



St. George's
Episcopal
Church

Celtic Evensong with Holy Communion

**The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 16, 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 worshiping online or in person, we are glad you are here. We hope you will find comfort in the beauty of the worship and encouragement in your personal faith journey.

New to St. George's?

Thank you for joining us today! You can use this bulletin to follow along with the worship service. We use liturgies based in the red *Book of Common Prayer*. Hymns are from the blue *Hymnal 1982* and green *Wonder, Love, and Praise*. All are located in your pew. Watch fellow worshipers for when to stand or sit, and please only do what is comfortable for you. We'd love to get to know you and help get you connected with our parish ministries, formation, and fellowship groups.



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. We welcome the chance to meet you!

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:

- Nurture the faith of children through music, Bible stories, and fun fellowship at our Vacation Bible School Music Camp in July.
- Share clothes and school supplies with families in need through the annual School Dressing Days project.

Families with children: Nursing mothers are welcome to nurse anywhere in the church. Childcare services are also available during the 10 am service in our nursery room (in the office hallway, one level below the main church). Please see an usher or greeter for directions. A "Soft Space" is available at the front of the church for children and families to stretch out, move around or sit more comfortably.



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 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 16, 2026

from the red Book of Common Prayer
(BCP), *Enriching Our Worship*, and forms
of prayer from around the world.

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! We welcome you to this service, whether you have been here often or if this is your first time. Please use this bulletin as your guide to participate. Please note the announcements about ways to connect and upcoming events. May this time of worship and prayer be a blessing to you.

Prelude: Bruadar Mara
Cur na tamailte

*Hebrides Folksong
Hebrides Folksong*

One minute of silence follows the prelude. Please rise or rise in spirit at the ringing of the bell.

Opening Poem: "Hope" is the thing with feathers
"Hope" is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -

Emily Dickinson

And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -
And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm -

I've heard it in the chilliest land -
And on the strangest Sea -
Yet - never - in Extremity,
It asked a crumb - of me.

Opening Hymn 490: "I want to walk as a child of the light"

Houston

Gather in God's Name

Officiant: Come to us this night, O God

All: Come to us with light.

Officiant: Speak to us this night, O God.

All: Speak to us your truth.

Officiant: Dwell with us this night, O God,

All: Dwell with us in love.

Officiant: Almighty God, who pours out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and of prayer: Deliver us, when we draw near to you, from coldness of heart and wanderings of mind, that with steadfast thoughts and kindled affections we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Proclaim and Respond to the Word of God

The Reading from the Gospel

Matthew 15: 10-28

Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile." Jesus left Gennesaret and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Silence is observed after the reading

Meditation

The Rev. K. Paige Trivett, Deacon

Two minutes of silence will follow.

Music for Meditation: Sit Under My Protection

F. O'Neill

Pray for the World and the Church

Prayers of the People (adapted from form V BCP 389)

Officiant: Let us pray to God.

Leader 1: For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming.

Officiant: God of mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader 2: For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Good News with love.

Officiant: God of mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader 1: For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples.

Officiant: God of mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader 2: For those in positions of public trust and those seeking election, that they may serve justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person.

Officiant: God of mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader 1: For a blessing upon all human labor and the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, disaster, famine, and greed.

Officiant: God of mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader 2: For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for the relief and protection of refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger.

Officiant: God of mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader 1: For our enemies and those who wish us harm, and for all whom we have injured or offended.

Officiant: God of mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader 2: For this congregation of St. George's and for clearness of mission about who we are and what you call us to do.

Officiant: God of mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader 1: For all who have asked for our prayers, that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health.

Officiant: God of mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader 2: For all who have died and all who mourn. May they have rest with you in life eternal.

Officiant: God of mercy

People: Hear our prayer.

Concluding Collect: Creator, we give you thanks for all you are and all you bring to us for our visit within your creation. In Jesus, you place the Gospel in the center of this sacred circle through which all of creation is related. You show us the way to live a generous and compassionate life. Give us your strength to live together with respect and commitment as we grow in your spirit, for you are God, now and forever. Amen.¹

If you like, please come forward during the music and light a candle as an embodied symbol of your prayer. The clergy is available to pray with you, or to take special prayer requests during this time.

Instrumental Music:

Manx Lullaby

McFarlane's Lament

Traditional Isle of Man

Irish Melody

"Bless the Lord, my soul"

Taizé

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's Holy Name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

in unison

Eternal Spirit Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all. Loving God, in whom is heaven, the hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

¹ This prayer is from A Disciple's Prayer Book, a worship resource from the Indigenous Ministries of the Episcopal Church

Exchange the Peace

Christ, the Good Shepherd, binds us with a bond of love that cannot be broken.
My sisters and brothers, the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

All are now invited to exchange a sign of peace.

Prepare the Table

As we prepare to make Eucharist, the holy feast of thanksgiving and grace, we present ourselves and our gifts to God and remember that Jesus said, "Abide in my love...I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete."

It is a joy to gather together this evening, and we especially welcome anyone who is visiting or here for the first time. Please see more information in the bulletin notes and feel free to introduce yourself after the service. There are also printed instructions about receiving communion or a blessing. Praise God from whom all blessings flow. As the table is prepared, we invite you to consider a gift in support of our ministry within and beyond our congregation. Make your offering online (<http://bit.ly/stggive>), in the alms basin provided in the aisle, or by mail to the church. Please note the announcements at the rear of this bulletin. For the latest updates and messages of encouragement, check our website (StGeorgesEpiscopal.net) and subscribe to our email newsletter (<http://bit.ly/stgenews>).

Offertory Music: Nora an cuil omra

Irish Aire

A Celtic Service Communion Prayer² *Please stand.*

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the holy ruler of all creation.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Celebrant gives thanks to God for the work of creation and the revelation of God to God's people.

It is right to give you thanks, O Most High— Mother, Father, Source of all Creation. Through your Word and with Holy Wisdom you shaped the heavens and the earth. You formed us from the clay and breathed your Spirit into us. Through prophets and poets, you taught us your ways. When we wandered, your mercy met us. In exile, you called us home. And so, with angels and saints, with rivers that clap their hands and hills that sing for joy, we join in the eternal hymn of your glory, singing:

Sanctus: WLP 850

Jonathan Dimmock

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest, the highest.**

The Celebrant now praises God for the salvation of the world through Jesus Christ our Savior.

O God, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, your only Son, to be our Savior, fully human and fully divine. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, he was born of your servant, Mary, and lived as one of us. To those in poverty, he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new. 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 he 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."

Recalling now his suffering and death, and celebrating his resurrection and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

People: Accept, O God, our sacrifice of praise, this memorial of our redemption.

Send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts. Let them be for us the Body and Blood of your Son.

People: And grant that we who eat this bread and drink this cup may be filled with your life and goodness.

The Celebrant then prays that all may receive the benefits of Christ's work, and the renewal of the Holy Spirit.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us to renew us, that we may receive the benefits of Christ's work in heart, mind, body, and soul.

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

Celebrant: As Jesus taught his disciples, we now pray,
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Break the Bread

Fraction Anthem: O Lamb of God

Jonathan Dimmock

[Cantor]



O Lamb of God that tak - est a - way the sins of the

6



world, have mer-cy, have mer - cy on us.

11

[All]



O Lamb of God that tak - est a - way the sins of the

16



world, have mer-cy, have mer - cy on us.

21



O Lamb of God that tak - est a - way the

25



sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Celebrant: This is the table, not simply of the church, but of Christ our savior. It is made ready for those who love Christ and those who want to love more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is Christ who invites you. It is God's will that those who wish should meet the love of Christ here.

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).*
- *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.

Music during Communion: Inis Siar

Thomas Walsh

Prayer After Communion *Please stand.*

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Savior Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew us and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.

Go into the World

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 487: "Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life"

The Call

The Dismissal

Officiant: Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be upon you always.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Murphy's Hornpipe

Tobin

Acknowledgments

The Opening Poem by Emily Dickinson. Worship materials gratefully reproduced from *Book of Common Prayer* (1979), *A New Zealand Prayer Book* (1997), and *Enriching Our Worship* (1998).

Announcements

Godly Play Story Today

Join us today during the 11 am coffee hour for a special Godly Play story about Joseph with The Rev. Dr. Rosemary Beales. Learn more about our Children's Formation groups and please consider sticking around afterward for a Sunday School Teachers meeting. Whether you are interested in joining us as a Sunday School teacher, or if you are curious about the different formation groups we offer, you are welcome to join.

Music Retreat - Saturday, August 22

Interested in making music? Come and join the St. George's Music Retreat on Saturday, August 22 beginning at 9.30 am. All are welcome whether you are High school students, working adults, retirees, or someone who enjoys music or wants to explore it for the first time. The Jazz Band (Nave) and Celtic Musicians (Music Room) begin at 9:30 AM, followed by a short welcome and coffee break to which singers are invited to join at 10:15 AM in the Music Room. No music-reading skills are needed for choir singers; Jazz and Celtic participants should have basic music-reading ability. Questions? Contact Achim Loch and Lucy Monte at music@stgeorgese-piscopal.net.

Today's Altar Arrangement:

The altar arrangement is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Patricia Jones by her husband Harry, her children and family, arranged by Flower Guild member Cindy Helton.

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

New Youth Group begins August 23

Under the leadership of Fr. Ethan Lowery and Amy Bogardus, Youth from St. George's, Trinity, and Christ Lutheran will gather together twice a month at the Campus Christian Center (1213 Dandridge St. near UMW) from 12-1:30 with lunch included. Upcoming dates are 8/23, 9/6, and 9/20. Building on the experience of our shared campus ministry, this Episcopal/Lutheran youth community will be a place of welcome, friendship, and fun. Contact Fr. Ethan (missioner@thehouseofxbg.org) for more information.

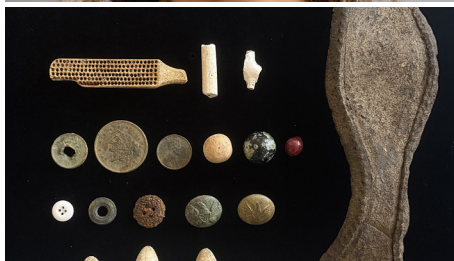
Children and Youth Formation Resumes August 23

Get ready for an exciting year of Children and Youth Formation! Join us on Sunday, August 23 at 9 am as we kick off a new school year with Sunday School opportunities for all ages. This year's programs include:

- Godly Play for children in Pre-K through 2nd grade
- SPLASH (Spirit, Play, Love All Spoken Here) for 3rd-5th graders
- The Dragon's Den, our new formation group for middle school students in grades 6-8
- Youth Formation for high school students in grades 9-12

We're looking forward to a wonderful year of faith, learning, and fellowship as our children and youth grow in their relationship with God. Be sure to register your child by scanning the QR code:





Presentation of the Archaeological Study of St. George's Church Property

St. George's Episcopal Church invites the public to attend a special presentation of the recently completed archaeological study of the church property on Sunday, August 30, from 2 pm – 4 pm in Sydnor Hall.

The presentation will be led by Dr. Kerri Barile Tambs, Principal Investigator with Mead & Hunt, who directed the archaeological research conducted as part of St. George's ongoing Open to All in Love construction and accessibility project. The study examined areas within McGuire Hall, Faulkner Hall, and the historic churchyard and has yielded significant new insights into nearly 300 years of Fredericksburg history.

Among the report's most important findings are the discovery of previously unknown remains of St. George's second church, built in 1815, and new evidence documenting how the church grounds and graveyard have changed over time. Archaeologists uncovered foundation features, stone column supports, architectural materials, and other evidence that allowed researchers to reconstruct the appearance and location of the long-lost church building.



Scan the QR code 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, Sean, Mark, Gayle, and Mark (Bishops); for Joe, Paige, Frank 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, Emma, Meredith, Sojo, Juliann, Stephanie and Lucy; and for our Vestry.

Those needing God's grace:

Rev. Aaron Dobynes, Paul Sungenis, Helen Soheili, Soheili Family, Emily Croner, Chris and Cynthia McRae, Jillian Pabalan, John Danello, Ellen Sharp, Makenna M, Lisa Bogardus, Jennifer Haines, Fisher Family, Kathy Dozois (mother of Christine McElhinney), Gabi Kelly, Linda Dolph, Shane Kanatous, Julie Bergeria, Peggy McGirr, *Bridgitte Castillo and family, Deborah and Chris, Miriam DeArce (mother of Tom Kanatous)*

Those in convalescence:

Barry Krause, Rev. Carey Connors, Annie Redmond, Ella (daughter of former parishioner Jill Brown), Bob Sarkisian, Ann Tebbutt

Those expecting children:

Maren Cadwallender and Em Sleza, Bernadette Aylward

Those who have died:

Gene Kubal, Patrick Dougherty, Sandra Fisher (daughter of Kevin and Sujei Fisher), Gloria Davis, Bill Upshaw, *Foncee Maym Coker (sister of John Coker)*

Those serving our country overseas:

Jeff Bryant, Travis Weber, Avery Endler

Those with ongoing concerns:

Arya Holmes, Dick Roth, Molly Myers, Claire Simpson, Paula Mullins, Logan Vaaler, Russ Carter, Ron Tebbutt, Janis Hales, Scott Fray, Makai Kingston, Bernardi Brown, Elizabeth Martel, Barbara Atkins

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

Altar and Flower Guilds, Choirs, Ushers, Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers and Lay Readers

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:

The Church in Wales

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

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. K. Paige Trivett, Deacon

Preacher:

The Rev. K. Paige Trivett, Deacon

Greeter:

Sharon Null

Usher:

Marilyn Farrington

Officiant:

Gina Moriarty

Chalice:

Jack Farrington

Candle Setup:

Sharon Null

Reader:

Harry Jones

Prayers:

Chris Ablutz
Mary Miller

Altar Guild:

Jemma Judd
Lee Anne Hecker
Joyce Steele
Marilyn Farrington

Flower Guild:

Cindy Helton

Musicians:

Elyse Ridder-Roe, violin
Mike Grinnan, guitar
Achim Loch, piano
Maggie O'Neal, voice

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

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