you." Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I go over there and pray." He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me." And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me; yet not what I want but what you want." Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter, "So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again he went away for the second time and prayed, "My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done." Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words. Then he came to the disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? See, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

While he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; with him was a large crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the elders of the people. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him." At once he came up to Jesus and said, "Greetings, Rabbi!" and kissed him. Jesus said to him, "Friend, do what you are here to do." Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and arrested him. Suddenly, one of those with Jesus put his hand on his sword, drew it, and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then would the scriptures be fulfilled, which say it must happen in this way?" At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me."

But all this has taken place, so that the scriptures of the prophets may be fulfilled." Then all the disciples deserted him and fled.

Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas the high priest, in whose house the scribes and the elders had gathered. But Peter was following him at a distance, as far as the courtyard of the high priest; and going inside, he sat with the guards in order to see how this would end. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for false testimony against Jesus so that they might put him to death, but they found none, though many false witnesses came forward. At last two came forward and said, "This fellow said, 'I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.'" The high priest stood up and said, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" But Jesus was silent. Then the high priest said to him, "I put you under oath before the living God, tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God." Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, From now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "He has blasphemed! Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your verdict?" They answered, "He deserves death." Then they spat in his face and struck him; and some slapped him, saying, "Prophesy to us, you Messiah! Who is it that struck you?"

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before all of them, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about." When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." Again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man." After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you." Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know the man!" At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people conferred together against Jesus in order to bring about his death. They bound him, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate the governor.

When Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he repented and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders. He said, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." But they said, "What is that to us? See to it yourself." Throwing down the pieces of silver in the temple, he departed; and he went and hanged himself. But the chief priests, taking the pieces of silver, said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, since they are blood money." After conferring together, they used them to buy the potter's field as a place to bury foreigners. For this reason that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was

fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah, "And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of the one on whom a price had been set, on whom some of the people of Israel had set a price, and they gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord commanded me."

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You say so." But when he was accused by the chief priests and elders, he did not answer. Then Pilate said to him, "Do you not hear how many accusations they make against you?" But he gave him no answer, not even to a single charge, so that the governor was greatly amazed.

Now at the festival the governor was accustomed to release a prisoner for the crowd, anyone whom they wanted. At that time they had a notorious prisoner, called Jesus Barabbas. So after they had gathered, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you, Jesus Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Messiah?" For he realized that it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent word to him, "Have nothing to do with that innocent man, for today I have suffered a great deal because of a dream about him." Now the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to have Jesus killed. The governor again said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas." Pilate said to them, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" All of them said, "**Let him be crucified!**" Then he asked, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "**Let him be crucified!**"

So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves." Then the people as a whole answered, "**His blood be on us and on our children!**" So he released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the governor's headquarters, and they gathered the whole cohort around him. They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on his head. They put a reed in his right hand and knelt before him and mocked him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" They spat on him, and took the reed and struck him on the head. After mocking him, they stripped him of the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

Deacon or Priest: The Gospel of our Savior.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily

The Rev. Rock Higgins

Prayer for Peace *A special "peace" candle is lit and this prayer is offered*
Almighty God, ruler of the hosts of heaven, guide the nations of the world
into the way of justice and peace, bring relief and healing to those suffering
the wounds of war, help us all to pray for enemies and to repent of violence,
through the might of the Prince of Peace, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Form VI BCP 393

The Leader and People pray responsively

In peace, we pray to you, O God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sarah, Sean, Mark, Gayle, and Mark our Bishops; and for all bishops, lay min-
isters, deacons, and priests.

For all who serve God in God's Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence as the People add their own petitions

Hear us, O God;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, O God, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence as the People add their own thanksgivings

We will exalt you, O God our Ruler;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal reign.
Silence as the People add their own petitions
O God, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

Celebrant: Loving Jesus, Protect and sustain us with your hand. Open the door of your love that, sealed with your wisdom, we may be free to serve you with joy. **Amen.**²

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

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, 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, "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!*

Offertory Anthem: "God so loved the world"

Bob Chillcot

² This prayer is attributed to St. Gertrude ("Gertrude the Great" 1256-1302), Benedictine nun, mystic, and theologian

Presentation Hymn WLP 761: "All Who Hunger Gather Gladly"³ *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. Here, 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 1

Enriching Our Worship

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.

The Celebrant says

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; For our sins he was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who put their trust in him.

The Celebrant continues

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

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.

3 Words by Sylvia G Dunstan (1955-1993.) During Women's History Month we are noting the women authors and composers of hymns and prayers.

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love.

Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, 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 poured out for you and for all 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.

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with [_____and] all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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.

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 toward the communion ministers when prompted (notify an usher if you need to receive at your seat). If you prefer to kneel, kneel at the far end of the communion rail, and one of the ministers will come to you.*
- *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.

Communion Hymn 168 (St.1-3):

"O sacred head, sore wounded"

Herzlich tut mich verlangen

O sacred head, sore wounded, defiled and put to scorn;

O kingly head, surrounded with mocking crown of thorn;

what sorrow mars thy grandeur? Can death thy bloom deflower?

O countenance whose splendor the hosts of heaven adore!

Thy beauty, long desired, hath vanished from our sight;

thy power is all expired, and quenched the light of light.

Ah me! For whom thou diest, hide not so far thy grace:

show me, O Love most highest, the brightness of thy face.

In thy most bitter passion my heart to share doth cry,

with thee for my salvation upon the cross to die.

Ah, keep my heart thus moved to stand thy cross beneath,

to mourn thee, well beloved, yet thank thee for thy death.

Music During Communion

Instrumental Music

"Jesus, remember me"

Taize

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

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.

The Prayer After Communion

Enriching Our Worship

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Solemn Prayer over the People

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

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people; that rightly observing this holy season, they may learn to know you more fully, and to serve you with a more perfect will; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn WLP 804: "Steal Away (vs 1 -2)"

Carl Haywood

Refrain: Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus!

Steal away, steal away home, I ain't got long to stay here!

**My Lord he calls me, he calls me by the thunder,
The trumpet sounds within my soul. I ain't got long to stay here.**
Refrain

**Green trees are bending, poor sinner stands atrembling,
the trumpet sounds within my soul. I ain't got long to stay here.**
Refrain

The congregation stands for the conclusion of the Gospel reading.

The ending of the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 27:31-66

Then they led him away to crucify him.

As they went out, they came upon a man from Cyrene named Simon; they compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall; but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his clothes among themselves by casting lots; then they sat down there and kept watch over him. Over his head they put the charge against him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews."

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'" The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way.

From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabach-thani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" When some of

the bystanders heard it, they said, "This man is calling for Elijah." At once one of them ran and got a sponge, filled it with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink. But the others said, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to save him." Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. The earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now when the centurion and those with him, who were keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were terrified and said, "Truly this man was God's Son!"

Many women were also there, looking on from a distance; they had followed Jesus from Galilee and had provided for him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who was also a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus; then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. So Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock. He then rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, "Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise again.' Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise his disciples may go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has been raised from the dead,' and the last deception would be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can." So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone.

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.

NO Formation Today: Please gather at the Presbyterian Church at 9:50 am

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: *Intergenerational Forum*:** Instead of our usual Sunday school and Forum, we will have a shortened intergenerational session at 9 am to include all ages (with intentional inclusion of children and youth) and to explore the meaning of Holy Week and the special worship services that are offered. We will end at 9:30 in order to have time to prepare for the Palm Sunday procession which begins at The Presbyterian Church. Led by our Rector.

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

Palm Sunday Procession – Today

Thanks to our friends at The Presbyterian Church for a festive Palm Sunday procession at the 10 am service. Take a palm from the narthex/entryway, and see an usher for directions.

Easter Sunday Services

We anticipate a full house for Easter Sunday, especially at the 10 am service. Parishioners who would enjoy attending the 8 am or 5:30 pm services are encouraged to do so to make space for additional visitors and guests. Note that the 8 am service will include a full complement of hymns and service music.

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, joycebeschta@gmail.com.



Easter Egg Hunt - Easter Sunday, 9 am

Join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday (April 5) at 9 am. 1-3 years will search in Sydnor Courtyard, 4-7 years will search at the Renwick Courtyard, and 8-11 years search in Market Square.

Today's Altar Arrangement:

The altar arrangement is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Eleonore T. and William G. Buhmann by Eleonore Spears, arranged by Flower Guild members Ann Tebbutt, JoAnne Rose and Jane Hunsucker

Easter Egg Filler Donation

As Easter approaches please consider donating fillers for the Easter eggs for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Suggested donations include: candy (no chocolate or nuts), dress up jewelry, stickers, little bubble containers, small toys, erasers, etc.) There will be a box in the Narthex/entryway for donations (or bring to the church office by Wednesday). Any and all donations are appreciated!

Youth Summer Service Week -

Save the Date: June 15-19, 2026

We will be having a summer youth service week June 15-19, approximately 9-4 daily. We are finalizing the details, but every day we will have a mix of service, fun, and faith elements. All rising middle and high school students are welcome to attend. 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 (music performance on July 26) for what will be a splendid week of fun, fellowship, crafts, and music! Any children, rising K-6, are welcome to join us. We are also looking for teenage



and parent volunteers to help lead the camper groups and run the stations. Our theme will be announced soon! Scan the QR code to register.



Holy Week and Easter Worship

Palm Sunday – March 29, 2026

8 am: Holy Eucharist Rite I

10 am: Holy Eucharist Rite II (service livestreamed on YouTube Live)

5:30 pm: Celtic Evensong

Monday – March 30, 2026

5:30 pm: Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Tuesday Taize Worship – March 31, 2026

7 pm: Sung evening prayer service featuring the music of Taize, an international worshipping community

Wednesday – April 1, 2026

12 pm: Noon Eucharist with with Prayers for Healing

Maundy Thursday – April 2, 2026

7 pm: Holy Eucharist with optional footwashing and stripping of the altar.

Good Friday – April 3, 2026

12 pm: Good Friday Liturgy from the Book of Common Prayer

2 pm: Micah Ministries' Ecumenical Stations of the Cross (1013 Princess Anne St).

7 pm: Good Friday Liturgy

Holy Saturday – April 4, 2026

8:30 am: Holy Saturday Liturgy

5 pm: Liturgy of the Light in Sydnor Hall – first service of Easter for children and their families.

8 pm: The Great Vigil of Easter with Baptisms

Easter Sunday – April 5, 2026

6:30 am: Micah Sunrise Service – at Fredericksburg United Methodist

8 am: Holy Eucharist Rite I with organ

9:15 am: Easter Egg Hunt for children of all ages.

10 am: Holy Eucharist Rite II with organ and jazz ensemble

5:30 pm: Celtic Evensong and Holy Eucharist

Scan to
learn more



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:

Sarah (newly installed Archbishop of Canterbury), 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 and Cynthia McRae

Those in convalescence:

Joyce Snead, Gunnar Burns, Ellen Sharp, Vicki Harrison, Barry Krause, Barbara Atkins, Charles Bullock, Stuart Whitford, Rev. Carey Connors, *Jordan Hinkebein*

Those expecting children:

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

Those recently born:

David Alphonso Maxfield, Riley Paige Johnson, *Mercer Hinkebein, son of Chris and Jordan Hinkebein*

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

Those preparing for Baptism at the Easter Vigil and the Sunday after Easter

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

The Anglican Church of Melanesia

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Anglican Church of Melanesia

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

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 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

Preacher:

The Rev. Rock Higgins

Liturgical Coordinator:

Liz Talbot

Lectors:

Sara Bumsted
Cathy Powers

Lay Eucharistic Ministers:

Vicki Lewis
Jim Lewis
Liz Talbot
Tom Kanatous

Personal Prayer Minister:

Barbara Bumsted

Lay Eucharistic Visitor:

Pat Baughman

Livestream Tech:

Jake DeNap

Greeters:

Jim Lewis
Pat Baughman

Acolytes:

Sandi Davis
Olivia Kisila
Margaret Ford
Dana Cherry

Ushers:

Tommy Thompson
Gabi Kelly
John Castles

Altar Guild:

Barbara Blose
Lee Ann Hecker
Cindy Helton
Liz Talbot
Marilyn Farrington

Flower Guild:

Ann Tebbutt
JoAnne Rose
Jane Hunsucker

Coffee Hour:

Kitty Clark

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
StGeorgesEpiscopal.net
