



ST. DUNSTAN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 22, 2019

8 am

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: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel* Charles Callaban; Flor Peeters; Wilbur Held

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

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

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.**

People **Holy 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.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Isaiah 7:10–16

The prophet Isaiah insists that King Ahaz of Judah will receive a sign from God, whether he wants it or not, the sign of a young woman bearing a son to be called Emmanuel. Ahaz was more inclined to depend on political alliances than on the Lord. Isaiah prophesied that, by the time the infant began to make his own choices, the Lord would destroy Judah's immediate enemies. Christians have seen the ultimate fulfillment of these prophetic words in the birth of Jesus.

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:1—7, 16—18 *Qui regis Israel*

A lament and a plea to the Lord, the shepherd of Israel, that God will turn away divine anger and restore the people.

- 1 **H**ear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Romans 1:1–7

Paul greets the new disciples in Rome and summarizes the gospel message. The prophecies concerning one to be descended from King David in human terms, and declared Son of God through the power of the Holy Spirit by resurrection from the dead, have been fulfilled. The Lord Jesus Christ has given grace and the commission of apostleship to bring peoples of all nations to faith and obedience.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,
To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Matthew 1:18–25

The story of the birth of Jesus. While she was betrothed to Joseph, Mary finds that she is bearing a child. But an angel tells Joseph not to fear: this is the work of the Holy Spirit. The baby is to be named Jesus, which means “The Lord saves.” The evangelist perceives this birth to be the fulfillment of an ancient prophecy which told of a virgin who would bear a son. The narrative makes clear the divine origin of this child who will save the people from their sins.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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 **B**e strong, do not fear! Our God is coming.

Confident that our waiting is not in vain, let us offer our prayers as we respond,

People **O come, O come, Emmanuel.** *Silence. . . .*

Leader O Come Emmanuel, free us from the bondage of our sins, our pride and hypocrisy, our greed and self-serving interests, that we may know your redeeming love and reveal its liberating joy; let us pray.

People **O come, O come, Emmanuel.** *Silence. . . .*

Leader O wisdom from on high, show us the path of the Holy Way, and set our feet upon its joy; let us pray.

People **O come, O come, Emmanuel.** *Silence. . . .*

Leader O Lord of Might, who gives sight to the blind and opens the ears of those who cannot hear, who heals the sick, raises the dead, and brings good news to the poor, give us a share of your power that we may do the works you do; let us pray.

People **O come, O come, Emmanuel.** *Silence. . . .*

Leader O Branch of Jesse's tree, we give thanks for our spiritual ancestors, by whose faith the lamp of truth illumines the disciples of every age; let us pray.

People **O come, O come, Emmanuel.** *Silence. . . .*

Leader O Key of David, unlock the doors of oppression and violence that imprison humankind, and set free those living in the bondage of slavery, the victims of abuse in relationships, and those chained by poverty; let us pray.

People **O come, O come, Emmanuel.** *Silence. . . .*

Leader O Dayspring from on high, may the dawn overcome every darkness, as your messengers plant the barren land with the seeds of hope; let us pray.

People **O come, O come, Emmanuel.** *Silence. . . .*

Leader O Desire of Nations, free us from the division that separates nations and peoples, and fill the leaders of the world with a passion for peace; let us pray.

People **O come, O come, Emmanuel.** *Silence. . . .*

Leader O Come, Emmanuel, lift up those who are lowly, and raise from the dead those who have fallen asleep; let us pray.

People **O come, O come, Emmanuel.** *Silence. . . .*

Leader Let us offer our prayers, thanksgivings, and the names on our hearts today.

Silence. . . .

Priest **A**lmighty 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 Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

People **M**ost 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 **A**lmighty 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.

8 *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.**

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

People **O**ur 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 **T**herefore 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 **M**ay Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. **Amen.**

May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. **Amen.**

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. **Amen.**

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

Priest **I**n 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 **L**et us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Celebrant: The Rev. Marcia M. Lockwood *Preacher:* The Rev. John Saville

Lay Server: Janel Hornbeck

Lector: Ollie White



*The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God
in memory of David Wolcott by his family*

*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.*



Epiphany Service & Potluck Sunday January 5th; 5 pm

Bring your favorite dish to share.
Drinks and Kings cake dessert provided

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 no later than Thurs, 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.

Christmas at St. Dunstan's

Christmas Eve 3 pm* • 5 pm • 8 pm
*especially child friendly

Christmas Day 10 am

All Christmas Eve services will feature favorite Christmas music by candlelight.
Come at 4:30 for carol singing.

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.

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

Lee Collins

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!

Sign up today to receive

St. Dunstan's weekly eNews

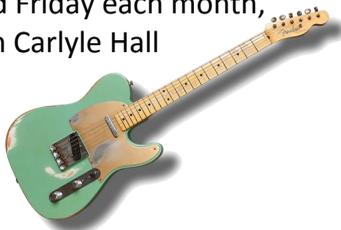
Getting weekly news, links to sermons, updates, and schedules is as simple as visiting stdcv.org/subscribe and entering your email address.

common thread

spirit, music, food, drink, community

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

**Friday,
January 10**



Gifting Tree Update

Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners the lower part of our "Gifting Tree" is already adorned with sparkling ornaments.

The tree will be on display through December 22nd and we hope by then the whole tree will be decorated.

The person receiving the card that indicates a \$50 donation has been made in her name as a Christmas, birthday, memorial, anniversary, or thank you remembrance will know that a St. Andre's student will receive a nutritious lunch throughout the school year

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



Youth and Family Programs at St. Dunstan's

There are many opportunities for kids and families at St. Dunstan's!

If you'd like to learn more about these programs or become a volunteer, let us know!

Nursery: (infant—early preschool)

Located inside the church hall, our Light and Love program is a space where infants and younger children can participate in songs and stories and engage in creative activities while their parents experience the 10 am service. (Infants and children of any age are also welcomed to join their parents in the service if their families prefer it.)



Sunday School: (Preschool—5th Grade)

Using the Godly Play curriculum which is based on Montessori principles, Godly Play allows children to explore their own innate spirituality through engagement with stories from the bible. Following the story children are invited to explore their thoughts and ideas through expressive art. A light snack is offered. Following clean up the children rejoin their parents in church to participate in communion together. Sundays 10 am in Carlyle Hall.



Youth Group: (6th—12th Grade)

Sunday, Dec 22

Cookie Sale!; 11 am

Sunday, Jan 5

Epiphany potluck and service; 5 pm

Acolytes: (Tweens and Teens)

Acolytes have the opportunity to play an important role in Sundays services and learn about church liturgy in the process.

Youth in Action: (Tweens and Teens)

This kid-driven youth service organization initiated and sponsored by St. Dunstan's is open to any local children who want to make their community a better place. The youth steering committee chooses their own monthly service projects, which have included activities addressing food insecurity with I-Help, Ag Against Hunger, Nancy's Project and Rise Against Hunger; the comfort of rescue animals with the SPCA; and literacy with Read to Me Project. About once per month; sites vary.

For more information, contact our Family Ministry Coordinator at [elizabeth\(at\)stdcv.org](mailto:elizabeth(at)stdcv.org)

THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S
PARISH OFFICE OPEN TUESDAY—FRIDAY, 9 AM—1 PM

Sunday, December 22

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 Christmas Cookie Sale

Monday, December 23

Tuesday, December 24

~ Office Closed ~

3:00 pm Holy Eucharist
*especially kid friendly
5:00 pm Holy Eucharist
7:30 pm AA (Carlyle Hall)
8:00 pm Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, December 25

~ Office Closed ~

10:00 am Holy Eucharist

Thursday, December 26

~ Office Closed ~

Friday, December 27

~ Office Closed ~

Saturday, December 28

Sunday, December 29

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am Sunday Morning Class
10:00 am Holy Eucharist

Parish offices closed for Christmas Week

The Parish offices will be closed Dec 24—Jan 1. We will re-open at 9 am on Jan 2.

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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