



St. George's
Episcopal
Church

Holy Eucharist

Rite I - 8:00 am

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 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.



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
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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 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 16, 2026

from the red Book of Common Prayer
(BCP)

We invite you to prepare for worship by observing silence or taking time for private prayer. Please take a moment to silence cell phones and alarms. We are glad you are here!

Celebrant: Blessed be God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Collect for Purity

BCP 323

Summary of the Law

BCP 324

Kyrie

BCP 324

The Word of God

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit

Celebrant: Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect of the Day

BCP 180

Almighty God, who hast given thy only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive that his inestimable benefit, and also daily endeavor ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Genesis 45:1-15 *New Revised Standard Version*

Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there-- since there are five more years of famine to come-- so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 133**BCP 787****Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32** *New Revised Standard Version*

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew 15: 10-28 NRSV

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

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.

Deacon or Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Frank Uwaezuoke

The Nicene Creed

BCP 326

The Prayers of the People

BCP 328

The Confession

BCP 330

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

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Peace

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

People: And with thy spirit.

All are now invited to exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory and Announcements

Celebrant: As we prepare the altar to receive the offering of Christ in the sacrament, we make our offerings in gratitude for God's abundant grace. Please see the instructions later in the bulletin about participating in Communion or receiving a blessing. Know that you are most welcome. Thank you for sharing your gifts in commitment to God and to our ministry together. As we give thanks for God's abundant grace, "Since you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God." Colossians 3:1. *You can make your offering in the plate as you come forward for communion or send your offering electronically, by mail, or by automated bank withdrawal. See details on the inside cover of this bulletin for an easy to use QR code. Thank you!*

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer I

BCP 333

Sanctus + Benedictus

BCP 341

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 336

The Breaking of the Bread

BCP 337

Lamb of God, Prayer of Humble Access

BCP 337

Invitation to Communion

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All are welcome to participate in Communion, either by receiving the Sacrament or receiving a blessing. Communion is the sacramental body and blood of Jesus Christ received in bread and wine blessed by the Holy Spirit.

- *Proceed forward 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.

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord

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

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.

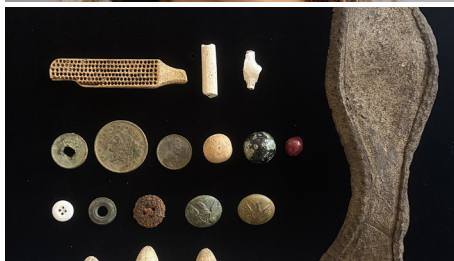
Children and Youth Formation Resumes August 23

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. Frank Uwaezuoke

Preacher:

The Rev. Frank Uwaezuoke

Lector:

Trip Wiggins

Greeter:

Peggy Verdine

Altar Guild:

Jemma Judd
Lee Anne Hecker
Joyce Steele
Marilyn Farrington

Flower Guild:

Cindy Helton

Coffee Hour:

Trip Wiggins

Contact Our Vestry:

The Vestry is our elected, lay leadership council led by our Senior Warden Kit Burns and our Junior Warden Wendy Cannon. The Vestry welcomes your questions, concerns, and feedback. Email them at: vestry@stgeorgesepiscopal.net

St. George's Episcopal Church

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P.O. Box 7127
Fredericksburg, VA 22404
540.373.4133 (office)
Pastoral Emergencies:
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