



# THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

APRIL 19, 2025  
7:30PM

***Welcome to St. George's Episcopal Church*** on this special day when we gather to worship God and rejoice at the baptism of these new members into God's household.

"God is love (1 John 4:16)." God loves every man, woman, and child unconditionally and forever. At baptism, God's love for us is not changed — our relationship with him is. Baptism is the way that we are united with the life, death, and resurrection of Christ "so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life" (Romans 6:4). Through the power of the Holy Spirit who seals us as his own at baptism, we are adopted by God as his children, we are engrafted into the living spiritual organism that is his Church, and we are empowered to share God's royal status and his ongoing work to redeem the world.

Furthermore, at our baptism, we are not only united with Christ; we are also united with one another through Christ. "We, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another" (Romans 12:5). Having been adopted through baptism into a family of God's saints that is bigger than we can ever imagine, we are heirs of an experience of life that Jesus described as the kingdom of God, in which we continually grow in an awareness of the love of God that starts today and lasts forever. Our baptism into the life of Jesus Christ gives us the power to love God and to love one another the way God loves us.

Following the ancient practice of the apostles and the early Church, we baptize infants as well as adults. The gift of salvation and of new life in Christ is a free gift, preceding and making possible our response to it. "We love God because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19). In the same way that we were born into earthly life as a gift, so we too are born anew by God into heavenly life as a gift. The spiritual promises that are made on behalf of infants by their parents and godparents at baptism are affirmed when those children mature and are ready to participate in the Rite of Confirmation.

Because of our baptism, even when we feel lonely, we know that we are never alone because we trust in the indwelling presence of God. Because of our baptism, even when we feel sad, we know that we can place our hope in God whom we can trust to bring all things to serve his purpose. Because of our baptism, even when we feel weary, we know that we can trust in the power of God's Spirit who will always restore and renew us and will never leave us. All of these gifts, and so many more, are made possible through the gift that God makes of himself to us and to all who receive him at baptism.

*A NOTE ON INCENSE* *Incense is a sign (in sight and smell) of our prayers rising before God, of purification, and of blessing. It also reminds us that in worship, we are covered by and caught up in God's holy presence.*

# THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

*The people's responses are in bold.*

## THE LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

*The Book of Common Prayer (BCP), p. 285*

*The congregation gathers in the Gathering Space Courtyard. In the darkness, fire is kindled, after which the Celebrant says:*

Dear friends in Christ: On this most holy night, in which our Lord Jesus passed over from death to life, the Church invites her members, dispersed throughout the world, to gather in vigil and prayer. For this is the Passover of the Lord, in which, by hearing his Word and celebrating his sacraments, we share in his victory over death.

Let us pray.

O God, through your Son you have bestowed upon your people the brightness of your light: Sanctify this new fire, and grant that in this Paschal feast we may so burn with heavenly desires, that with pure minds we may attain to the festival of everlasting light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End, the Alpha and the Omega. All time belongs to him, and all ages. To him be glory and power through every age forever. **Amen.**

By his holy and glorious wounds may Christ our Lord guard us and keep us. **Amen.**

*The Paschal Candle is lighted from the newly kindled fire, and the Deacon bearing the Candle leads the procession to the chancel, pausing three times and singing*



*Hymnal S68*

*At the second and third pause, the Versicle and Response is sung successively higher.*

## THE EXSULTET

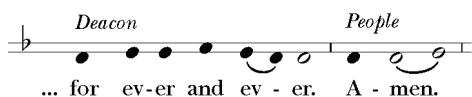
*Hymnal S69*

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels, and let your trumpets shout salvation for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth, bright with a glorious splendor, for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Rejoice and be glad now, mother Church, and let your holy courts, in radiant light, resound with the praises of your people.

All you who stand near this marvelous and holy flame, pray with me to God the Almighty for the grace to sing the worthy praise of this great light; through Jesus Christ his Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God...



Deacon  
The Lord be with you.

People  
And al - so with you.

Deacon  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right and good, always and everywhere, with our whole heart and mind and voice, to praise you, the invisible, almighty, and eternal God, and your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who at the feast of the Passover paid for us the debt of Adam's sin, and by his blood delivered your faithful people.

This is the night, when you brought our fathers, the children of Israel, out of bondage in Egypt, and led them through the Red Sea on dry land.

This is the night, when all who believe in Christ are delivered from the gloom of sin, and are restored to grace and holiness of life.

This is the night, when Christ broke the bonds of death and hell, and rose victorious from the grave.

How wonderful and beyond our knowing, O God, is your mercy and loving-kindness to us, that to redeem a slave, you gave a Son.

How holy is this night, when wickedness is put to flight, and sin is washed away. It restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to those who mourn. It casts out pride and hatred, and brings peace and concord.

How blessed is this night, when earth and heaven are joined and man is reconciled to God.

Holy Father, accept our evening sacrifice, the offering of this candle in your honor. May it shine continually to drive away all darkness. May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find it ever burning – he who gives his light to all creation, and who lives and reigns...

Deacon  
... for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

People

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*Please be seated.*

Let us hear the record of God's saving deeds in history, how he saved his people in ages past; and let us pray that our God will bring each of us to the fullness of redemption.

THE FIRST OLD TESTAMENT READING • The Story of Creation

*Genesis 1:1—2:4a*

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light;" and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM • *Salvation is created*

Salvation is created in midst of the earth,  
O God, O our God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

*Woosug Kang*  
*The Choir & Senior Choristers of St. George's*  
*Soloists: Enya Joseph, Ashley Xu, and Stella Fernandes*

*Please stand, as you are able.*

Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

THE SECOND OLD TESTAMENT READING • Israel's Deliverance at the Red Sea *Exodus 14:10—15:1*

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. But you lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers."

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch, the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

"I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;  
horse and rider he has thrown into the sea."

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

I will sing to the LORD, for he is lofty and uplifted;  
the horse and its rider has he hurled into the sea.  
The LORD is my strength and my refuge;  
the Lord has become my Savior.  
This is my God and I will praise him,  
the God of my people and I will exalt him.  
The LORD is a mighty warrior;  
Yahweh is his Name.  
The chariots of Pharaoh and his army has he hurled into the sea;  
the finest of those who bear armor have been drowned in the Red Sea.  
The fathomless deep has overwhelmed them;  
they sank into the depths like a stone.  
Your right hand, O LORD, is glorious in might;  
your right hand, O LORD, has overthrown the enemy.  
Who can be compared with you, O LORD, among the gods?  
who is like you, glorious in holiness, awesome in renown, and worker of wonders?  
You stretched forth your right hand;  
the earth swallowed them up.  
With your constant love you led the people you redeemed;  
with your might you brought them in safety to your holy dwelling.  
You will bring them in and plant them  
on the mount of your possession,  
The resting-place you have made for yourself, O LORD,  
the sanctuary, O Lord, that your hand has established.  
The LORD shall reign  
for ever and for ever.

*Please stand, as you are able.*

Let us pray.

O God, whose wonderful deeds of old shine forth even to our own day, you once delivered by the power of your mighty arm your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh, to be a sign for us of the salvation of all nations by the water of Baptism: Grant that all the peoples of the earth may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham, and rejoice in the inheritance of Israel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

THE THIRD OLD TESTAMENT READING • Salvation Offered Freely to All

*Isaiah 55:1-11*

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

CANTICLE 9 • *The First Song of Isaiah*

Gerry Senechal  
*The Choir & Senior Choristers of St. George's*

Surely, it is God who saves me;  
I will trust in him and not be afraid.  
For the LORD is my stronghold and my sure defense,  
and he will be my Savior.  
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing  
from the springs of salvation.  
And on that day you shall say,  
Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name;  
Make his deeds known among the peoples;  
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.  
Sing the praises of the LORD, for he has done great things,  
and this is known in all the world.  
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,  
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

*Please stand, as you are able.*

Let us pray.

O God, you have created all things by the power of your Word, and you renew the earth by your Spirit: Give now the water of life to those who thirst for you, that they may bring forth abundant fruit in your glorious kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

THE FOURTH OLD TESTAMENT READING • A New Heart and a New Spirit

*Ezekiel 36:24–28*

Thus says the Lord God: I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM • *Sicut cervus*

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina  
*The Choir & Senior Choristers of St. George's*

*Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum,  
ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.*

As the deer longs for the springs of water  
so my soul longs for thee, O God.

*Please stand, as you are able.*

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who are reborn into the fellowship of Christ's Body may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## HOLY BAPTISM

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### PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

*BCP, p. 301*

*The congregation extinguishes their candles and remains standing for the procession to the baptistry.*

**Celebrant** The candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

*Candidates who are able to answer for themselves are presented individually by their sponsors.*

**Sponsor** I present *N.* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

**Celebrant** Do you desire to be baptized?

**Candidate** I do.

*Candidates unable to answer for themselves are presented individually by their parents and godparents.*

**Parents & Godparents** I present *N.* to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

*When all unable to answer for themselves have been presented, the celebrant asks the following of the parents and godparents.*

**Celebrant** Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

**Parents & Godparents** I will, with God's help.

**Celebrant** Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

**Parents & Godparents** I will, with God's help.

*The celebrant asks the following questions of the candidates who can speak for themselves and of the parents and godparents who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children.*

**Question** Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

**Answer** I renounce them.

**Question** Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

**Answer** I renounce them.

**Question** Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

**Answer** I renounce them.

**Question** Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

**Answer** I do.

**Question** Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

**Answer** I do.

**Question** Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

**Answer** I do.

*After all have been presented, the celebrant addresses the congregation.*

**Celebrant** Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

**People** **We will.**

**Celebrant** Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

**I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**I will, with God's help.**

#### PRAYERS FOR THE CANDIDATES

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Send them into the world in witness to your love.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Children are invited to sit near the baptistry.*

## THE BAPTISM

*The candidates are presented by name to the celebrant, who pours water upon them.*

I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*The celebrant places a hand on the person's head, marking on the forehead the sign of the cross.*

You are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own for ever. Amen.

*The godparents are presented with a candle.*

Receive the light of Christ. Bear it faithfully in the world.

*After all have been baptized, the celebrant says*

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.**

## THE FIRST EUCHARIST OF EASTER

*The congregation extinguishes their candles. In celebration of the Resurrection, the Church is illumined and a joyful sound is made.*

*Repeated three times.*

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

HYMN • 207 Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

*EASTER HYMN*

THE COLLECT

*BCP, p. 295*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the glory of the Lord's resurrection: Stir up in your Church that Spirit of adoption which is given to us in Baptism, that we, being renewed both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

THE READING

*Romans 6:3–11*

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 28:1–10*

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and

great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

HOMILY

*The Rev. Dr. David Barr*

*Please stand, as you are able.*

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

*Please be seated.*

THE OFFERTORY

*My beloved spake*

*Patrick Hadley  
The Choir & Senior Choristers of St. George's*

My beloved spake, and said unto me:  
Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.  
For, lo, the winter is past,  
the rain is over and gone;  
The flowers appear on the earth;  
the time of the singing of birds is come,  
and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;  
The fig-tree putteth forth her green figs,  
and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell.  
Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

*Please stand, as you are able.*

AT THE PRESENTATION The Festal Doxology

*LAAST UNS ERFREUEN*

Praise God, from whom all bles - sings flow; Praise Him, all crea - tures here be - low; Al - le -  
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly  
Ghost! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

*Holy, holy, holy*

*(Hymnal S128) Mathias*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, \_  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.  
 Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

*Please kneel or remain standing, as you are able.*

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor 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.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with Saint George all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

And now, 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 & THE FRACTION ANTHEM

*BCP, p. 364*

Christ our Passover

*(Hymnal S154) Hurd*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass-o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep \_\_\_\_\_ the feast. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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.

*NOTES ON RECEIVING COMMUNION* All baptized Christians are invited to receive the sacrament, regardless of age or denomination. Those who have not been baptized are welcome to a blessing—indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest. If desired, you may intinct (dip) your wafer at the altar rail or have the LEM intinct it for you. Gluten-free wafers are available at the side station.

#### MUSIC DURING THE COMMUNION

*Most glorious Lord of life*

*William Harris*

*The Choir & Senior Choristers of St. George's*

Most glorious Lord of life, that on this day didst make thy triumph over death and sin,  
And having harrowed hell, didst bring away captivity thence captive, us to win;  
This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin, and grant that we for whom thou diddest die,  
Being with thy dear Blood clean washed from sin, may live for ever in felicity:  
And that thy love we weighing worthily, may likewise love thee for the same again;  
And for thy sake, that all like dear didst buy, with love may one another entertain;  
So let us love, dear Love, like as we ought; Love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

*Please kneel, as you are able.*

## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*BCP, p. 365*

Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his Son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. **Amen.**

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. **Amen.**

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

CLOSING HYMN • 205 Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!

*GELOBT SEI GOTT*

## THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY *Piece de Orgue, BWV 572*

*J.S. Bach*

## WORSHIP NOTES

*Clergy* The Rev. Colin Ambrose, celebrant; the Rev. Dr. David Barr, preacher; the Rev. Zachary Berry; and the Rev. Jason Terhune

*Verger* David Puryear

*Thurifer* Adam Tindal

*Acolyte* Cooper Wells

*Lectors* Jan Allison, Joanne Golann, Julie Hullett, Don Padfield, and Frank Puryear

*Lay Eucharistic Ministers* Lisa Dordal, Tom Gormley, Tameron Hedge, and David Weeks

The ambry candle in the Nave is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Geoffrey Crisco by his mother, Mrs. Hilda M. McGregor.

The ambry candle in the Jane Tompkins Weeks Chapel is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Andrea Jeannine Broadbent by Judith and Kate Broadbent.

## ART NOTES

The Rose Window seen on the front cover was installed above the altar of St. George's Episcopal Church in the summer of 1988 using glass that was handblown in England and France. The design was based on a concept of the Rev. Canon James L. Johnson and executed by Claude A. Howard of Wippell Mowbray Studios in Exeter, England. The design incorporates symbols of the apostles in the outermost petals. The center is comprised of the shields of Canterbury, The Episcopal Church, the Diocese of Tennessee, and St. George to form a golden Canterbury cross. The middle circle of panels incorporates a grape vine design to symbolize the Holy Eucharist. The Rose Window was given to St. George's for the Glory of God and in loving memory of her husband by Mrs. Kenneth E. Rush.

## WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Prayer & Presence | Tuesday, April 7 at 7:00pm**

Led by the Rev. Joe Ananias, this quiet service includes Scripture readings, music led by church member Robbie Moore, and an extended time of prayer. All are warmly welcome to join this monthly gathering in Dandridge Hall.

### **Mission: Mahjong! | Sunday, April 12 at 3:00pm**

Women are invited to join us for a fun afternoon of mahjong in Johnson Hall. St. George's will provide all the materials for this free event, including a complimentary lesson at 2:30pm for beginners. Donations will be collected for Ella's House. Space is limited—RSVP at [stgeorgesnashville.org/women](http://stgeorgesnashville.org/women).

### **75 Years of SGK! | Friday, April 17**

St. George's Kindergarten turns 75 this year! Celebrate with us at this year's Dragon Bash: the Grand Ole' Auction on Friday, April 17, at 7:00pm at Brooklyn Bowl Nashville. Details and tickets available at [stgeorgesnashville.org/events](http://stgeorgesnashville.org/events).

### **Prime Time Luncheon | Thursday, April 16 at 11:30am**

In April, we'll be joined by Dan Thomas from the team at WSMV 4 to talk about weather safety. Bring your friends and make reservations for \$12 lunch by Monday, April 20 at [stgeorgesnashville.org/seniors](http://stgeorgesnashville.org/seniors) or 615-385-2150 x 262.

### **Newcomer Gathering | Sunday, April 19 at 10:05am**

Meet clergy, parishioners, and other newcomers during an informal Sunday morning gathering in the church library.

### **Mission Day | Saturday, April 25**

Register online with your family or friends to serve at one of our partner organizations, including Preston Taylor Ministries, Project C.U.R.E., and The Next Door Recovery, as well as a special project for our men's ministry at Room in the Inn downtown. Details at [stgeorgesnashville.org/outreach](http://stgeorgesnashville.org/outreach).

### **Art Workshop for Kids | Saturday, April 25 at 1:00pm**

With the help of our Bradford Gallery artist, Joel Schoon-Tanis, elementary kids will have a one-of-a-kind opportunity to participate in a community painting inspired by Isaiah 11:6-9, full of wild and whimsical images of God's peaceful kingdom. Space is limited for this free event, so register today at [stgeorgesnashville.org/gallery](http://stgeorgesnashville.org/gallery).

### **Guest Preacher from Westminster Abbey | Sunday, April 26**

The Very Rev. Dr. Hoyle is the 39th Dean of Westminster Abbey. His visit is in tandem with the Westminster Abbey Choir's concert on Sunday evening, and we look forward to his preaching at that 8:45 and 11:00am services that morning.

### **Westminster Abbey Choir | Sunday, April 26 at 6:00pm**

The Choir of Westminster Abbey has been singing daily services since the late 14th century and provides music for important events such as royal coronations and state funerals. It is a rare treat to hear this choir in person in the US, and we are delighted to offer this exceptional concert to conclude our In Excelsis series this year.

### **Youth Amazing Race | Sunday, April 26, Noon-6:00pm**

This citywide scavenger hunt is a highlight of the year! Teams of four will race all over Nashville to complete challenges and solve puzzles to see who can win prizes and glory. Put together your team and get ready to race! Details coming soon.

### **Parish Potluck Dinner | Sunday, May 3 at 5:30pm**

Save the date! This spring, the parish picnic is taking on a fresh new look. Join us in the evening behind the church for a BBQ potluck, complete with games and festivities as we celebrate, connect, and launch a new season of growth, making room for all that God is doing here among us. Stay tuned for more details, including a link to RSVP and sign up for your potluck dish. Don't miss out on this family-friendly celebration!

### **Men's Burgers & Brews | Thursday, May 14 at 6:00pm**

Gather around the grill for a casual evening of fellowship at the church with burgers, dogs, and all the fixin's. Invite a friend or neighbor! Details at [stgeorgesnashville.org/men](http://stgeorgesnashville.org/men).

### **Giving Thanks for Bishop Bauerschmidt | Thursday, May 21**

At May's Prime Time luncheon, we'll celebrate Bishop John Bauerschmidt ahead of his retirement. The whole parish is invited to this special occasion as we hear stories and reflections from his 20 years of ministry in Tennessee. Save the date and watch for a link to sign up at [stgeorgesnashville.org/seniors](http://stgeorgesnashville.org/seniors).

### **Young Adults Monthly Gatherings | Fourth Fridays**

From dinners and happy hours at our favorite local eateries, to special worship opportunities, adults in their 20s & 30s are invited to join us in making faith-centered friendships, exploring Scripture, and building community. Contact the Rev. Zach Berry at [zach.berry@stgeorgesnashville.org](mailto:zach.berry@stgeorgesnashville.org).

### **Wellness Classes | Weekly**

Mary Gilliam, a licensed physical therapist, offers four weekly classes to help engage practices that build strength, flexibility, balance, cognition, and overall wellness. There is something for everyone of all ages. Visit [stgeorgesnashville.org/wellness](http://stgeorgesnashville.org/wellness).

### **VBS: Journey to Rome | July 14-17**

This summer at Vacation Bible School, students in Pre-K 4s through 4th Grade will follow in Paul's footsteps along the streets of ancient Rome. We'll study his letters and have lots of fun with games, crafts, and activities in small groups. Register at [stgeorgesnashville.org/children](http://stgeorgesnashville.org/children).



### **Your Gifts Make a Difference**

Thank you for supporting St. George's with your financial gifts and pledges. Donations like yours allow us to continue serving this congregation and our community by offering worship services, discipleship opportunities, and mission work. Visit [stgeorgesnashville.org/give](http://stgeorgesnashville.org/give) or scan the QR code to donate online.

*The flowers in the Jane Tompkins Weeks Chapel are given to the Glory of God.  
The flowers in the Nave and in Legacy Hall are given to the Glory of God and for the following:*

*In loving memory of:*

Bettye & John Abernathy, Jr.	George & Ellie Copeland	Mr & Mrs Paul D. Harris
John & Marie Aden	Robert Newman Covington	William Harte
Alfred	Mr. & Mrs. Dan Hugh Cox	Tootie Haskins
Harry Allen, Sr.	Polly Nelson Craig	Carl & Ruth Henning
Dilly Allen	Wade M. Craig, Jr.	Donna J. Henson
Richard Allen	Ben Wade Crawford	Randall Henson
Kirk Anderson	Jennifer Leigh Crawford	Elizabeth Whaley Hicks
Andy	Mary Jo Crawford	J.O. & Dottie Hicks
Frank, Betty, Rafael, Hilda, Eleanor & Elsie Ann	Joseph G. Cummings	Lila Pegine Hill
Charles & Eleanor Armes	Mary Lines Cummings	Lowell & Virginia Hill
Ms. Edith McNeill Ayers	Dewey Daane	Dr. Edward Hillard
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Brian Patrick Brown	Erlin Eakin	Coley Jackson
Patricia A. Burgess	Helen Early	Mabel Jackson
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Samuel N. Burgess III	Charlotte Brown Fitzgerald	Michael K. Johnson
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Edna Campbell	Thelma Fowler	Calvin Clint Kilgore
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 Joe Curry Peel  
 Joe & Virginia Pendergrass  
 Mike Pendergrass  
 Franklin D. Pendleton  
 John B. Pendleton  
 Maggie Pendleton  
 Reed Harrington Pendleton  
 Sylvia Qualls Pendleton  
 James Hamilton Pickens  
 Dorothy & Lyle Pitts  
 Wendell & Anne Pitz  
 Ray Bertrum Potts  
 Kelly Donnelly Price  
 Billy Pugh  
 Dorothy Pugh  
 Brownie Anderson Puryear  
 Mark Libby Puryear, Sr.  
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 Ernest Williams III  
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 Ms. Helen Eliza Winsett  
 Gus A. Wood III  
 Billy Jack Yates  
 Capt. Edward T. Yates  
 Eva Yates  
 Charles G. Zamata  
 Loved Ones  
 Our Parents

*In honor of:*

Benjamin Mark Barr  
 Laila Cherian  
 Harper, AJ, Shaffer, Sara Paige, Mills,  
 Reid, Liza & Palmer Dale  
 Elizabeth "Gigi" Dixon  
 Alexandra Katherine Fitzgerald  
 Lillian Irene Fitzgerald  
 George Gardiner Green IV  
 Zoe Green  
 The Hillard Family  
 Sage Huggins  
 Thomas Huggins  
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 Minnette Reeves Jackson  
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 William Trabue Murphy  
 Vicki Zamata Rainey & Irvin Rainey, Jr.  
 Tinselton Victoria Zamata Swanson  
 Barbara Finkel Swanson  
 The Rev. Tim Taylor  
 Emily & James Weaver  
 Don Williams  
 Oma Ingrid Kelly & Opa Jamil  
 Zainaldin  
 My grandchildren: Chappell, Rollins,  
 Ensley Maxcy, Hudson and Lucy  
 Crosby, and Jack Maxcy  
 Our children, Anne, Emily, Barry,  
 Elizabeth, Claire, and Matthew and  
 their families  
 Our family and our seven  
 grandchildren

## STAFF MINISTRY TEAM

The Rev. J. Malone Gilliam, Rector  
The Rev. Colin Ambrose, Vice Rector & Chief of Staff  
The Rev. Dr. David Barr, Associate Rector  
The Rev. Jason Terhune, Associate Rector  
The Rev. Zachary Berry, Curate  
The Rev. Joe Ananias, Priest Associate  
The Rev. Sarah Condon, Priest Assoc. for Women's Ministries  
The Rev. Bill Dennler, Priest Associate  
The Rev. Richard Kew, Priest Associate  
The Ven. Dr. Martin Odidi, Priest Associate  
The Rev. Sarah Puryear, Priest Assoc. for Children's Ministries  
The Rev. Roger Senechal, Priest Assoc. for Senior Ministries  
The Rev. Tim Taylor, Priest Associate

Dr. Woosug Kang, Director of Music Ministries  
Gerry Senechal, Assoc. Director of Music Ministries & Organist  
Becca Yamaguchi, Music Leader for The Table  
Dr. Wilma Jensen, Organist/Choirmaster Emerita  
Martha Rodes, Director of Lay Ministry Engagement  
Robin Puryear, Director of Pastoral Care  
Kendall Facer, Director of Outreach  
Daniel Huff, Director of Youth Ministries  
Catherine Beemer, Director of Parish Giving  
Rebecca Teel, Director of Communications  
Laura Zabaski, Parish Administrative Officer

## VESTRY

2024-26  
Elizabeth Cox  
Louis Garrard  
Eric Grasman, *Junior Warden*  
Laura Wright

2025-27  
Lewis Agnew, *Senior Warden*  
Janie Berry  
Robert Stewart  
Leslie Ann Wilson

2026-28  
Allen Grant  
Mary Stinson  
Emily Weaver  
Battle Williford  
Morgan Hillenmeyer, *Clerk*  
Shannon LeRoy, *Treasurer*

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We want to know you and help you feel at home here. Scan this QR code or visit [stgeorgesnashville.org/contact](https://stgeorgesnashville.org/contact) to tell us about you and your family.



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If you have a "T" switch that is compatible with audio induction systems on your hearing aids, you may switch it on to hear the service better.



Using a smartphone and headphones or a Bluetooth-enabled hearing device, you can tune into the service using AudioFetch. Connect to the Wi-Fi network called AudioFetchExpress, then open the AudioFetch app to start listening.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

5:00pm (Saturday): An Evening at The Table  
7:30, 8:45, and 11:00am: Holy Eucharist  
9:00am: The Table  
5:00pm: Evening Prayer & Holy Eucharist

## WEEKDAY SERVICES (CHAPEL)

7:00am Monday - Saturday | Daily Worship  
12:00pm Wednesday | Holy Eucharist & Prayer



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615-385-2150 | [info@stgeorgesnashville.org](mailto:info@stgeorgesnashville.org)  
[stgeorgesnashville.org](https://stgeorgesnashville.org)