



ST. DUNSTAN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 5, 2021

10 am

Welcome to St Dunstan's! We are glad you are here!

Please silence your phones and wear your mask while indoors.

If you are new, or would like to update your information, please fill out a pew card.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Prelude Variations on 'Comfort, Comfort Ye My People'

Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

Lighting the Advent Wreath

God of peace, during this Advent season, keep us from getting caught up in the busyness and chaos of the world around us. Help us to slow down, so that we may find rest in the Prince of Peace, your son, Jesus Christ. As we prepare for his coming, make us instruments of your peace in our homes, in our schools, in our work and in our world. **Amen.**

The people respond, singing:

People **O** come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.

Processional Hymn 67 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People (Psalm 42)

Priest **B**lessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Priest **A**lmighty 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.**

Trisagion (S102) *Sung three times.*

after Alexander Archangelsky (1846–1924)

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) in a 2/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first system contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,". The second system contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us." The music consists of block chords in the upper voice and a simple bass line in the lower voice.

The Collect of the Day *The people stand or kneel.*

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

Lord of the wilderness way, whose word scours our smooth evasions: take us on the unbending road to the raw centre of our world with a cry of invitation and the call of sudden grace; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. **Amen.**

Malachi 3:1–4

The prophet promises that, as the day of the Lord's judgment nears, God's messenger will be sent to make ready the Lord's way. The priests and temple servants, who say they are waiting for the Lord, need cleansing and purifying most of all. Suddenly the refiner will come to the temple, and then the offering of the people will be pleasing to the Lord. On this day Christians recognize that, with the bringing of the child Jesus to the temple, the time of purifying judgment has begun.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader Here what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126:1-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6

A psalm of joy and hope sung to the Lord, who restores the fortunes of the people.

Cantor then the people sing the antiphon



When the Lord brought back the exiles of Sion,
we thought we were dreaming.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter;
on our tongues, songs of joy.

The people sing the antiphon

Then the nations themselves said,
“what great deeds the Lord worked for them!”
What great deeds the Lord worked for us!
Indeed, we were glad.

The people sing the antiphon

Bring back our exiles, O Lord,
as streams in the south.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap.

The people sing the antiphon

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
bearing seed for the sowing;
They come back, they come back with a song,
bearing their sheaves.

The people sing the antiphon

Philippians 1:3–11

Paul greets the new disciples in the town of Philippi, gives thanks for their sharing in the gospel, and prays that they may be found without fault on the judgment day of Christ. It is likely that this message of affection and appreciative joy was written toward the latter part of Paul's ministry, perhaps while he was in prison. He expresses great confidence that the work of grace begun by God in his converts will be brought to fruition.

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader Here what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn 54 Savior of the Nations, Come

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Luke 3:1–6

Luke sets the prophetic ministry of John the Baptist in the context of its time in history.

It was customary during this era to date events with reference to the lives of rulers and well-known public figures. Within this history the word of God comes to John as he preaches his baptism of repentance.

His ministry is in fulfillment of the words of Isaiah concerning the one who prepares the way of the Lord.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

After the sermon a brief silence is kept.

The Rev. Laurel Coote

The Nicene Creed *All Stand.*

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.

Who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified.

Who 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 people stand or kneel.*

Leader In joy at the nearness of the Christ, let us offer our prayers to God.

May the power of God's holy presence clear a path through the rubble of broken lives and hearts to make our world and each of us a new creation.
With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader May our gracious God always console and comfort us,
nourish our deepest hungers, and guide us in ways of justice and peace.
With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader May we find in the deserts of our lives a new Jordan,
a stream of blessing that bears forgiveness, refreshment and joy.
With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader For the people of St. Dunstan's and St. Andre's,
for Lucinda our Bishop, and all who do ministry near or far;
may the God of John the Baptist raise up holy prophets in our midst,
voices to challenge us to greater integrity and truthfulness.
With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader May the God who is our comfort hear the cries of all in need, especially:
With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader May the God who is our future hold those who have died in the embrace
of faithful love, especially:
Together may we see new heavens and a new earth.
With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Priest O Emmanuel, God-with-us, You show us the face of divinity, and reveal
the fullness of our humanity. Come: Hear our prayers, renew your creation,
restore us all in Christ, and enable us to become who we are, your faithful and
loving people. We pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Priest **G**od has promised forgiveness to all who truly repent, turn to Christ in faith,
and are themselves forgiving.

In silence we call to mind our sins.

Silence

Priest Let us confess our sins.

Silence may be kept.

People **M**erciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said,
in the wrong we have done and in the good we have not done.

We have sinned in ignorance:

we have sinned in weakness:

we have sinned through our own deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry.

We repent and turn to you.

Forgive us, for our Savior Christ's sake,

and renew our lives to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Absolution

Priest **T**hrough the cross of Christ,

God have mercy on you, pardon you, and set you free.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in life eternal. **Amen.**

The Peace *All stand.*

Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The people exchange the peace with one another.

Announcements *All are seated.*

The Offertory

Priest Let us give to God with generosity and gladness
the offerings of our lives, our labors, and our love.

Offertory Anthem Advent Carol

Alfred Fedak (b. 1953)

Desert, blossom as a Rose
Rising, radiant as it grows,
All arrayed is crimson show;
Come to us, O God of Hope.

So, On a pathway shall be found,
For the faithful, Holy Ground;
Safe from angry, warring beast,
Come to us, O God of Peace.

Thirsty land, become a stream,
Flowing fountain, calm, serene.
Clear cascade from heaven above;
Come to us, O God of Love.

Sing God's praise, Jerusalem;
Hope, joy, love, and peace shall come;
Sorrow, sighing now dispel;
Come to us, Emmanuel.

Weakened hands, be now made strong;
Silent tongues, break forth in song;
Blinded eyes, your sight employ;
Come to us, O God of Joy.

King of Glory, Soul of Bliss,
Everlasting life is this:
Thee to know, thy power to prove,
Thus to sing, and thus to love!

Alleluia.

Offertory Hymn 76 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Winchester New

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Priest All things come of thee, O Lord.

People And of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving

Enriching Our Worship, Eucharistic Prayer 2

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

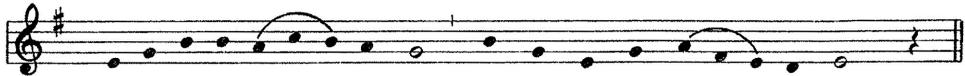
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Priest We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus Holy, holy, holy Lord *Missa Emmanuel, Richard Proulx (1937—2010)*

Cantor, All repeat:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God___ of might.

Cantor



Heav - en and earth_____ are full___ of your glo - ry.

Cantor, All repeat:



Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

Cantor



Bless - ed is he___ who comes in the___ name___ of___ the___ Lord.

Cantor, All repeat:



Ho-san - na in the high - est, ho-san-na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel.

Priest 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.

Priest 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."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Cantor, All repeat:



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 blessed Dunstan, blessed Andre, and 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.

Cantor, All repeat:



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

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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

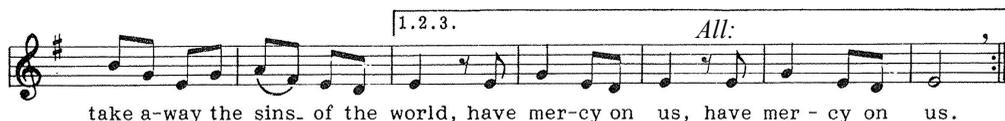
The Breaking of the Bread

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Cantor



1. Je-sus, wis- dom and might - y Lord: }
 2. Je-sus, true branch of Jes - se's tree: }
 3. Key of Da - vid and Day-spring from on high: }
 4. De-sire of na - tions, our Em - man - u - el: }
- } you



take a-way the sins_ of the world, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy on us.



world, grant us_ peace,_ grant us_ peace.

Priest **T**his is the table 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.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE THE HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive communion. The table we set is the Lord's. Wherever you find yourself on your spiritual journey, you are welcome to receive the Bread made holy.

When directed by the usher, come forward to the communion station.
Please keep your mask on with your hands extended to receive the Host.
The bread is received in the open palm.

Once you have moved away from the Minister,
you may remove one side of your mask, consume the Host, and replace your mask.

Those who prefer to receive a blessing may indicate this by
crossing their arms over their chest.

If you have a wheat sensitivity, you may ask the priest for a gluten-free wafer.

The Post-Communion Prayer

Priest Let us pray.

People Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Priest May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Green Hymnal 724 People, Look East

Besaçon Carol

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

*The people are invited to listen and observe silence during the postlude.
All are welcome to enjoy fellowship with one another outside the church during coffee hour.*



The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church celebrates God's diverse creation and strives to build an inclusive community that welcomes everyone, no matter age, gender, sexual identity, culture, ethnicity, economic status, or ability.

Christmas Cookie Sale is back today after church!



Mix and match your own unique dozen.

Join us in the kitchen to help bake and prepare for the sale this Saturday, 9 am - 1 pm Not available to help on Saturday? Bring your favorite cookie recipe baked and ready to sell to the church! Cookies may be dropped off Saturday between 9am and 1 pm or before either service on Sunday. Thank you for helping to make our Christmas Cookie sale a success!

We are also anticipating a visit from St Nicholas during Sunday school! The children will learn a little about his life and of course share some cookies with him!

The Giving Tree

In 2005 children at St. Andre's were fainting from hunger in class. Hungry children can't learn. For 16 years, we have been funding the hot lunch program, and with your help we will continue to do so. \$50 will feed a school child a hot, nutritious meal every school day for a school year. For many, this is the only meal they will get that day. Please help fill our Giving Tree with ornaments—one ornament for each \$50 donation.

Stop by the table after church to make your donation. Checks should be payable to St. Dunstan's with "Giving Tree" on the memo line.



Weekly Bulletins available electronically

Whether you want to save the environment by using less paper, like the idea of reading on your device, want to see what's coming up or what is past, our weekly worship bulletins are available as a PDF online at stdcv.org/bulletins



Music used by permission: Church Publishing Incorporated or OneLicense.net A-723737 All rights reserved.

Responsorial Psalms for Advent and Chrstmastide from *The Five Graces Psalter*, Luke Mayernik, Settings ©2017 Birnamwood Publications. All rights reserved.

Make the Holidays Merry for our I-Help Friends

Did you know that each month St. Dunstan's volunteers gather to prepare and cook a hot meal and a to-go continental breakfast for our I-Help brothers and sisters who are unhoused? For those without homes, the Holidays can be a particularly sad and challenging time. And so along with a delicious holiday meal, St. Dunstan's I-Help ministry invites you to make a \$20.00 Cash donation to be gifted to our I-Help friends for Christmas. **Holiday Gift Envelopes** will be available and ready to receive your \$20.00 gift on Sunday mornings, and in the office Tuesday through Thursday through December 16th. Your generosity will go a long way in making the holidays brighter for our friends.

Help us get to know you by **Filling out a Pew Card**

If you are visiting us, are new to Saint Dunstan's, or if your contact information has changed, please fill out a Pew Card and drop it in the collection plate. Thanks!

Sign up today to receive **St. Dunstan's weekly eNews**

Getting weekly news, links to sermons, updates, and schedules is as simple as visiting stdcv.org/subscribe and entering your email address.

Pastoral Care & Prayer Requests

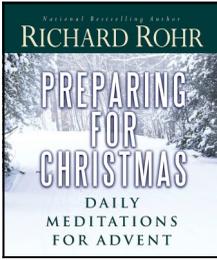
For pastoral concerns, contact Rev. Laurel revlaurel@stdcv.org or on her cell 310-562-5746. And you can always leave a message on the Pastoral Care line at church [831-624-6646](tel:831-624-6646) ext 5.

Our Daughters of the King chapter welcomes your prayer requests. Prayer requests may be sent to dok@stdcv.org. The Daughters pray for members of our parish as well as many others daily.



Rector's Sabbath

Rev. Laurel is observing her sabbath day on Fridays. Please respect this important time away except for pastoral emergencies. She will reply to any messages on Saturday.



Discussion Group

This Sunday, 9 am

We continue our discussing Richard Rohr's Preparing for Christmas.

We are now meeting in the Outer Office with masks. Or you can join us on Zoom.

For a link or more information, speak with [Janel Hornbeck](#).

Zoom Compline, Mondays at 5:30 pm

Please consider joining us for prayer as we give thanks to God for the day that is past and place our hope and faith in God for the night.

We are currently using the Order for Compline from the New Zealand Prayer book, which can be downloaded at stdcv.org/bulletins.

Join Zoom Compline

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85070384899>

Meeting ID: [850 7038 4899](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85070384899)

Deadline for eNews, Bulletin

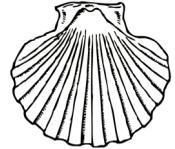
Items for our eNews and Sunday Bulletin should be submitted to office@stdcv.org by midnight Sunday.

Christmas Pageant

December 19th

The children will present the Christmas story with a pageant during the 10:00 service. If you would like to participate or help, contact families@stdcv.org

Upcoming Baptisms



On Sunday, January 9th, the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord, we will celebrate baptisms at the 10am service. If you or a member of your family (children or adults) are interested in being baptized, please contact Rev. Laurel revlaurel@stdcv.org so she can include you. An evening Zoom preparation class (details, history, and room for questions) will take place the week before on Tues, January 4, at 7 pm, followed by a walk-through on Saturday, January 8th at 9 am.

Dedicate Altar Flowers

This is a lovely and meaningful way to give Glory to God in celebration of a birthday, or in thanksgiving, or in memory of a loved one. The cost of the flowers is \$20, but some give more. Checks should be made out to St. Dunstan's with "Altar Flowers" in the memo.

You can check available Sundays on our Master Calendar at stdcv.org/calendar. (hint: if you see ". . ." before "The Altar Flowers", that Sunday is available.)

Advent Quiet Morning: Sacred Rhythms for the Soul

Saturday, December 18; 9 am - 12 pm

In the fullness of our lives it can be difficult to find time to still ourselves and to nurture our souls. And this can be especially true in the midst of the holiday season. With so many demands upon us, it is important and restorative to give ourselves the gift of time to nurture our souls and to feed ourselves spiritually.

Please plan to join us on **Saturday, December 18th for our Advent Quiet Morning: Sacred Rhythms for the Soul**, where together we will explore and try on soul-feeding practices around breath, movement, and prayer (using Anglican Prayer Beads that we will make ourselves).

To attend, [RSVP to the church office](#). A confirmation email will be sent to you with directions on where and how to purchase the materials for your prayer beads. (beads, wire, and sacred object). A limited number of Prayer Bead Kits will be available for sale the day of the event for \$15.00/each. Please indicate in your RSVP if you prefer to buy a kit, rather than purchase your own beads and materials in advance. And if you have questions, please reach out to Rev. Laurel at revlaurel@stdcv.org.

THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

PARISH OFFICE OPEN TUESDAY—THURSDAY, 9 AM—12 NOON

Sunday, December 5

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:00 am Discussion Group
Cookie Sale
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
11:00 am Coffee Hour
Cookie Sale

Monday, December 6

Tuesday, December 7

7:30 pm AA

Wednesday, December 8

10:00 am Holy Eucharist
11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry

Thursday, December 9

9:00 am Staff Meeting

Friday, December 10

4:00 pm I-Help Men

Saturday, December 11

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 12

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am Discussion Group
Bagging Beans
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
11:00 am Coffee Hour
Bagging Beans

View the entire parish calendar stdcv.org/calendar

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Cindy Poole	16 Bob Young	22 Jeanne Polaschek
2 Gigi McWilliams	17 Jack Lagier	22 Aleksander Simpson
4 Charlie Rose Talley	19 Chandler Clark	24 Taylor Hawthorne
5 Nancy Green	20 Linda Keill	25 Joanie Webb
10 Gus Hawthorne	22 Jennifer Lama	30 Sylvia Shattuck



WE HOPE YOU FIND YOURS HERE

Here is a place that is ancient and new, a faith that we hold going back to Jesus, back to his spiritual ancestors, back to those who walked the earth and found holy ground. And what we do is often based on really ancient patterns—worship and music; loving service to the poor, the hurting, the lonely; working for justice and peace; lively, fearless education and formation of minds and souls. And that faith is also completely contemporary, engaged in the culture and the needs of the moment.

WHAT WE ARE FOR

The dignity and worth of every person. An open minded, passionate commitment to truth. The importance of everyone's own spiritual journey. God's friends wherever we find them. Seeking Christ in every person who comes through the door. The sacredness of life's rites of passage. The value of community. The hard work necessary to make sure that all are welcomed. Telling the truth about life's challenges. A "user-friendly" church experience. Children, youth and families. We believe that God is love, and we pray that God will use us to spread that love.

WHAT WE ARE AGAINST

Claiming to have all the answers. Elitism and exclusivism, especially in church. Bigotry for any reason. Authoritarianism. Indifference to injustice and suffering. Certitude in the face of ambiguity and superficial answers to hard questions. Boring sermons, bad music and general cluelessness. (So, God help us, because we don't always avoid these!)

WHAT WE VALUE

Community, open hearts, open minds, open arms. Faith. Fortitude. Staying current, but equally staying rooted in tradition. Reason and honesty. Civic responsibility. Debate that allows for mutual respect. Music and beauty for their own sake. Joy in God's creation. Anyone who makes an effort to get to know and follow Jesus.

WELCOME!

Originally written by the people of St. Bartholomen's, New York, this statement has been modified for our use with their permission.

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church

28005 Robinson Canyon Road, Carmel, California 93923

(831) 624-6646 ✉ stdcv.org