

St. John's Episcopal Church
Georgetown Parish
www.stjohnsgeorgetown.org



Be You. Be here. Belong.
Holy Eucharist
THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
Feast of the Epiphany
January 4, 2026
10:00 AM



Welcome to St. John's Church, Georgetown Parish



Please know how glad we are to share this day with you! We hope you will fill out the “Welcome card that you’ll find in the back of the pews and place it in the offering plate so we can send you more information about our vibrant community. Or just scan the QR code to add your name directly to our email list!

Name Badges

Please pick up or make your own name badge as you enter the church. You may leave your badge in the bins in Blake Hall after coffee hour. Childcare is available from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm in the atrium. Ushers are here to assist you. We are very glad you are here!

**Sunday Service at 10am with Kids “Holy Moly” program 1st and 3rd Sundays
Contemplative Prayer on Tuesdays at 5:30pm in the Chapel of the Carpenter**

Service Participants

Clergy

The Rev. Gini Gerbasi, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Laura Natta, Rector

Organist

James Warren

Intercessor

Reader

Ushers

Acolyte

Technologist

Altar Guild

Flower Guild

Counters

Prelude

Voluntary V

John Stanley

Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn 124

"What star is this, with beams so bright"

Puer nobis

Opening Acclamation

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

People: **And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

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.

Benedictus es S236

Rutter

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen. Amen.*

Please be seated

The Lesson

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72:1-7,10-14

Attwood

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
2 That he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;
3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the little hills bring righteousness.
4 He shall defend the needy among the people;
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.
7 In his time shall the righteous flourish;
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute,
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
11 All kings shall bow down before him,
and all the nations do him service.
12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress,
and the oppressed who has no helper.
13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor;
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence,
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

Glory to the Father and to the Son;
and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now;
And will be forever. Amen.

Hymn 98

*"Unto us a boy is Born!"
vv 1, 3, 4, & 5*

Puer nobis

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 2: 10-15, 19-23

Gospeler: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the Magi saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Laura Natta, Rector

Please stand in body or spirit.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Leader and People pray responsively

Creator God, Giver of all good gifts, awaken us daily to our dependence upon your generosity, and make us always thankful for the abundance of your blessings. Move in us and make us see how to be instruments of love and peace in your Church and throughout the world. Let us pray together as the People of God, saying

God in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Gracious God, lead us to reject the dark bitterness of othering all those whom we do not understand. Enlighten all leaders of our nation and world with the wisdom of your diverse creation that together we may build a more just and inclusive society.

God in your loving mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Merciful God, be present with all those in any kind of need or trouble: For those whom we know and cherish, and for our human family in this city and everywhere. Let us pray together for: **Angela, Amy, Carol, Charles, Craig, Dal, David, Ethan, Jan, Juan Carlos, Karen, Lori, Nick, Paula, Reuben, and Stephanie.** We pray that addiction, depression, or illness will lift from those afflicted. And we pray for all people affected by violence, war, accidents, or natural disasters.

God in your infinite mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Joy of human hearts, heal our communities, where neglect, violence, greed, and warfare increase the suffering and need of people and other creatures. We remember especially those who serve the common good, and those who serve our country at home and abroad. We pray for those who have died. In your infinite mercy, wrap your arms around all those whose grief will not let go. Bless all who know loss with your strength and peace.

God in your healing mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray to you, Comforter of all the earth, for the intentions of the individuals in this community—stated now either silently or aloud (*A moment of silence is kept*)

God, in your perfect mercy,

Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a closing collect

The Peace

Celebrant: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Offertory Sentence



We appreciate your support! Please consider making an offering using the QR Code to support St. John's ministries.

Offertory Hymn 128

"We three kings of orient are"

*The Choir sings verses 1-4. **All** sing verse 5 and the refrains.*

HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts. To give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Sanctus

James MacMillan



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. Bles - sed is
he, O bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Setting: *St. Anne's Mass*, ©1997 Boosey & Hawkes Music Publishers, Ltd.; James MacMillan (b. 1959)

The people stand or kneel. Then the Celebrant continues:

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself, yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love.

Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, 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. Again, he gave thanks to you, 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."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

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

The Great Amen S146

Robinson

And now as our savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say:


The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant and People

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 forever and ever. Amen.

Fraction Anthem S164

Franz Schubert



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

The Celebrant says:

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and all are welcome at God's table.

Communion of the People

All those who seek a closer relationship with God in Christ are welcome to receive communion at St. John's. Communion bread will be distributed at the chancel steps. If you would like to receive wine, please sip from the cup. Please do not dip the bread in the cup. The communion minister will wipe the cup and turn it for the next person. If you would prefer a blessing in lieu of communion, please cross your hands over your chest.

Communion Anthem

"O nata lux"

Morten Lauridsen

Post Communion Prayer

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.

Blessing

Celebrant:

Be careful as you go out into God's creation, for it does not belong to you. Be gentle with yourself and with one another, for you are the dwelling place of the Most High God. Be alert and hesitant, for sometimes God is but a whisper. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 497

"How bright appears the morning star"

Wie schoen leuchtet

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 549

J.S. Bach



Pastoral care available. *If you or a loved one is in need of prayer or assistance, our clergy and Stephen Ministry are available to help. If you are feeling worried, sad, or hopeless, or are sick, in the hospital, or home recuperating, and you would like to receive communion at home, a visit by a clergy member or Stephen Minister can be scheduled. If you would like to arrange a home visit, or if a virtual visit or phone call is preferred, please contact the parish office at 202-338-1796.*

S 278, *Gloria in excelsis*, Music: William Mathias © 1976, Oxford University Press, Inc.; S 125, Sanctus, Music: Richard Proulx © 1971, 1977, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.; S 135, Memorial Acclamation: Music: McNeil Robinson © 1984, Theodore Presser Co.; WLP 877, Fraction Anthem: "The disciples knew the Lord, Jesus" © 1996 Mark Sedio. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-72210

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Tuesday Service January 6

We resume meeting every Tuesday at 5:30 pm beginning on January 13th.

Girl Scout Cookies...



Our Girl Scout, Monica, is taking cookie orders for *the last time* as a high school senior. Order online now or in person Sunday, January 11, at her table in Blake Hall. Cookies will be delivered to church in early February. Online donations can send cookies to U.S. military personnel; any donated cookies purchased directly from Monica will be sent to local school food pantries. Questions? See Monica or contact her mom, Andrea Kramer (ac_kramer@yahoo.com). Thank you for your support! <https://www.gsdigitalcookie.com/landing/14/fcb4ec73-b9d6-4915-866e-2d6286819a63/en-US/False>

Volunteers still NEEDED!

Our annual hosting of Georgetwon Minstry Center's *Extends Dinners* will be **weeknights from 1/5 – 1/16**. We joyfully cook and serve dinner and meaningfully engage in fellowship with our dear neighbors. **Host hours are from 3pm – 6pm**. Whether cooking, prepping, serving or cleaning, the joy of giving a hopeful moment is deeply moving and healing for all involved. **Each night requires a team of 8**. We also need folks to bring individually wrapped cookies, brownies or handheld fruit for our Grab-n-Go table. Please drop items off at a time that works best for you. Questions? Contact Rev. Natta. Sign Up **HERE**:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044EABAC28A6F94-60988540-gmcextends>

The Clergy, Wardens, and Vestry of St. John's wish to thank the following people for their pledge for the work of the church in 2026:

Sandra Adams-Choate	Avery Miller & Gregory Mocek
Terresa Orrison Beal	Sarah Moore
Jamie & Kristina Cartwright	Judith Mwaya
Thayer Caskey & Rev. Charles Caskey	Rev. Dr. Laura Natta & Kathryn Wood
Thomas & Julie Cooke	Deborah & Theodore Osborne Jr.
Tammy & Sam Cox	Sally Ostad
Carol Dawson	Andrew & Chelsea Overton
Roxana Day	Jen Page
Jean-Louis & Kate Delayen	Garrett Rasmussen
Rust Deming	Robert Rea
Mark Duer & Julio Leonard	Kirk Renaud & Rev. Sarah Duggin
Jocelyn Dyer & Michael Flanagan	John & Judy Ryan
Alec Farr & Cindy Gueli	Leigh & Carol Seaver
Andrew Fiske & Daniel Lyons	Howard Spendelow
Phillip & Elena Fletcher	Pascale Stain
Rev. Gini & Joseph Gerbasi	Sarah Swain
Aaron Goen & Matt Register	Craig & Elizabeth Talbot
Tom Grooms & Rodger Streitmatter	Holden & Patti Thorp
Linda & Dick Hall	Jay Tuttle & Meghen Miles Tuttle
Michael & Kayci Harris	Julie van Steenwyk
Brandon Hemmelgarn & Shelby Rudd	Reuben Varghese & David Wacaster
Shirley Hibbitts	Anthony Vernon
Raymond Honeycutt	Robert and Eileen Wallace
Margaret Huckaby & Carmel Keilty	Georgina Warren
Ronald & Laura Ivey	James Warren & Stephanie Bothwell
Jim Johnson	John Wise
William & Susan Johnston	David & Barbara Wolf
Alphonse & Ann La Porta	Kenneth Wong & Andrea Kramer
Robert Laycock & Thomas Vogt	Wilbur Wright
Joan & David Maxwell	
Tyler Metteer	

Thus far in our Stewardship we have raised over \$214,000 in pledges for 2026.

St. John's needs to raise \$265,000 in pledge income in 2026.

Your financial support is essential to building the St. John's community.

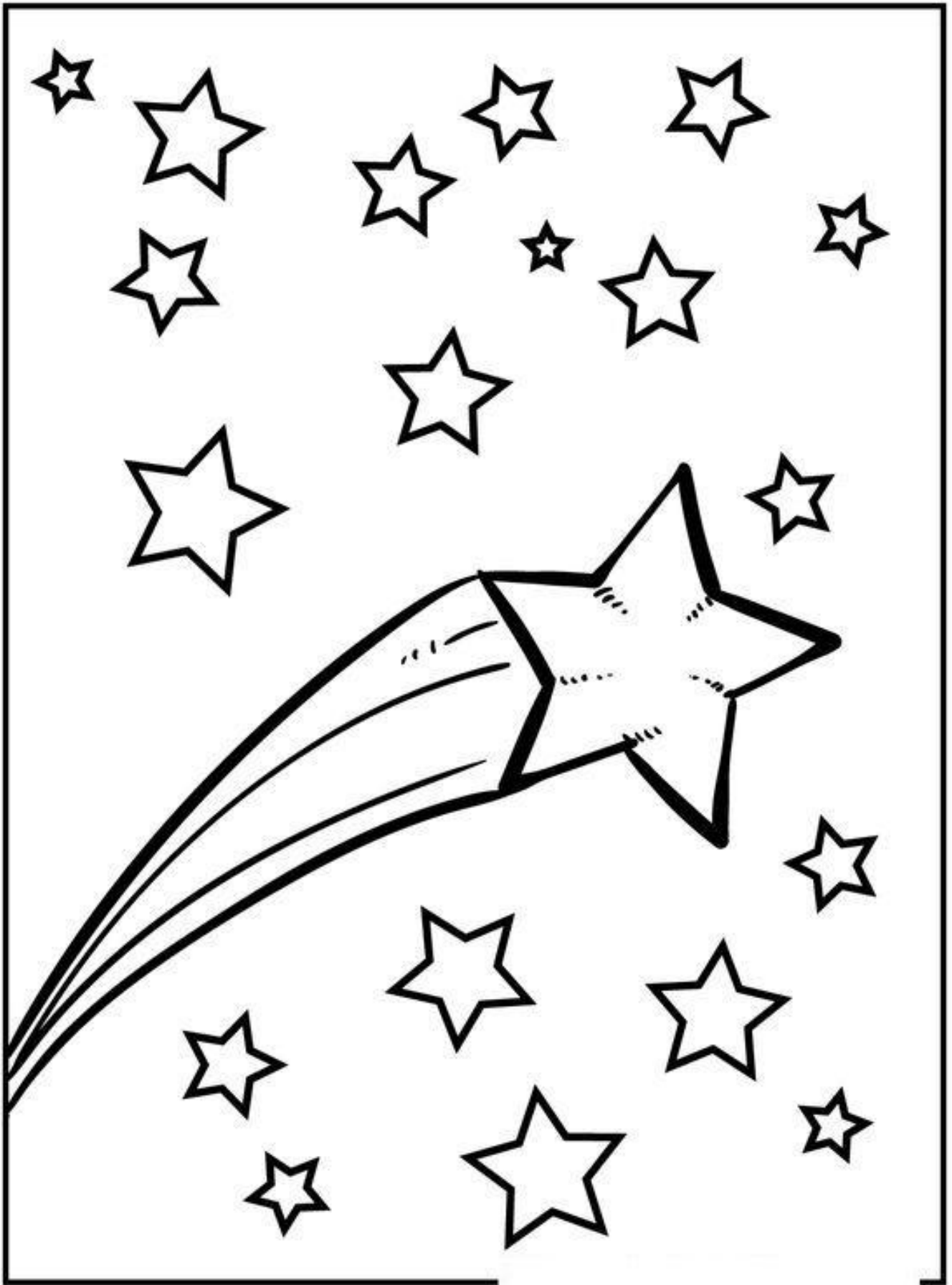
If you wish to financially commit to any amount! please submit your pledge online giving to fulfill your pledge for the



supporting the work of the church in 2026 (in online at stjohnsgeorgetown.org and set up year ahead.







St John's Episcopal Church

Georgetown Parish

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