



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 2019

8 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 Hymn preludes on *Stuttgart* and *Richmond*

*Flor Peeters, Healey Willan,
and Gerre Hancock*

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.**

People **H**oly God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.

**Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.**

**Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One, Have mercy upon us.**

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.

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.**

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 The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72:1—7, 18—19 *Deus, iudicium*

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 The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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.

Serenity Prayer

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
The courage to change the things I can,
And the wisdom to know the difference. Amen.

The Sermon

The Rev. John Saville

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 *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. We pray to the Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader May our gracious God always console and comfort us, nourish our deepest hungers, and guide us in ways of justice and peace. We pray to the Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader May we find in the deserts of our lives a new Jordan, a stream of blessing that bears forgiveness, refreshment and joy. We pray to the Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader For the people of St. Dunstan's and St. Andre's, for Mary our Bishop, Lucinda our Bishop-Elect, 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. We pray to the Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader May the God who is our comfort hear the cries of all in need especially: We pray to the Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader May the God who is our future hold those who have died in the embrace of faithful love. Together may we see new heavens and a new earth. We pray to the Lord.

People Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for St. Dunstan's, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hasten, O Father, the coming of your kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Priest We pray also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

People **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 your Son 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 our Lord 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.*

Prayer for a Birthday

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N.* 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 life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Offertory

Priest Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Priest All things come of thee, O Lord.
People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

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; 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 he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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."

Priest 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 **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. **AMEN.**

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.

Priest **A**lleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

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.

All are welcome to receive the Holy Communion.

The bread is received in the open palm. The wine, if desired, may be taken from the cup by drinking (guide the chalice gently to your lips by the base) or by dipping the bread.

Those who do not wish to receive Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing your arms over your 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 **E**ternal God, heavenly Father,

you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.

Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Priest Life is short.

Henri-Frédéric Amiel (1821-1881)

And we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts
of those who travel the way with us.

So be swift to love.

Make haste to be kind.

And may the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Priest In the name of God and this congregation, I send you forth bearing these
Holy Gifts, and pray that those to whom you go, may share with us in the
communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many, are one because
we share one Bread and one Cup. In Christ's name. **Amen.**

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. John Saville
Assisting Priest: The Rev. Marcia M. Lockwood

Lay Server: Steve Andrews

Lector: Mac Moss



The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God

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*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





The Gifting Tree is up

Our annual campaign to raise funds for the food program at St. Andre's is under way. Due to the continuing turmoil and civil unrest in Haiti, it is especially important that we raise enough funds to assure that each child can have one

nutritious meal a day. Due to the scarcity of food in Haiti now, it is even more important to raise at least \$20,000.

As we have in past, we are decorating our "Gifting Tree" from the lower boughs up with bright Christmas ornaments. With each donation of \$50, a bulb will be hung on the tree and the donor will receive a card which can be passed on as a gift notification. So, let's honor our family and friends with gifts to feed the children of St. Andre's and decorate our tree with so many ornaments that we can put an angel on top!

In our prayers this week. . . .

Andrew, J.J., Richard, Cora, Ross, Ida, Victoria, David, Jan, Cecily, Brad, Jeanne, Yolette, Fran, Nancy, George, Chuck, Bill, Lawrence, Jack, Joanie, Sarah, Lauren, Michael, Clare, Mel, Bob, Roz, Maureen, Ann, Tom, Michael, Kent

For the repose of the souls

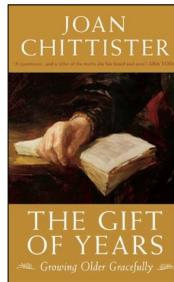
Steve Austin, Bill Schuyler

Miss Morning Prayer?

For the three Wednesday 10 am services during Advent (Dec. 4, 11, 18) we will be using Morning Prayer for the Liturgy of the Word before continuing with the Great Thanksgiving. We will also consider some of the great words for Advent; **WATCH, WAIT, PREPARE, EXPECT, HOPE**

Sunday Morning Class

9 am in the Outer Office



The Sunday group has selected The Gift of Years: Growing Old Gracefully, by Joan Chittister, for our next book discussion.

We invite you to join us for discussion on Sunday mornings between services

at 9 am in the rector's outer office.

*We've had pie! We've had cake!
Now it's time to Share your favorite
Christmas Cookie recipe!*

Bring a batch of cookies to the church Fri, Dec 20, 9 am-noon or Sat., Dec 21, 10– 2 pm. Cookies will be sold in mix and match dozens for \$10 that Sunday, just in time for Christmas day!

Proceeds benefit the kitchen remodel.
Sign up on the welcome table.

Attention Ministry Leaders 2019 Ministry Reports Due January 2

Our Annual Parish Meeting is Sunday, January 19. In order for your ministry report to be included, it must be submitted to the office no later than Thursday, January 2. (No penalty for early submission!)

Please email your report as an editable document to [office\(at\)stdcv.org](mailto:office(at)stdcv.org).

The office can also email you a copy of your report from last year, if that would be helpful.

Help us know you by

Filling out a Pew Card

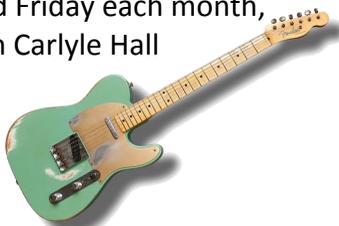
If you are visiting us, are new to Saint Dunstan's, or if your contact information has changed, please fill out a Pew Card and drop it in the collection plate. Thanks!

common thread

spirit, music, food, drink, community

Now the Second Friday each month,
6 pm in Carlyle Hall

**Friday,
December 13**



Stewardship update on Pledging for 2020

So far we have received most of our pledges for financial support for 2020 and it appears that we will have a good year. The finance committee will soon start preparing our 2020 parish budget. Thanks to everyone who has pledged so far.

However, a number of pledge cards still remain to be submitted and we need them as soon as possible. If you have not provided your pledge for 2020 please complete this task today. Your pledge is very important to us and we gratefully consider every gift to be a major gift.

If for any reason, you will not be pledging this time. please let me know. We are most grateful for your past generous support. Hopefully we can conclude our pledging for 2020 soon so we can go to work on our budget. These are exciting times at St. Dunstan's!

- George Lockwood, Stewardship Chair

Deadline for eNews, Bulletin

Items for our eNews and Sunday Bulletin should be submitted to [office\(at\)stdcv.org](mailto:office(at)stdcv.org) by midnight Monday.

Any items to be published in the bulletin Dec 29 & Jan 5 are due Dec 16. There will be a special edition of the eNews on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

PARISH OFFICE OPEN TUESDAY—FRIDAY, 9 AM—1 PM

Sunday, December 8

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am Sunday Morning Class
Madrigal Affair
10:00 am Sunday School & Holy Eucharist
Madrigal Affair
7:00 pm AA

Monday, December 9

Tuesday, December 10

11:00 am Staff Meeting
7:30 pm AA

Wednesday, December 11

10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Healing
11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
11:15 am Holy Eucharist (Manor)
2:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 12

Friday, December 13

4:00 pm I-Help (meal provided by others)
6:00 pm Common Thread

Saturday, December 14

9:00 am Rector Search Committee

Sunday, December 15

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am Sunday Morning Class
10:00 am Sunday School & Holy Eucharist
11:30 am Finance Committee Meeting
7:00 pm AA

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Cindy Poole	16 Bob Young	24 Taylor Hawthorne
2 Gigi McWilliams	19 Chandler Clark	25 Joanie Webb
4 Mel Blevens	20 Linda Keill	28 Reed Cripe
4 Charlie Rose Talley	22 Jennifer Lama	30 Sylvia Shattuck
5 Nancy Green	22 Jeanne Polaschek	
10 Gus Hawthorne	22 Aleksander Simpson	



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. Bartholomew’s, New York, this statement has been modified for our use with their permission.

St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church

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