LIGHTING OF THE LUMINARIES

MLK, JR. DAY
Monday January 18, 2021
4.300 pm
During this time, your continued stewardship and giving are vital in continuing our mission and ministry to share God’s love in the world! You may offer your offering virtually at: e-giving.stgeorges-maplewood.org

Or, you may mail a check to our church office at 550 Ridgewood Rd. Maplewood, NJ 07040.

The Officiant greets the people with these words.

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

A READING OF SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 5:14-16

Jesus said, “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

The Officiant then says the Prayers for Light,

Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, the lamp of love and justice which never fails, that it may burn in us and shed its light on those around us, and that by its brightness we may have a vision of that holy City, where the true and never-failing Light, Jesus Christ our Lord, dwells. Amen.

Eternal God, who led your ancient people into freedom by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night: Grant that we who walk in the light of your presence may rejoice in the liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The luminaries around the church are now lit. During the candle-lighting, the following hymn is sung:
HYMN: “This Little Light of Mine”

1. This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine;
2. Ev’rywhere I go, I’m gonna let it shine;
3. Jesus gave it to me, I’m gonna let it shine;

Following this lighting of the luminaries, there is a moment of silence.
Let us pray.

O God, we thank you for the lives of great saints and prophets in the past, especially your saint the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who have revealed to us that we can stand up amid the problems and difficulties and trials of life and not give in. We thank you for our foreparents, who’ve given us something in the midst of the darkness of exploitation and oppression to keep going. Grant that we will go on with the proper faith and the proper determination of will, so that we will be able to make a creative contribution to this world.

A Time of Silence is Observed for Prayer. At this time, please offer your prayers to God for the wellbeing of the world, for those thirsting for justice and love, for those who are in need of forgiveness and compassion, for ourselves and those whom we have harmed and caused pain.

God, we thank you for the inspiration of Jesus. Grant that we will love you with all our hearts, souls, and minds, and love our neighbors as we love ourselves, even our enemy neighbors. And we ask you, God, in these days of emotional tension, when the problems of the world are gigantic in extent and chaotic in detail, to be with us in our going out and our coming in, in our rising up and in our lying down, in our moments of joy and in our moments of sorrow, until the day when there shall be no sunset and no dawn. In the name and spirit of Jesus we pray. Amen.
**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

And now, as our Savior 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.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**Our Father in heaven,**
- hallowed be your Name,
- your kingdom come,
- your will be done,
- on earth as in heaven.

**Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins
- as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,
- and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
- and the glory are yours,
- now and for ever. Amen.

**THE BLESSING**

May God give you grace never to sell yourself short, grace to risk something big for something good, and grace to remember that the world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but love. **Amen**

**THE DISMISSAL**

*The Celebrant now dismisses the people*

**People** Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Saint George’s Vestry
Mike Martins – Senior Warden
Dan Mitchell – Junior Warden
Jane Ungaro, Margo Hill, Meg Persichetti,
Marymae Henley, Aleeda Crawley, Brad Kalos
Mark Graham, Sharon McSorley, Tom Meyers-Normand

News and feature articles from around our diocese
http://www.dioceseofnewark.org/e-news

Saint George’s Episcopal Church

MINISTERS
The People of St. George’s
The Rev. Grant Mansfield, Rector
The Rev. Sun-Hwan Spriggs, Deacon
Ruth Deane, Parish Administrator

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Web: www.stgeorges-maplewood.org

If you would like to make electronic donations you can scan the QR code below or follow the prompts at e-giving.stgeorges-maplewood.org:

During this pandemic, we recognize that we all need additional support, in a variety of ways, to sustain and thrive in these trying times. If you are in need, we highly encourage you to reach out for help, you are not alone on this journey.

For pastoral concerns, please call Rev. Grant: 1-973-477-1907
For Medical related COVID-19 information, call: 1-800-962-1253
For NJ Mental Health support, call this hotline: 1-866-202-4357
For Suicide Prevention, call this hotline: 1-855-654-6735
For NJ Domestic Violence, call this hotline: 1-800-572-7233