



ST. DUNSTAN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 28, 2025

10 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.

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

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 Lo, how a Rose is blooming

*Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)*

All stand at the ringing of the bell.

Processional Hymn 102 Once in royal David's city (vss. 1,2,5,6)
The congregation joins the choir in singing vss. 2,5,6

Irby

Bidding Prayer

Beloved in Christ, we gather this first Sunday of Christmas in our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels; in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child; and let us make this Sanctuary, dedicated to St. Dunstan, glad with our carols of praise.

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.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The congregation is seated for the Lessons, and stands to sing the carol-hymns.

The First Lesson: Genesis 3:8-15; 17-19

God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.

The man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and they hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,
 cursed are you among all animals
 and among all wild creatures;
upon your belly you shall go,
 and dust you shall eat
 all the days of your life.
I will put enmity between you and the woman,
 and between your offspring and hers;
he will strike your head,
 and you will strike his heel.”

And to the man he said,

“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife,
 and have eaten of the tree
about which I commanded you,

‘You shall not eat of it’,
cursed is the ground because of you;
in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.
By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread
until you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

Reader Here ends the lesson.

Choir Carol Adam lay ybounden

*Boris Ord
(1897-1961)*

The Second Lesson Isaiah 9: 2; 6-7

The prophet foretells the coming of the Saviour.

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.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader Hear ends the lesson.

Hymn 98 Unto us a boy is born!

Puer nobis nascitur

The Third Lesson: Luke 2: 1; 3-7

St Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Reader Here ends the lesson.

Choir Carol Balulalow

*Peter Warlock
(1894-1930)*

The Fourth Lesson: Luke 2: 8-16

The shepherds go to the manger.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the LORD stood before them, and the glory of the LORD shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the LORD. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the LORD has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Reader Here ends the lesson.

Hymn 99 Go tell it on the mountain

Go Tell It on the Mountain

The Fifth Lesson: John 1: 1-14

St John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Reader Here ends the lesson.

Hymn 82 Of the Father's love begotten
(*vss. 1-3*)

Divinum mysterium

The Homily

The Rev. Laurel Coote

After the sermon a brief silence is kept.

The Prayers of the People

The people stand or kneel.

Leader Brothers and sisters, with awe and wonder for our Lord's holy birth,
let us pray for ourselves and all those in need of our prayers, saying:
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Eternal God, bless your holy church, that it may boldly proclaim the good tidings of salvation to all the ends of the earth.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For your servants in this congregation, that, nourished by your word and holy sacraments, we may minister in faithfulness to you and in love to one another.

Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For peace in our troubled world, that the darkness of war and injustice may be replaced by the light of peace and love.

Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For those who travel during this holiday season, that their reunions and celebrations may be occasions for joy, and that they return safely to their homes and loved ones.

Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For those in need of our prayers: the homeless; the unemployed; the hungry; those who are hospitalized or sick at home; those who are imprisoned in body and soul; and those for whom this season is one not of joy but of difficulty and sadness.

Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader In thanksgiving we remember before you, O Lord, those saints who bore witness to the light. Grant that we may persevere in the faith to which we have been called and at the end behold your glory.

Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Let us offer our prayers, thanksgivings, and lift up to God the names of those on our hearts today.

The people may add their own prayers.

Priest All these things we ask in the name of the One who came as the light into the darkness of our world, Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.*

Prayer for a Birthday

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on these your servants, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 Behold, the dwelling of God is with humankind. God will dwell with them, and they shall be God's people, and God will be with them, and be their God.

Offertory Anthem The Cherry Tree Carol

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Offertory Hymn 105 God rest you merry, gentlemen

God Rest You Merry

God of power and might, heaven and earth are

full, full of your glory. Ho -

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

in the high - est. Bless - ed 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 We 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

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

Priest And 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.



People

A-MEN.

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.

Fraction Anthem S 164 Jesus, Lamb of God

Schubert

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

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in G major. The treble staff has a melody with lyrics: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.' The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

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

The second system of music continues the piece with the same treble and bass staves. The treble staff has a melody with lyrics: 'Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.' The bass staff continues the accompaniment.

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

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

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

Priest May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Priest Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude The Holy and the Ivy

Richard Shepherd

Join us for coffee hour following the service.

~

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God





Join us in Brock Hall at 10am

January Schedule

January 18th

Children's books and activity clipboards are available in the back of the church.

Coffee Hour Hosts



Thank you to Bette Nybakken for providing baked goods for coffee hour!

If you are able to host coffee hour on a Sunday please sign up on the breezeway table.

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!

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.

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.



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.

St. Dunstan's Vestry

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



Call for Vestry and Convention Delegates

As we head into 2026, it is time to herald the call for Vestry and Convention Delegate Nominations. Now is the time to prayerfully consider if God is calling you to serve in a leadership role at St. Dunstan's.

*You can pick the official **Vestry and Convention Delegate Nomination Form** on the Welcome table. Forms should be submitted for anyone wishing to be nominated and considered for one of these leadership positions.*

*In 2026 we will elect 2 new Vestry members, each serving 3-year terms (Class of 2029). We will also elect (5) five Delegates to Diocesan Convention. The form contains all information required and is due by **January 9 2026**. The nominating committee confirms eligibility of each proposed nominee and willingness to serve if elected, then prayerfully discerns, and proposes the recommended slate of nominees for the open positions.*

If you want to learn more about possibly serving on the Vestry or as a Delegate, please don't hesitate to reach out to any Vestry Member, or to Rev. Laurel

**On Sunday
January 11, 2026
we will celebrate
The Baptism of our
Lord Sunday
with baptisms!**



**If you or a family member is interested
in being baptized,
reach out to Rev. Laurel for more
information
and preparation!**

THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

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

Sunday, December 28

- 8:00am Holy Eucharist
- 9:00am Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
Christmas Lessons and Carols
- 11:30am Coffee Hour

Monday, December 29

Office Closed

Tuesday, December 30

- 4:30pm Zoom Compline
- 7:30pm AA

Wednesday, December 31

Thursday, January 1

Office Closed

Friday, January 2

Saturday, January 3

- 9:00am Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 4

- 8:00am Holy Eucharist
- 9:00am Choir Rehearsal
- 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