



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 12, 2021

10 am

ST. DUNSTAN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Welcome to St Dunstan's! We are glad you are here!
Please silence your phones and wear your mask while indoors.
If you are new, or would like to update your information, please fill out a pew card.

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Prelude Savior of the Nations, Come

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Lighting the Advent Wreath

God of joy, it is in your love that we find lasting joy. Keep us from seeking happiness in things that will not last. Teach us instead to find joy in the gift of your Son, who came into this world with nothing, yet gave us everything. May his joy fill our hearts and overflow to all we meet this Advent season. **Amen.**

The people respond, singing:

People **O** come, thou Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Processional Hymn 59 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

Merton

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.**

Trisagion (S102) *Sung three times.*

after Alexander Archangelsky (1846–1924)

The musical score is written for two voices, likely Soprano and Bass, in a 2/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first system contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,". The second system contains the lyrics: "Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us." The music consists of vocal lines with lyrics and piano accompaniment. The piano part is primarily chordal, with some melodic lines in the bass. The score ends with a double bar line.

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.

God of flood and fire, calling us to turn from dead halls echoing with greed: may the gift of your Spirit come to us from another place, burning with life and a hope that will not be quenched; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. **Amen.**

Zephaniah 3:14–20

The prophet foretells a time when the judgment of Israel will be ended and the mighty Lord will bring victory and renewal to God's people. The city of Jerusalem and its holy Mount Zion may rejoice and sing. All enemies will be defeated and the crippled healed. The fortunes of Israel will be restored, and the nation will be praised by all peoples.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

The Lord has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors at that time.

And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah *Ecce Deus*

Isaiah 12:2—6

A song of confidence and hope in God the Savior, for the Holy One is in the midst of the people who joyfully proclaim the Lord's deeds.

Cantor then the people sing the antiphon



Cry out with joy and glad-ness: _____ for a - mong you is the
great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

God indeed is my savior;
I am confident and unafraid.
My strength and my courage is the Lord,
and he has been my savior.
With joy you will draw water
at the fountain of salvation.

The people sing the antiphon

Give thanks to the Lord,
acclaim his name;
among the nations make known his deeds,
proclaim how exalted is his name.

The people sing the antiphon

Sing praise to the Lord for his glorious achievement;
let it be known throughout all the earth.
shout with exultation, O city of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel!

The people sing the antiphon

Philippians 4:4–7

Paul invites the new disciples at Philippi to exult in the Lord, who is near at hand. In prayer and thanksgiving they need have no anxiety. God's peace, which is beyond human understanding, will keep their hearts and thoughts in Jesus. Even though Paul was experiencing his own troubles and may at this time have been in prison, this letter is often called "the epistle of joy."

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn 70 Herald, Sound the Note of Judgment

Herald, Sound

Luke 3:7–18

John the Baptist preaches repentance to all those who hear his call to baptism, and he tells them of the mighty one to come. It is not sufficient to claim to be children of Abraham. All who are to escape judgment must learn to share with others and to be just in their daily work. John himself is not the Christ but the servant of the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and a refining fire.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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.”

And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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 *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.
With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader May our gracious God always console and comfort us,
nourish our deepest hungers, and guide us in ways of justice and peace.
With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader May we find in the deserts of our lives a new Jordan,
a stream of blessing that bears forgiveness, refreshment and joy.
With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader For the people of St. Dunstan's and St. Andre's,
for Lucinda our Bishop, 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.
With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader May the God who is our comfort hear the cries of all in need, especially:
With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader May the God who is our future hold those who have died in the embrace
of faithful love, especially:
Together may we see new heavens and a new earth.
With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Priest O Emmanuel, God-with-us, You show us the face of divinity, and reveal
the fullness of our humanity. Come: Hear our prayers, renew your creation,
restore us all in Christ, and enable us to become who we are, your faithful and
loving people. We pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Priest **G**od has promised forgiveness to all who truly repent, turn to Christ in faith,
and are themselves forgiving.

In silence we call to mind our sins.

Silence

Priest Let us confess our sins.

Silence may be kept.

People **M**erciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said,
in the wrong we have done and in the good we have not done.

We have sinned in ignorance:

we have sinned in weakness:

we have sinned through our own deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry.

We repent and turn to you.

Forgive us, for our Savior Christ's sake,

and renew our lives to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Absolution

Priest **T**hrough the cross of Christ,

God have mercy on you, pardon you, and set you free.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in life eternal. **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 Let us give to God with generosity and gladness
the offerings of our lives, our labors, and our love.

Offertory Anthem Never Weather-Beaten Sail

Charles Wood (1866-1926)

Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore,
never tired pilgrim limbs affected slumber more,
Than my weary spirit now longs to fly out of my troubled breast:
O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest!

Ever blooming are the joys of heav'n's high Paradise,
Old age deafs not there our ears nor vapour dims our eyes:
Glory there the sun outshines; whose beams the Blessed only see:
O come quickly, come quickly, glorious Lord, and raise my soul to Thee!

Offertory Hymn 640 Watchmen, Tell Us of the Night

Aberystmyth

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Priest All things come of thee, O Lord.

People And of thine own have we given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving

Enriching Our Worship, Eucharistic Prayer 2

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.

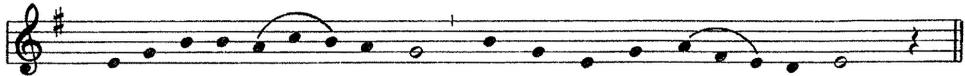
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Priest We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Sanctus Holy, holy, holy Lord *Missa Emmanuel, Richard Proulx (1937—2010)*

Cantor, All repeat:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might.

Cantor



Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Cantor, All repeat:



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

Cantor



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Cantor, All repeat:



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

The people stand or kneel.

Priest Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.

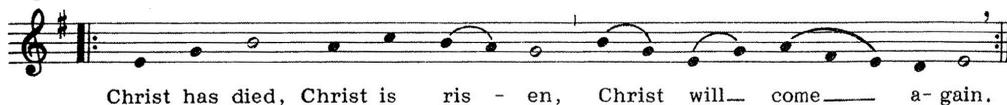
Priest He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Cantor, All repeat:



Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with blessed Dunstan, blessed Andre, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

Cantor, All repeat:



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.

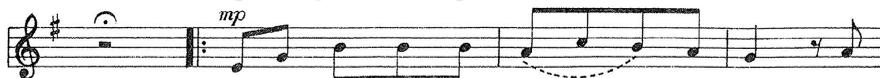
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

12 **For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

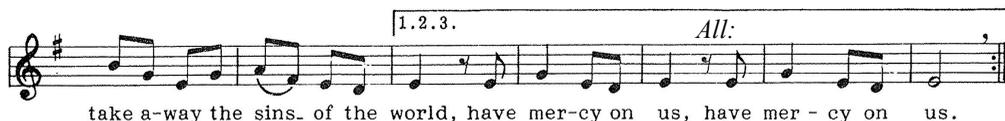
The Breaking of the Bread

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Cantor



1. Je-sus, wis- dom and might - y Lord: }
 2. Je-sus, true branch of Jes - se's tree: }
 3. Key of Da - vid and Day-spring from on high: }
 4. De-sire of na - tions, our Em - man - u - el: }
- } you



Priest This is the table of the Lord.

It is made ready for those who love him, And for those who want to love him more.
So come, you who have much faith and you who have little,
You who have been here often and you who have not been here long,
You who have tried to follow and you who have failed.
Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.
It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE THE HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive communion. The table we set is the Lord's. Wherever you find yourself on your spiritual journey, you are welcome to receive the Bread made holy.

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 Hymn 69 What is the Crying at Jordan?

St. Mark's, Berkeley

Post-Communion Hymn 679 Surely It Is God Who Saves Me

Thomas Merton

The Post-Communion Prayer

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

The Blessing

Priest **May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 65 Prepare the Way, O Zion

Bereden väg för Herran

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Savior of the Nations, Come

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

*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

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.

Christmas Schedule

Each of our worship services for Christmas will have a unique flavor.

Christmas Eve (Friday, December 24)

4 pm Family Service & Holy Eucharist

8 pm Choral Eucharist

Christmas Day (Saturday, December 25)

10 am Holy Eucharist

The First Sunday after Christmas Day (Sunday, December 26)

9 am Holy Eucharist



Advent Quiet Morning: Sacred Rhythms for the Soul

Next Saturday, December 18; 9 am - 12 pm

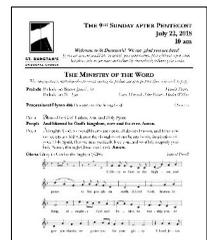
With so many demands upon us during the holidays, it is important and restorative to give ourselves the gift of time to nurture our souls and to feed ourselves spiritually.

Plan to join us next Saturday for an Advent Quiet Morning, where together we will explore and try on soul-feeding practices around breath, movement, and prayer (using Anglican Prayer Beads that we will make ourselves).

To attend, [RSVP to the church office](#). And if you have questions, please reach out to Rev. Laurel at revlaurel@stdcv.org.

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



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Responsorial Psalms for Advent and Christmas from *The Five Graces Psalter*, Luke Mayernik, Settings ©2017 Birnamwood Publications. All rights reserved.

Dedicate Christmas Poinsettia

Dedicate a Christmas poinsettia in remembrance of a loved one, to mark an anniversary, or simply to give thanks.

Recommended donation is \$20 each. Checks should be to St. Dunstan's with "Christmas Flowers" in the memo.



Sign up today on the Welcome Table.

Upcoming Baptisms

On Sunday, January 9th, the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord, we will celebrate baptisms at the 10am service. If you or a member of your family (children or adults) are interested in being baptized, please contact Rev. Laurel revlaurel@stdcv.org so she can include you. An evening Zoom preparation class (details, history, and room for questions) will take place the week before on Tues, January 4, at 7 pm, followed by a walk-through on Saturday, January 8th at 9 am.



Bagging Beans Today!

Help us bag pinto beans for our Salinas Valley neighbors today. Your help makes their Advent a time of hope. **Thank you!**

Pastoral Care & Prayer Requests



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

Our Daughters of the King chapter welcomes your prayer requests. Prayer requests may be sent to dok@stdcv.org. The Daughters pray for members of our parish as well as many others daily.

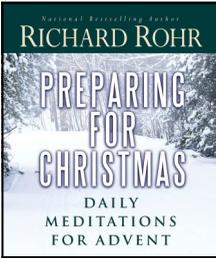
Zoom Compline, Mondays at 5:30 pm

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.

Join Zoom Compline

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



Discussion Group

This Sunday, 9 am

We continue our discussing Richard Rohr's Preparing for Christmas.

We are now meeting in the Outer Office with masks. Or you can join us on Zoom.

For a link or more information, speak with [Janel Hornbeck](#).

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.

Deadline for eNews, Bulletin

Items for our eNews and Sunday Bulletin should be submitted to office@stdcv.org by midnight Sunday.

Help us get to 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!



Many hands, light work

Greening the Church

December 19

Garland, wreaths, bows, and candles are all ready to go for Christmas. All we need are a gathering of hands that can spend an hour or so after church on December 19 to put them up. It has typically taken about an hour (imagine 11:30 - **12:30**), but you can help out for as much or as little time as you have.

Christmas Pageant

December 19th

The children will present the Christmas story with a pageant during the 10:00 service. If you would like to participate or help, contact families@stdcv.org

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.

Feeding the children of St. Andre's

The Giving Tree

“Feeding a child at school is such a simple thing –
but it works miracles.”

- Drew Barrymore,
UN World Food Program Ambassador against Hunger



Studies have proven that children need nutrients so they can grow, develop and focus on learning instead of thinking about the food they need. They need calories for the energy to concentrate in the classroom so they can succeed in school. The support of the parish of St. Dunstan’s in Carmel Valley has made it possible for the children of St. Andre’s School to focus on learning and succeed in school ever since we began the school lunch program in 2005. It costs only \$50 a year to feed a student a nutritious hot lunch every school day.

The newspapers in the past year have been full of dire news from Haiti. A presidential assassination, a devastating earthquake followed by a major hurricane, kidnappings, commerce disrupted by gangs. The awareness of the need to help the Haitian people is widespread, but few know what to do about it. This makes a gift to St. Dunstan’s Giving Tree for St. Andre’s hot lunch program in honor of a friend or relative all the more appreciated. We have heard that before the lunch program began, the school children would spend recess sitting listlessly, conserving energy. Stop by our table after mass and see the recent photos of a school bike parade celebrating the feast of St. Andre. Thanks to past donations, these are bright, healthy, and energetic young people.

Please add another ornament to the Giving Tree. Make a \$50 (or more!) donation and pick up a card to tell someone special of the gift you have made in their honor.

St. Dunstan’s Staff

The Rev. Laurel Coote, Rector
revlaurel@stdcv.org

Rodney Gehrke, Director of Music
music@stdcv.org

Elizabeth Buche, Director Family Ministries
families@stdcv.org

Louis Powell, Parish Administrator
office@stdcv.org

THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

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

Sunday, December 12

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am Discussion Group
Bagging Beans
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
11:00 am Coffee Hour
Bagging Beans

Monday, December 13

- 4:00 pm Finance Committee
5:30 pm Zoom Compline

Tuesday, December 14

- 3:30 pm Staff Meeting
4:00 pm Foundation Meeting
7:30 pm AA

Wednesday, December 15

- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist
11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
3:30 pm Staff Meeting
4:30 pm Haiti Team

Thursday, December 16

- 4:00 pm Vestry Meeting
I-Help

Friday, December 17

- 4:00 pm I-Help Men

Saturday, December 18

- 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
Advent Quiet Day
4:00 pm I-Help Women
6:00 pm Vestry Christmas Dinner

Sunday, December 19

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am Discussion Group
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
With Christmas pageant
11:00 am Coffee Hour
Choir Rehearsal

View the entire parish calendar stdev.org/calendar

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Cindy Poole | 16 Bob Young | 22 Jeanne Polaschek |
| 2 Gigi McWilliams | 17 Jack Lagier | 22 Aleksander Simpson |
| 4 Charlie Rose Talley | 19 Chandler Clark | 24 Taylor Hawthorne |
| 5 Nancy Green | 20 Linda Keill | 25 Joanie Webb |
| 10 Gus Hawthorne | 22 Jennifer Lama | 30 Sylvia Shattuck |



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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