



# THE 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 5, 2021

10 am

**ST. DUNSTAN'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Welcome BACK to St Dunstan's! We are glad you are here!*  
*Please silence your phones and wear your mask while indoors.*

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## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

**Processional Hymn** I've got peace like a river

I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river;  
I've got peace like a river in my soul.  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river;  
I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain  
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain  
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.

I've got love for my Saviour,  
I've got love for my Saviour,  
I've got love for my Saviour in my soul  
I've got love for my Saviour  
I've got love for my Saviour, in my soul.

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

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

**People** 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.

**Gloria** Angels we have heard on high

Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing the joyous strains

Glo — ria in excelsis Deo,  
Glo — ria in excelsis D — e — o,

**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.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Isaiah 35:4-7a**

*God comes in judgment to save the exiled people, and the prophet foresees a time of healing. The blind will see; the deaf hear; the lame leap; and the dumb sing. Retribution will fall upon God's enemies, but Israel will be saved. Even in the wilderness, pools of water shall spring up for them. Oracles such as this became for Judaism visions of the Lord's final salvation. Christians believe the healing age to have begun with Jesus.*

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 146 *Lauda, anima mea*

*A hymn of praise to the Lord, who forms the world and rules in justice, who heals and cares for the needy.*

1 Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord, O my soul! \*

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

2 Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth, \*  
for there is no help in them.

3 When they breathe their last, they return to earth, \*  
and in that day their thoughts perish.

4 Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

5 Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
who keeps his promise for ever;

6 Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
and food to those who hunger.

7 The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

8 The Lord loves the righteous; the Lord cares for the stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

9 The Lord shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!

## James 2:1-10, 14-17

*Practical matters of ethical behavior among Christians are inextricable from any expression of genuine faith. Believers are counseled against showing special treatment to the rich. God has chosen to honor the poor. The rich often trespass through oppressive conduct and, in any case, this way of treating people differently violates the royal commandment to love one's neighbor as one's self.*

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

### Gradual Hymn Seek ye First

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God  
And his righteousness,  
And all these things will be added unto you.  
Allelu, Alleluia.

*Chorus*

Hal - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia  
Hal - le - lu - ia, Alle - lu - Alle - lu - ia

Ask and it shall be given unto you,  
Seek and ye shall find,  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you.  
Allelu, Alleluia.

*Chorus*

Man shall not live by bread alone,  
But by every word  
That proceeds from the mouth of God.  
Allelu, Alleluia.

### **Mark 7:24-37**

*Jesus, traveling in Gentile territory, heals the daughter of a Gentile woman and then a deaf man with a speech impediment. The back-and-forth between Jesus and the Syrophoenician woman may seem playful or even harsh. It may be that through such a conversation Jesus saw how his mission was to include all peoples, as his followers came later to understand. The healing of the deaf man can be recognized as a fulfillment of prophecy as the new age of the kingdom draws near.*

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

**People Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

**People Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

### **The Sermon**

*After the sermon a brief silence is kept.*

The Rev. Laurel Coote

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

*from* Intercessions for the Christian People

*The people stand or kneel*

Leader Inspired by the Spirit, we now offer our Sunday prayers to God in the name of Jesus Christ, saying: Lord, have mercy.

For the fulfillment of the mission of the church,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the liberation of the children of God from the bondage of fear,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the consolation of all those who struggle with doubts or disbelief,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For renewed witness to the gospel among Christian people in positions of public trust, let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For our assembly as we hand on the faith of our ancestors from one generation to another, let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the sick and the suffering, the lonely and the dying, [especially N.],  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader We remember those who have died, [including N.],  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader In the communion of the Holy Spirit, with Mary, the mother of the Son of God, with St. Dunstan, St. Andre and with all the saints in light, let us commend our lives and the lives of one another to the Lord. **Amen.**

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

**Confession of Sin** *Standing or kneeling. Silence may be kept.*

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

*We pause for a moment of reflection as we prepare to acknowledge the ways we have turned away from God.*

**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.*

### **The Offertory**

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

**Offertory** I have decided to follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus. (3 times)

No turning back. No turning back.

Though none go with me, still I will follow. (3 times)

No turning back. No turning back.

The cross before me, the world behind me. (3 times)

No turning back. No turning back.



*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 all for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Priest 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 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 **We** break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**People We who are many are one body, for we all share the one bread.**

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.**

When directed by the usher, come forward to the communion station.  
Please keep your mask on with your hands extended to receive the Host.

The bread is received in the open palm.

Once you have moved away from the Minister,  
you may remove one side of your mask, consume the Host, and replace your mask.

Those who prefer to receive a blessing may indicate this by  
crossing their arms over their chest.

If you have a wheat sensitivity, you may ask the priest for a gluten-free wafer.

**Communion** Just a closer walk with thee

*Refrain*

Just a closer walk with thee, grant it Jesus, is my plea;  
Daily walking close to thee. Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

I am weak but thou art strong. Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long, as I walk, dear Lord, close to thee.

*Chorus*

Though this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.

*Chorus*

When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;  
On that bright eternal shore, I will walk, dear Lord, close to thee.

## **The Post-Communion Prayer**

Priest Let us pray.

**People Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us spiritually with 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.

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, who made us, who loves us,  
and who travels with us be with you now and forever. **Amen.**

**Processional Hymn I'll Fly away**

Some glad morning when this life is over  
I'll fly away  
To a home on God's celestial shore  
I'll fly away

*Refrain*

I'll fly away, fly away, oh, Glory  
I'll fly away, In the mornin'  
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by  
I'll fly away

When the shadows of this life have gone  
I'll fly away  
Like a bird from these prison walls I'll fly  
I'll fly away

*Refrain*

Just a few more weary days and then  
I'll fly away  
To a land where joy shall never end  
I'll fly away

*Refrain*

Priest **Go** in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
People **Thanks be to God.**

*The people are invited to listen and observe silence during the postlude.  
All are welcome to enjoy fellowship with one another outside the church during coffee hour.*



*The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God  
in thanksgiving for his daughter America Kumul Powell by Louis Powell*

*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.*

## Rev. Laurel to be Installed September 26, 4 pm

Join us as we welcome Bishop Lucinda for the installation of Rev. Laurel as our Rector.

If you would like to help with the reception, contact Mystery Chastain or the church office.

## Deadline for eNews, Bulletin

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

*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](http://stdcv.org/subscribe) and entering your email address.

## This week's guest musicians

This week we welcome  
Betty Kasson & Art Pasquinelli  
as they lead our singing with guitars!

## 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](http://stdcv.org/bulletins)





*The Rt. Rev. Lucinda Ashby*  
*Fourth Bishop of the Diocese of El Camino Real*  
*& the people of*  
*St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church*

*invite your prayers & presence at the*  
*Installation & Celebration of a New Ministry for*  
*The Rev. Laurel Coote*

*Sunday, September 26, 2021*  
*4 o'clock*

*St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church*  
*28005 Robinson Canyon Road, Carmel, California 93923*

*Reception to follow*

*Clergy: Red Stoles*

*Feast of St. Francis celebrated with*  
**Blessing of the Animals**  
**September 26**

All creatures -- great and small, stuffed and animate -- are invited to bring your humans to church to watch you receive a blessing when we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis on Sunday, September 26th.

The 8 am Holy Eucharist will be indoors, and the 10 am Holy Eucharist will be celebrated outdoor with guitar-led music.



**Pastoral Care & Prayer Requests**

For pastoral concerns, contact Rev. Laurel [via email](#) or on her cell [310-562-5746](#). And you can always leave a message on the Pastoral Care line at church [831-624-6646](#) ext 5.

Our Daughters of the King chapter welcomes your prayer requests in this time when many are in crisis. Please email the DOK's [Elizabeth Buche](#), who manages the Daughters' prayer list. The Daughters pray for members of our parish and for many other individuals daily.

*Imagining Session: Sept 19*  
**Outreach Imagining Session**

We are living in a time of great need: people in our local communities, in our state, nation and throughout the world are struggling, are suffering, and could benefit from some assistance. Our present involvement with — St. Andre's in Haiti, Nancy's Project, I-Help program, has been life-changing, rewarding, and valued for all involved.

Maybe you're aware of a need in the world? Maybe there is a ministry that you've always wanted to explore? If you do, or if you're just curious, join us Sun, Sept 18 at 11:30 in Brock Hall as we wonder and imagine together how God might be calling us into new ways of serving our neighbors.

**Dedicate Altar Flowers**

This is a lovely and meaningful way to give Glory to God in celebration of a birthday, or in thanksgiving, or in memory of a loved one. The cost of the flowers is \$20, but some give more. Checks should be made out to St. Dunstan's with "Altar Flowers" in the memo.

You can check available Sundays on our Master Calendar at [stdcv.org/calendar](#). (hint: if you see ". . ." before "The Altar Flowers", that Sunday is available.)

## **St. Dunstan's Foundation 2021 Grant Season Opens**

St. Dunstan's Foundation is now accepting applications for funding through our grant program on August 1st. The deadline for applying is September 30th. Information, downloadable fliers, and applications are available at [stdcv.org/foundation](http://stdcv.org/foundation).

Questions can be sent to [foundation@stdcv.org](mailto:foundation@stdcv.org)

### **Rector's Sabbath**

Rev. Laurel is observing her sabbath day on Fridays. Please respect this important time away except for pastoral emergencies. She will reply to any messages on Saturday.

## **Zoom Compline, Mondays at 5:30 pm**

Please consider joining us for prayer as we give thanks to God for the day that is past and place our hope and faith in God for the night.

We are currently using the Order for Compline from the New Zealand Prayer book, which can be downloaded at [stdcv.org/bulletins](http://stdcv.org/bulletins).

### **Join Zoom Compline**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85070384899>

Meeting ID: [850 7038 4899](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85070384899)

## *Informational meeting Sept 12* **2023 Holy Land Pilgrimage**

I am excited to share with you that St. Dunstan's, in collaboration with St. Cross Episcopal Church in Hermosa Beach, is offering a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, scheduled for February 10 - 21, 2023. If you have ever longed to visit the Holy Land, to see and experience the places where Jesus was born, lived, died and was resurrected, and to have your faith brought to life, then mark your calendar to attend this information session. Led by Qumri Pilgrimages Ltd., this journey offers the opportunity to become immersed in our rich Christian faith, and to deepen your own spiritual journey.

Rev. Laurel will share details about the journey including a sample itinerary, accommodations, transportation and anticipated costs to participate, as well as gather names of those who are interested in attending. Interested but unable to attend, contact Rev. Laurel directly.

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Pinky McCammon	12	Sarah Pease	18	Judy Hill
3	Duncan Murray	12	JJ Bohlman	19	Lois Kettel
3	Tim Condon	14	Michael Carter	20	Broden Murray
4	Georgia Byrne	14	Marcia Lockwood	23	Ella Duddy
7	Marikay Morris	14	Juju Lewis	25	Eva Kasdan
8	Ross Quattlebaum	15	Dick Habermann	27	Margo Fuselier
11	Sharon Tiner	17	Kate Rule	29	Jan Pina

## THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

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

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### Sunday, September 5

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

### Monday, September 6

- 5:30 pm Zoom Compline

### Tuesday, September 7

- 8:00 am Staff meeting
- 4:00 pm St. Dunstan's Foundation Mtg
- 7:30 pm AA

### Wednesday, September 8

- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist
- 11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry

### Thursday, September 9

### Friday, September 10

- 4:00 pm I-Help

### Saturday, September 11

### Sunday, September 12

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

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View the entire parish calendar [stdcv.org/calendar](http://stdcv.org/calendar)



## **WE HOPE YOU FIND YOURS HERE**

Here is a place that is ancient and new, a faith that we hold going back to Jesus, back to his spiritual ancestors, back to those who walked the earth and found holy ground. And what we do is often based on really ancient patterns—worship and music; loving service to the poor, the hurting, the lonely; working for justice and peace; lively, fearless education and formation of minds and souls. And that faith is also completely contemporary, engaged in the culture and the needs of the moment.

## **WHAT WE ARE FOR**

The dignity and worth of every person. An open minded, passionate commitment to truth. The importance of everyone's own spiritual journey. God's friends wherever we find them. Seeking Christ in every person who comes through the door. The sacredness of life's rites of passage. The value of community. The hard work necessary to make sure that all are welcomed. Telling the truth about life's challenges. A "user-friendly" church experience. Children, youth and families. We believe that God is love, and we pray that God will use us to spread that love.

## **WHAT WE ARE AGAINST**

Claiming to have all the answers. Elitism and exclusivism, especially in church. Bigotry for any reason. Authoritarianism. Indifference to injustice and suffering. Certitude in the face of ambiguity and superficial answers to hard questions. Boring sermons, bad music and general cluelessness. (So, God help us, because we don't always avoid these!)

## **WHAT WE VALUE**

Community, open hearts, open minds, open arms. Faith. Fortitude. Staying current, but equally staying rooted in tradition. Reason and honesty. Civic responsibility. Debate that allows for mutual respect. Music and beauty for their own sake. Joy in God's creation. Anyone who makes an effort to get to know and follow Jesus.

## **WELCOME!**

*Originally written by the people of St. Bartholomen's, New York, this statement has been modified for our use with their permission.*

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## **St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church**

28005 Robinson Canyon Road, Carmel, California 93923

(831) 624-6646 ✉ [stdcv.org](http://stdcv.org)