ST. DAVID'S

Episcopal Church and School
Ashburn, VA

Families at 4:00!

September 6th

at 4:00pm
St. David's Episcopal Church

Backpack Blessings

- Liturgy and Lessons
- Music and Movement
- Fellowship
- Food
- Fun

Families at Four
Sunday, September 6, 2026, 4:00pm

PROCESSIONAL "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" *Assam* (LEVAS 136)

I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
No turning back, no turning back.

Though no one join me, still I will follow,
Though no one join me, still I will follow,
Though no one join me, still I will follow,
No turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me,
The world behind me, the cross before me,
The world behind me, the cross before me,
No turning back, no turning back.

I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
No turning back, no turning back.

WELCOME The Rev. Stephen P. Hagerty

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Opening Collects

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

You may be seated for the readings.

FIRST READING: Romans 13: 8-12

Reader: A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Don't be in debt to anyone, except for the obligation to love each other. Whoever loves another person has fulfilled the Law. The commandments, don't commit adultery, don't murder, don't steal, don't desire what others have, and any other commandments, are all summed up in one word: You must love your neighbor as yourself. Love doesn't do anything wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is what fulfills the Law.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 149:1-4

Response: "Father, Let Your Kingdom Come" The Porter's Gate

Reader:

[1] Praise the Lord!
Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing God's praise in the assembly of the faithful!
[2] Let Israel celebrate its maker;
let Zion's children rejoice in their king!

All Sing the Response

Reader:

[3] Let them praise God's name with dance;
let them sing God's praise with the drum and lyre!
[4] Because the Lord is pleased with his people,
God will beautify the poor with saving help.

All Sing the Response

THE GOSPEL *Stark Story Bible*

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People: Glory to You, Lord Christ

One day Jesus was teaching a crowd of people. He explained some very good ways to treat others with love and respect.

"Do not call other people names," Jesus said. He explained that using unkind names hurts people's feelings.

Jesus continued, "If you are angry with someone, talk to them about what makes you angry, work the problem out and forgive each other. Forgiveness shows love." The people nodded, listening to what Jesus was saying.

"Treat your family members and friends politely and kindly," Jesus said. "Kindness and respect are important! Use God's name respectfully too. Use it only for worship and praise! God's name is special."

Wow! Jesus had great things to tell people. How wonderful the world would be if everyone followed words of Jesus!

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, Lord Christ.

HYMN "May All Children" Kenneth K. Guilmartin

THE SERMON Rev. Stephen P. Hagerty and Rev. Maureen Carey, Deacon

Please take a few moments in silence to hear what the Spirit is saying to you.

THE NICENE CREED *Children's Liturgy of the Word by Weebly*

I believe in God the Father,
who made the whole world.
I believe in Jesus the Son,
who died on the cross for us, and rose from the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit who brings life and love to us all.
I believe that the Church is one family,
and that one day we will share everlasting life with God in heaven.
Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Five-Finger Prayers of the People
Each finger is a reminder of the five intersessions we pray during the prayers of the people *(Book of Common Prayer pg. 383)*:

Thumb (Universal Church)
Index (Nation and All in Authority)
Middle (Welfare of the World)
Ring (Local Community)
Pinky (Those in Need or who Need Help).

Deacon: Let us pray for the church, the world and one another.

Deacon: We pray for church throughout the world.
All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: We pray for our country and leaders.
All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: We pray for the world, all the good things and the hard things too.
All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Deacon: We pray for all the children here today as they prepare for the start of the school year.
All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for all who are sick, lonely, sad, or suffering.
All: Lord hear our prayer

Celebrant: Hear all our prayers, God, and give us your peace.
Amen.

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Deacon will invite the children back to the altar area with their seashells.

The seashells are a visible reminder for all of us. This is the time when we think about any cares, worries, or things we have done wrong. We think about them and imagine placing them in the seashell, where they are gone, and we start new. Jesus always forgives us. Jesus always gives us a "do over" where we try again to live, loving one another as Jesus loves us. The water poured over the seashells, is a symbol of everything we give back to God that is washed away and we start new.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: And also, with you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

St. David's is entirely funded by the generosity of God manifested through its parishioners and community. If you would like to support our many ministries, please consider contributing to the offering plate located on the table, or online by scanning this QR code with your phone camera.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

"The St. Peter's Eucharistic Prayer 1" *A Good & Joyful Thing*

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts!
People: We lift them up to the Lord!
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!
People: It is right to give him thanks and praise!

In the beginning, God made the whole world and everything in it. God made us, too! And God loved the world and loved us. Because God loved us, God has let us make our own choices. Sometimes, we make bad choices that hurt us or other people. And then God is like a strong mother, or a gentle father, a wonderful parent, who comes close to us and helps us get back on the right track.

The Bible tells us stories of how different people have come close to God and God has come close to them. God has seen all the bad choices that

people have made. So God decided to come visit us in a very special way, to show us again how to love each other.
God visited us and became human—a young person named Jesus. Jesus was careful to include all people as his friends. Some people didn't understand this, and they became angry. They wanted to hurt Jesus; they even wanted to kill him.

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

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Loving God, remembering now the suffering and death and proclaiming the resurrection and ascension of Jesus our Redeemer, we bring you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for us, your people, the Body and Blood of Christ. And send your Holy Spirit upon us, to gather us by this Holy Communion into one body in your Son Jesus Christ. Make us a living sacrifice of praise.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **AMEN.**

When we eat and drink this holy food, it's not food for our hungry bodies. It's food for our hungry and tired hearts. It's for the parts of us inside that feel hurt, and the parts of us that have hurt others. And when we eat and drink it, we remember Jesus, and how he loves us and wants us to love each other.

The Lord's PRAYER

Deacon: You are invited to pray The Lord's Prayer both out loud and/or as a body prayer through yoga, on the mats provided.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, very slowly,

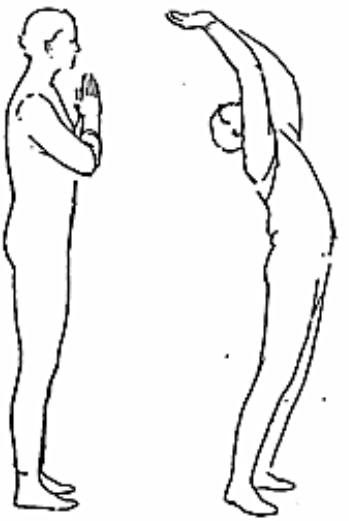
Our Father, [*Pause*] who art in heaven, [*Pause*]
hallowed be thy Name, [*Pause*]
thy kingdom come, [*Pause*] thy will be done, [*Pause*]
on earth as it is in heaven. [*Pause*]
Give us this day our daily bread. [*Pause*]
And forgive us our trespasses, [*Pause*]
as we forgive those who trespass against us. [*Pause*]
And lead us not into temptation, [*Pause*]
but deliver us from evil. [*Pause*]
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, [*Pause*]
and the glory, [*Pause*] for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer: Body Prayer

Engage your whole body in prayer. When we pray, we can pray not only with our heart and mind, but also as we move. We can pray as we walk and breathe, pray with our hands, and pray in creative ways. You are invited to pray The Lord's Prayer out loud, follow along with prayer yoga, and/or rest in the quiet of God's presence.

AN INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN YOGA

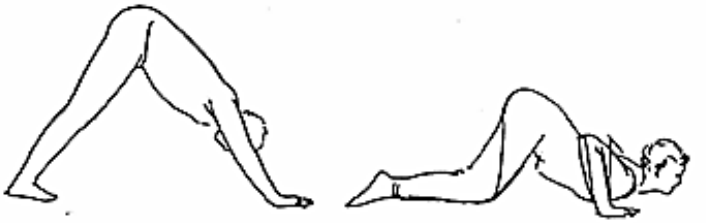
NANCY ROTH



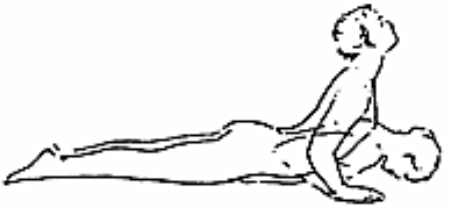
Our Father · who art in heaven

· 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.

Celebrant: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore, let us keep the feast.

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him 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 the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

Celebrant: These are the Gifts of God for the People of God.

Jesus invites the whole world to be in a relationship with him. All people of any denomination are welcome to our Lord's Table where bread and wine are blessed and broken and shared in remembrance of Christ Jesus our Lord.

If you would like a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.

Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your needs *known to the ushers.*

Due to public health concerns, if you prefer to dip your wafer in the chalice, please have the chalice bearer or celebrant do it for you.

All are welcome.

COMMUNION HYMN "The Greatest Commandment" The Porter's Gate

Love the Lord your God
With all your heart and soul and mind,
And love your neighbor as yourself.

Let us be known, let us be known
By the way we love.

Love, love, love,
The greatest commandment is love.

Post-Communion Prayer

The community is invited to form a large circle as we pray together:

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *(hold out your hands as if receiving a gift)*
And the love of God *(put your hands on your hearts)*
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit *(hold hands)*
Be with us now and forever. Amen! *(raise hands together and say, Amen!)*

Backpack Blessing

The Rev. Stephen P. Hagerty

"So do not fear, for I am with you..." Isiah 41:10

Backpack Blessing Song: "God of All Learning"

Tune: *Morning Has Broken*
Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

God of all learning,
God of all knowing,
We bring these backpacks
Filled with supplies.
Bless all these tools of
Learning and growing.
Use them, we pray, to
Change many lives.

Bless all who learn and
Bless those who guide them,
Bless those who teach and
Counsel and care.
May they remember
You walk beside them.
Through all their school days,
You, Lord, are there.

Dismissal

Deacon: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Please join us following service for fellowship and dinner
Hot dogs/Hamburgers/Veggie Burgers
Chips/Cupcakes/Fruit rolls

Faith at Home

The scripture verse for this month both at Families at 4 and Preschool Chapel:
"So do not fear, for I am with you." Isaiah 41:10

- Pray together each day at breakfast. Ask God to help you be kind.
- Use kind words and a happy heart in all you do.
- Look for someone who might need a friend or encouragement.
- Choose one way your family can show God's love this week.
- When you go to bed, thank God for the day, your families and friends.

Upcoming Events for Children and Families

Sunday Service *All Are Welcome!*

Every Sunday 10am

- Children and Families are most welcome each Sunday. There is a soft space for children for wiggles during worship with liturgical soft items to explore. Children participate in the service by coming up to the altar steps for the children's message, hands on seashell experience to learn about how God forgives us. 30 Good Minutes Sunday School follows service in the annex for ages 4-6th grade.

Sunday Session: Youth Music Hang

Every 3rd Sunday of the Month at 12noon

- Sunday Session is a relaxed, drop-in space for teens ages 12 - 18 to play, sing, and create together - no experience needed. Bring an instrument, a friend, or just yourself and jump into a mix of sacred and secular tunes with other music lovers. We'll meet on the third Sunday of the month, beginning September 20th from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm. Questions or want to get involved? Contact Ginny at music@sdlife.org

September 26th: Messy Church

10am -12noon

- Messy Church is Church. Messy Church is fun. Messy Church is intergenerational. Messy Church is for all ages! Messy Church is a hands-on exploration of the stories of the bible with hands on activities, story sharing, a short celebration/worship experience, fellowship and fun.

Baking with the Bible
Fall 2026
"Taste and see that the Lord is good."

Baking with the Bible takes place the 4th Wednesday of the month (unless otherwise noted) at 4pm via St. David's Face Book Live. Each month we explore a bible story with hands on learning through baking, always making enough to share with your neighbors, always remembering to love one another as Jesus loves us.

You can also access the link on the website www.sdlife.org and on You Tube.

September 30th M&M Cookies and Sharing with Others
"And do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Hebrews 13:16
Reading the book: God's Love is a Warm Cookie by *Susan Jones*

October 28th Pumpkin Bread and Giving Back
"It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35
Reading the book Give Back by Gina Bellisario

November 18th (week before Thanksgiving) Apple Pie and The Parable of the Great Banquet
"Come, for everything is now ready." Luke 14: 17b
Reading the book: The Pumpkin Patch Parable by Liz Curtis Higgs

December 16th (week before Christmas) Graham Cracker Nativity Stables
"And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn." Luke 2:7
Reading the book: The Christmas Story

Contact Maureen mcarey@sdlife.org for recipes and questions

Families at 4 Schedule 2026-2027

Join us on the first Sunday of each month

September 6th	Backpack Blessing *(Outside in the ruins)*
October 4th	Blessing of the Animals *(Outside in the ruins)*
November 1st	All Saints Day *(Church and Narthex)*
December 6th	Christmas Tree Lighting *(Preschool & Church)*
January 3rd	Epiphany and Winter *(Church & Narthex)*
February 7th	All about love *(Church and Narthex)*
March 7th	Lent and Easter *(Church and Narthex)*
April 4th	Creation and Spring *(Church and Garden)*
May 2nd	Last Faith at 4 *(Outside in the ruins)*