



THE 6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 17, 2022

10 am

ST. DUNSTAN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

*If you are new, or would like to update your information, please fill out a pew card.
And please join us for coffee and fellowship immediately following the service.*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

*The congregation is invited to observe silence during the prelude,
out of respect for those who are listening, and as an opportunity for prayer, meditation, and healing.*

Prelude Sonatina in D

Jan Bender (1909-1994)

Stand at the ringing of the bell.

Processional Hymn 596 Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor

Komm, o komm, du Geist des Lebens

Priest Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.
People Glory to God for ever and ever.

Priest 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.**

Song of Praise S236 Benedictus es, Domine (Canticle 13)

John Rutter (b. 1945)

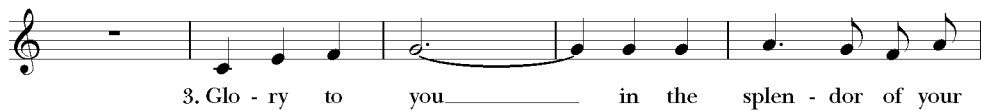
1. Glo - ry to you, _____ Lord
 God of our fa - thers; _____ you are wor - thy of praise;
 glo - ry to you. _____ 2. Glo - ry to you _____



for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; we will



praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.




3. Glo - ry to you in the splen - dor of your



tem - ple; on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to



you. 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -



ween the Cher - u - bim; we will praise you and



high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

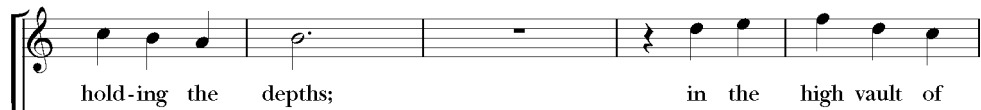
Descant



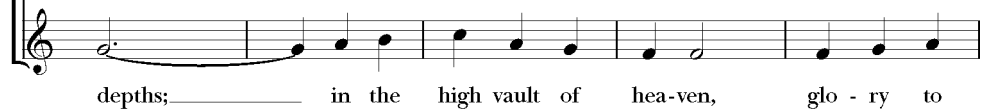
5. Glo - ry to you, be -



5. Glo - ry to you, be - hold - ing the



hold - ing the depths; in the high vault of



depths; in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to

hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you, _____
 you. _____ 6. Glo - ry to you, _____ Fa - ther,
 — Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will
 Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; _____ we will praise you and
 high-ly ex - alt you Glo-ry to you! _____
 high-ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

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

Priest God be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

God of unnatural wisdom, you gave us Jesus our Rabbi to question the roles we play, the submissions we enforce: may your living truth free us from the lie of exclusion and make us all learners and doers of your word; through Jesus Christ, teacher and liberator. **Amen.**

Amos 8:1–12

A judgment on social injustice and religious hypocrisy. On celebrations like the New Moon and sabbaths, no work was allowed. Yet traders were so full of greed that they only mechanically observed the festivals and could not wait for them to be over so that they might again swindle the poor. Such offences are also sins against the Lord. There will be earthquake, flood, and the sun's eclipse. The feasts will become times of mourning, and no one will be able to find the word of the Lord.

This is what the Lord God showed me—a basket of summer fruit.

He said, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A basket of summer fruit.”

Then the Lord said to me, “The end has come upon my people Israel; I will never again pass them by. The songs of the temple shall become wailings in that day,” says the Lord God; “the dead bodies shall be many, cast out in every place. Be silent!”

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat.”

The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds. Shall not the land tremble on this account, and everyone mourn who lives in it, and all of it rise like the Nile, and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt? On that day, says the Lord God, I will make the sun go down at noon, and darken the earth in broad daylight. I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on all loins, and baldness on every head; I will make it like the mourning for an only son, and the end of it like a bitter day.

The time is surely coming, says the Lord God, when I will send a famine on the land; not a famine of bread, or a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord. They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the Lord, but they shall not find it.

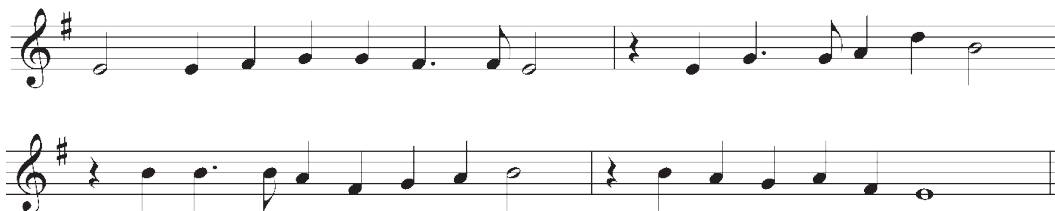
Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 52 *Quid gloriaris?* (Metrical Paraphrase)

Cheshire

The psalmist writes with confidence of God's judgment upon a rich and abusive evildoer.



- All 1 **W**hy boast, proud one, the evil done
 To saints eternally?
You plot and scheme; your tongue is sharp;
 Your work is treachery.
- Women 2 Not truth, but lies are your delight,
 No evil do you shun;
Devouring words are what you love,
 O you deceitful tongue.
- Men 3 God will destroy, demolish you,
 And snatch you from your place,
And in the land where people live
 You will not find a place.
- Women 4 The righteous ones shall stand in awe
 And look at them and laugh:
“These trusted riches more than God,
 And trod an evil path.”
- Men 5 But I am like an olive tree
 Within God’s wall secure,
And I will trust God’s steadfast love
 Both now and evermore.
- All 6 For all your deeds, I will give thanks,
 From age to age the same,
And then proclaim before the saints
 The goodness of your Name.

Colossians 1:15–28

This lesson exults in the primacy of Christ, who is the image of the invisible God in whom all things find meaning and coherence. All the fullness of deity was pleased to dwell in Christ, who provides headship to the living body of the church. In the mystery of God's plan, Gentiles, too, share in the hope of glory. For this ministry to non-Jews Paul has been especially appointed. The sufferings he experiences in his work are a way of filling out the redemptive activity of Christ through his body, the church. The result is that those who once were strangers to God and living in sin may now be reconciled through Christ's sacrifice and grow toward their maturity in his body.

Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Luke 10:38–42

Martha and Mary have very different attitudes toward life and the Lord's presence. Jesus is on his way to Jerusalem and his death. The little narrative focuses on Martha and indicates how good works without a response to the Lord may only lead to anxiety and to missing what is essential.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus and his disciples went on their way, Jesus entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Laurel Coote

After the sermon a brief silence is kept.

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.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped 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

Enriching Our Worship; Form V

The people stand or kneel

Leader Comfort and liberate the lonely, the bereaved, and the oppressed.

People Hear us, O Christ.

Leader Keep in safety those who travel and all who are in peril.

People Hear us, O Christ.

Leader Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit, and provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.

People Hear us, O Christ.

Leader Guard and protect all children who are in danger.

People Hear us, O Christ.

Leader Shower your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble.

People Hear us, O Christ.

Leader Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts.

People Hear us, O Christ.

Leader Hear us as we remember those who have died, and grant us with them a share in your eternal glory.

People Hear us, O Christ.

Priest Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Priest Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

People God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Absolution

Priest *A*lmighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **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 *L*et us give to God with generosity and gladness the offerings of our lives, our labors and our love.

Offertory Anthem For the Beauty of the Earth

John Rutter (b. 1945)

For the beauty of the earth, For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth Over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r, Sun and Moon and stars of light,
Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our joyful hymn of praise.

For the joy of human love, Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above, For all gentle thoughts and mild,
Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our joyful hymn of praise.

For each perfect gift of Thine To our race so freely given,
Graces human and divine, Flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n,
Lord of all, to Thee we raise This our joyful hymn of praise.

Folliot Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917)

Offertory Hymn 421 All Glory Be to God on High

Allein Gott in der Höh

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

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 God thanks and praise.**

Priest It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus S125 Holy, holy, holy Lord from *A Community Mass*; Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel.

Priest **W**e give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People **W**e remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory

Priest **A**nd we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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.

Fraction Anthem S170 Whoever Eats This Bread

The Cantor sings the antiphon, repeated by the people

Mode 1 melody;

adapt. Mason Martens (1933–1991)

Who - ev - er eats this bread will live for ev - er.

Cantor
 1. This is the true bread which comes down from hea - ven

Cantor
 and gives life to the world. [Ant.] 2. Who - ev - er

believes in me shall not hun - ger or thirst, for the bread

which I give for the life of the world is my flesh. [Ant.]

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 Holy Communion.

The bread is received in the open palm.

If you choose to receive the cup, gently guide the chalice to your lips by touching the base.

At this time, we are not able to allow dipping the wafer into the chalice.

Those who prefer to receive a blessing, or who choose not to receive the cup,
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.

Communion Hymn 317 This is the Hour of Banquet and of Song

Morestead

Communion Hymn 711 Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

*Seek Ye First
Betty Kasson & Art Pasquinelli, Guitars*

The Post-Communion Prayer

Priest Let us pray.

People **L**oving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and
nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and
Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may
proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our
Savior. Amen.

The Blessing

Priest **T**he peace of the ocean wave be with you
 The peace of the ocean breeze surround you
 The peace of the quiet earth be in you
 The peace of the night stars cover you
 The deep peace of the son of Peace be always with you

Recessional Hymn 336 Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus

Werde munter

Priest **L**et us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude All Glory Be to God on High

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*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
& in memory of Kay Enbom by Jack Enbom*



*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.*

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

THIS 8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
July 21, 2016
10:00 AM
Worship in St. Dunstan's: We are glad to worship
with you and to share the Word of God with you.
The Holy Spirit is with us, and we are glad to share
the Word of God with you.
The Holy Spirit is with us, and we are glad to share
the Word of God with you.
The Holy Spirit is with us, and we are glad to share
the Word of God with you.
The Holy Spirit is with us, and we are glad to share
the Word of God with you.

Giving Has Never Been Easier!

New System for Giving

We are rolling out a new system for electronic giving at St. Dunstan's that will streamline giving and save us money at the same time!



Scan this QR code to access our online giving portal where you can make a general gift, pay for altar flowers, support Nancy's Project or the Haiti Team, pay towards

your pledge, or even set up recurring payments. And, with the click of a box you can also opt to cover the processing fees which helps us make the most of your donation.

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 110.

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.



Women of St. Dunstan's announce The Christmas Bazaar is Back!

Yes, the Women of Saint Dunstans are moving forward after a 2½-year hiatus.

Dates:

- **December 3 & 4**, Saturday and Sunday! The traditional weekend
- Set up on Friday, **December 2**
- First planning meeting after church **Sunday, September 11**

So if you make jams or other things like crafts you have this summer to work on them.

Info? Call Liz at the office Wednesday mornings or email bukavugirl@aol.com.

Composting and Recycling

There is a new compost tub in the kitchen that can be used to collect compostable items that can then be taken to our composter outside.



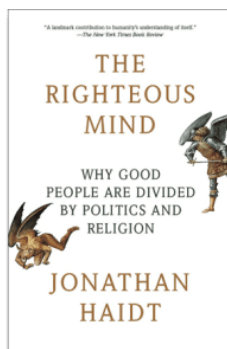
For more information about that "whats?" and "hows?" of recycling and composting, look for the posted fliers in the kitchen. Thank you for helping us comply with these new requirements.

Discussion Group

Sundays, 9 am

We will discuss the The Righteous Mind, by Jonathan Haidt.

We meet in the Guild Room. If you would like to join us via Zoom, or for more info, please contact Janel Hornbeck.



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!

Deadline for eNews, Bulletin

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



Helping Ukraine

One way you can help the people of Ukraine is through our own Episcopal Relief & Development office. The ERD does good work all around the world, all the time. And you can rest assured that the money will be used as intended. Give today at episcopalrelief.org

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.

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.

Sign up on the Welcome Table

COVID-19 Rapid Tests Available Today

We will have COVID-19 Rapid Tests available this morning for anyone who needs them. To get yours, visit the Welcome Table after both the 8 am and 10 am Holy Eucharists.

Summer Choir

We invite members and friends to join the St. Dunstan's Choir for a single Sunday or for more than one. The choir gathers at 8:30 a.m. in Guild Hall for warmup and rehearsal, then moves into the church around 9 a.m. to continue to prepare for the 10 a.m. liturgy. The choir will not vest or process during the summer and will normally sing an anthem at the Offertory, coming up to the organ area after the Peace, returning to the nave during the Offertory Hymn. We will sing music by Palestrina, Mozart, Handel, and Rutter as well as occasional spirituals. The choir will also continue to lead the hymn and canticle singing. Reading music is not required. We only ask that you be able and willing to listen to your fellow singers and do your best to blend your voice. If you'd like more information, please speak to Rod after the Sunday services, or email him at music@stdcv.org, or phone him at 650.619.0698. **Join us!**

St. Dunstan's Staff

The Rev. Laurel Coote, Rector

revlaurel@stdcv.org

Rodney Gehrke, Director of Music

music@stdcv.org

Elizabeth Buche, Director Family Ministries

families@stdcv.org

Louis Powell, Parish Administrator

office@stdcv.org

THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

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

Sunday, July 17

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

Monday, July 18

5:30 pm Zoom Compline

Tuesday, July 19

3:00 pm Staff Meeting
7:30 pm AA

Wednesday, July 20

10:00 am Holy Eucharist
11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
4:30 pm Haiti Team Meeting

Thursday, July 21

4:00 pm Vestry Meeting
I-Help Men

Friday, July 22

Saturday, July 23

9:00 am Stewardship Leadership Retreat
4:00 pm I-Help Women

Sunday, July 24

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

View the entire parish calendar stdev.org/calendar

JULY BIRTHDAYS

1 Tom Dietrich	14 Mae Welty	27 Lorelei Duddy
2 Bill Schueler	16 Jim Hamilton	28 Zephyr Miller
4 Ron Garcia	21 Zachary Davis	29 Katy Linforth
8 Roslyn Hamilton	23 Hana Ferguson	29 Elizabeth Stewart
8 Andy Lambert	27 Elizabeth Buche	30 Susan Schueler



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.

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