



ST. DUNSTAN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 7, 2025
8 am

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

St. Dunstan's acknowledges that the land on which we gather, and which we steward, is the historic territory of the Rumsen and Esselen peoples, who cared for this land throughout the generations. We give thanks for their strength and resilience in protecting this land, and aspire to uphold our responsibilities according to their example.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

All stand at the ringing of the bell.

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Reader Advent reminds us that we are people who share a story, the story of Jesus, who enacts peace by judging in favor of the poor and deciding with equity for the meek of the earth. We long for the day when “the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them” (Isaiah 11:6).

All **Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God's creation.**

Reader We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to bring Light to the places the world seeks to hide until that day when all creation lives together in harmony and abundance.

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

Priest God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

Isaiah 11:1–10

The prophet foresees a time when God will bring forth a righteous judge and a new spirit of peace in the world. The wise and faithful judge will come from the stump of Jesse—that is, from the line of the great King David, whose father was Jesse. The Spirit of the Lord will be his as he defends the humble and slays the wicked. The new age of peace will extend even to the animal kingdom.

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw
like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;

for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations
shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72:1–7, 18–19

The psalm asks that God endow the king with compassionate justice and righteousness, and that his reign may extend over all nations and throughout all generations.

- 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.

18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!

19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

Romans 15:4–13

Paul points to several passages from the Hebrew scriptures to show how God's promise that the Gentile peoples should come to praise God was being fulfilled. The new Roman converts, whom Paul hopes soon to visit, are urged to live in harmony and to recognize the manner in which Christ's ministry has brought these prophecies to fruition. He is the root of Jesse, that is, the promised son of David, on whom their hope is to be set.

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,
and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

People Thanks be to God.

All Stand.

Matthew 3:1–12

The ministry of John the Baptist, his message of repentance and his prophecy of the mighty one to come. John himself is the messenger of preparation foretold by Isaiah. He baptizes with water those who confess their sins and wish to change their ways, but he chastises those who do not show the fruits of repentance. Soon comes the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and with refining fire.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you,

God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

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,
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 for Advent

The people stand or kneel

From the Standing Committee on Liturgy & Music

Subcommittee on Racial Justice and Reconciliation

Leader The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. *Isaiah 9:2*

You who dwell in darkness and light, in silence and sound, dwell in the hearts of your people. In hope, peace, and joy may we await with anticipation the coming of Christ the Morning Star.

Silence

Leader Christ, be our light
People Shine in our hearts.

Leader You who framed the brightness of the first light in creation, dispel the arrogance, animosity, and anger that shatter the unity of your holy Church. Fill your faithful people with the radiant light of truth.

Silence

Leader Christ, be our light
People Shine in our hearts.

Leader You who delivered your people from the misery of bondage in slavery to the land of promise, set us free from enslavement to division, disunity, and distrust in our public life and labor. Illumine those in authority with the light of vision.

Silence

Leader Christ, be our light
People Shine in our hearts.

Leader You who patterned the stars and called the sun into being, who appointed the moon and chartered the cosmos, pattern the hearts of people everywhere to see in each other the beauty of the universe and the splendor of creation, that divisions of Race, Class, Gender, and Ethnicity may be recreated into one common humanity.

Silence

Leader Christ, be our light
People Shine in our hearts.

Leader You who shower comfort and hope to the lowest, the lost, and the least, shower the light of compassion on the sick, the sorrowful, and the suffering. Help us to be your compassion and hope in the world. We pray today *especially for* _____.

Silence

Leader Christ, be our light
People Shine in our hearts.

Leader You who welcome into the brilliant light of eternity those who have died, welcome those whose lives have been cut short by violence, warfare, and strife. Shine the light of hope upon them and those who love them. We pray today *especially for* _____.

Silence

Leader Christ, be our light
People Shine in our hearts.

Leader You who delight in the complexity and splendor of creation, help us to delight in the diversity of this earth, our island home. Inspire your people to care for all you have made.

Silence

Leader Christ, be our light
People Shine in our hearts.

Priest May Christ, the Morning Star who knows no setting, find us ever burning with the light of love, the spirit of truth, and the wellspring of hope.

People Amen.

Priest Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

**All Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

The Absolution

Priest Almighty 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 Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people exchange the peace with one another.

Announcements *All are seated.*

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

During the setting of the table a collection is taken to support the life and ministry at St. Dunstan's. The people's offerings of bread, wine and money or other gifts will be brought to the priest. The people stand while the offerings are presented. Offerings may also be made online at www.stdcv.org

Priest Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Priest God 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 It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

**People Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Priest Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all. Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior 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 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 shed 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:

People **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Priest We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Priest Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Priest The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,

and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who come in faith seeking a deeper knowledge and love of Jesus Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Come forward to receive the bread in your open palm.

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

We are not able to allow the wafer to be dipped in 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. You may have communion brought to your seat by notifying an usher.

Prayers for yourself or another are available during Communion by a member of the Daughters of the King in the back of the church near the Sacristy door.

The Prayer After Communion

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 Christ,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Savior.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever.
Amen.

The Blessing *All Stand.*

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God!

Join us for coffee hour following the service.

~

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God



come. explore. serve. be.

Come walk with us in faith and friendship.
Share our desire to **explore** our relationship with God
and support one another.
Join us to make a difference in our world;
serve all with compassion.
Be yourself among us.

**A SEASON OF GIVING
HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS OVER THE HOLIDAYS**

At St. Dunstan's we are blessed to be able to share our abundance to enhance the holiday season for our neighbors, locally and across the globe.

Beginning THIS SUNDAY, and every week in Advent, ministry leaders will share each week about those they serve and how you can play a part in making their Holidays Brighter!!

Our ministries are:
Friends of Rippling River
Salvation Army
St. Andre's School in Haiti
I-Help Men & Women
Nancy's Project

Today's Featured Ministry

I-Help Men & Women

It's that time of year when we have the opportunity to bring some holiday cheer to our **I-Help** community! **I-Help** supports sobriety and the homeless, and St. Dunstan's has been helping to feed and house our friends for over 30 years.

We are collecting \$20 cash gifts for the men and women in the program through this Sunday. Look for our donation box on the Breezeway table, and help us to share the joy of Christmas.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION AND GENEROSITY!

Adult Faith Formation Advent Discussion Groups

Adult formation groups continue this week. Our text is “Light of the World: A Beginner’s Guide to Advent” by seminary professor and New Testament scholar, Amy-Jill Levine.

Sundays at 9:00am

Tuesdays at 4:30pm

Wednesdays (women's group) 11:00am

“Come join with us in faith and friendship.”

“Share our desire to explore our relationship with God and support one another” during Advent.



LIGHT *of*
the WORLD
A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO ADVENT



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 suggested donation is \$30. Checks should be made out to St. Dunstan’s with “Altar Flowers” in the memo.



Sign up on the Welcome Table.



Thank You to all who participated in our Fundraiser for Hurricane Relief for Jamaica — all who helped prepare, who attended the dinner, and who donated!

We've raised over \$6,000! Thank you!

St. Dunstan's Vestry



Susan Pitts, Senior Warden
Jackie Wendland, Jr. Warden
Mike Cervi
Jack Enbom
Sheila Hiebert
Carol Langland
George Lockwood
Perry Rosen

Wonder what's going on at St. Dunstan's?

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.

Help us get to know you by

Filling out a Pew Card

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

St. Dunstan's Staff

Rev Laurel Coote, Rector
rector@saintdunstanschurch.org

Elizabeth Buche, Parish Administrator
office@saintdunstanschurch.org

Dr. Fred Burgomaster, Director of Music
fburgo33@gmail.com

Lauren Proulx Leonoff, School Director
director@stdunstansmontessori.org

Carol Langland, Treasurer
treasurer@saintdunstanschurch.org

Joe Heston, Verger
jwheston@aol.com

Sue Peccianti, Bookkeeper
bookkeeper@saintdunstanschurch.org

Pastoral Care & Prayer Requests

For pastoral concerns, contact Rev. Laurel at rector@saintdunstanschurch.org or on her cell 310-562-5746. Or you can 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 stdcvdok@gmail.com. The Daughters pray for members of our parish as well as many others daily.



THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN TUESDAY - THURSDAY 9AM –1PM

Sunday, December 7

- 8:00am** Holy Eucharist
9:00am Choir Rehearsal
9:00am Advent Book Study—
The Light of the world
10:00am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
11:30am Coffee Hour

Monday, December 8

Office Closed

Tuesday, December 9

- 4:30pm** Zoom Compline
5:30pm Advent Book Study—
The Light of the world
7:30pm AA

Wednesday, December 10

- 10:00am** Conversation and Communion
Holy Eucharist
11:00am Advent Book Study—
The Light of the world
11:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry

Thursday, December 11

- 3:00pm** Finance Meeting

Friday, December 12

Saturday, December 13

- 9:00am** Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, December 14

- 8:00am** Holy Eucharist
9:00am Choir Rehearsal
9:00am Advent Book Study—
The Light of the world
10:00am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
11:30am Coffee Hour

View the entire parish calendar stdcv.org/calendar

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Dec 1—Cindy Poole | Dec 22—Jennifer Lama |
| Dec 10—Gus Hawthorne | Dec 24—Taylor Hawthorne |
| Dec 16—Bob Young | Dec 27—Perry Rosen |
| Dec 17—Jack Lagier | Dec 30—Elin Rosen |
| Dec 20—Charlotte Cabral | |

Sermon Notes

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church

28005 Robinson Canyon Road, Carmel, California 93923

(831) 624-6646 office@saintdunstanschurch.org