

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT March 27, 2022 10 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. Please silence your phones.

### 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 Have Mercy on Me, O God

Heinrich Scheidemann (1595-1663)

Priest

Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

The people stand or kneel.

People God eternal, giver of light and grace,

we have sinned against you and against our neighbors, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed and repent of all our sins.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.

Priest

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw us to himself, and cleanse us from all our sins that we may behold the glory of his Son and Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Processional Hymn 411 O Bless the Lord, My Soul!

St. Thomas (Williams)

Priest Blessed be the God of our salvation:

People Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

Priest When we cry out to the Lord in our trouble,

People he will deliver us from our distress.

Priest God will bring us out of our darkness,

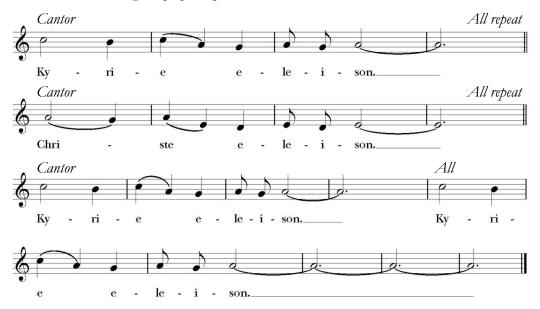
People and out of the shadow of death.

Remain standing or kneeling.

#### Kyrie S88

McNeil Robinson II (b. 1943)

The cantor introduces each bidding, the people respond



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.

Undignified God, spirit of dangerous feasts, inviting the unclean to your table: find us in the far country of hopelessness and greed; free us from the prison of resentment and envy and bring us back to life; through Jesus Christ, the friend of sinners. **Amen.** 

#### Joshua 5:9-12

The first Passover kept by the Israelites after they had crossed over the Jordan River into the promised land. Now that they can eat the produce of the countryside, there is no longer need for the miraculous manna of the wilderness. This happens at Gilgal, a name meaning wheel, which suggests the wordplay as God declares the reproaches of the people to be rolled away.

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Reader The Word of the Lord. **People Thanks be to God.** 

A thanksgiving for the forgiveness of sin.

Cantor then the people sing the antiphon



- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \* and whose sin is put away!
- 2 Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, \* and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \* because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \* my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

#### The people sing the antiphon

- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \* and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 I said," I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." \*
  Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \* when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; \* you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

The people sing the antiphon

- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; \* I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; \* who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \* but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.
- 12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; \* shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

The people sing the antiphon

#### 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Paul celebrates the new perspective that comes in Christ, and God's reconciling work in Christ that now makes its appeal to others through his disciples. Those who are united to Christ are part of a new order of creation. For our sake Christ experienced the consequences of human sin that we might have a right relationship with God. Now we are ambassadors of this message of reconciliation.

From now on, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn 603 When Christ Was Lifted From the Earth

St. Botolph

#### Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

The parable of the prodigal son, his elder brother, and their loving father. Hearers are meant to participate in the story by experiencing how it feels to be these individuals. One notices that the wastrel son thinks his father will only take him back if he promises to work hard and forma legalistic relationship with him. But what is the father to do when he sees his long-lost son coming down the road? How is the elder son to react to his brother's joyous welcome? The parable closes by leaving that last question to us.

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

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

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.'

Continued . . . .

Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Laurel Coote

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

from Brian McLaren's, We Make the Way by Walking

Standing or kneeling.

Leader Let us give thanks to the living God for all the gifts that we enjoy, saying, "We thank you, living God."

Leader For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea:

People We thank you, living God.

Leader For the communities of St. Dunstan's and of St. Andre's in Haiti, and for all people whose lives reveal the image of Christ:

People We thank you, living God.

Leader For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends:

People We thank you, living God.

Leader For minds to think, hearts to love, and hands to serve:

People We thank you, living God.

Leader For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play:

People We thank you, living God.

Leader For challenges which call forth new strength, for failures which teach greater humility, and for encouragement to persevere when life is hard:

People We thank you, living God.

Leader We pray for those in special need today including [...]; let us pray to the Lord.

People We thank you, living God.

Leader We pray for those who have died, including [...]; let us pray to the Lord.

People We thank you, living God.

Leader For all who have gone before us, for all who walk beside us, and for all children, who are precious to us and to you:

People We thank you, living God.

Leader And for the great wisdom and hope that you reveal to us through Jesus, our leader, example, teacher, liberator, and friend:

People We thank you, living God.

Priest Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: we humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

The Peace All stand.

Assistant 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.

#### Birthday & Anniversary Blessings

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant N. as he/she begins another year. Grant that he/she may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen his/her trust in your goodness all the days of his/her life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

# The Offertory

Priest But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

— Hebrews 13:15-16

#### Offertory Anthem Sing, My Soul, His Wondrous Love

Arlen Clarke (b. 1954

Sing, my soul, his wondrous love, who from yon bright throne above, ever watchful o'er our race, still to us extends his grace.

Heav'n and earth by him were made; all is by his scepter swayed; what are we that he should show so much love to us below?

God, the merciful and good, bought us with the Savior's blood, and to make salvation sure, guides us by his Spirit pure.

Sing my soul, adore his Name! Let his glory be thy theme: praise him till he calls thee home; trust his love for all to come.

Offertory Hymn 686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Nettleton

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

#### The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer IIb; Episcopal Church of Scotland

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 You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation,



The people stand or kneel.

Priest

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people. Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory.

Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, 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, 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 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:

#### People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Priest

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with Dunstan, Andre, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

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. **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.

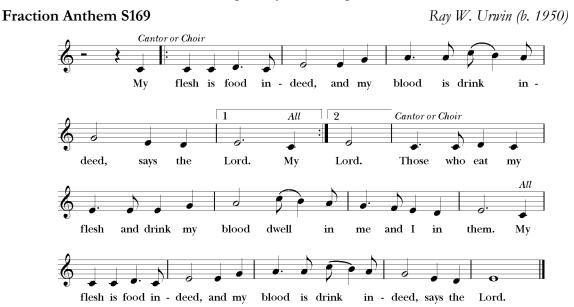
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

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. A period of silence is kept.



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

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.

The bread is received in the open palm.

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 All in All

Dennis Jernigan Betty Kasson & Art Pasquinelli, Guitarists

You are my strength when I am weak, You are the treasure that I seek You are my all in all. Seeking you as a precious jewel, Lord, to give up I'd be a fool, You are my all in all.

Refrain

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name. Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name. Taking my sin, my cross, my shame, Rising again, I praise your name. You are my all in all. When I fall down, you pick me up When I am dry, you fill my cup. You are my all in all.

Refrain

#### The Post-Communion Prayer

Priest Let us pray.

People Compassionate and loving God, through your Son Jesus Christ you have fed us, and reconciled your people to yourself. May we who have shared in this holy meal know your forgiveness in our lives, bring your reconciliation to others, and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world. Following Christ's example of fasting and prayer, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love. Amen

#### The Blessing

Priest Bow down before the Lord.

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

Recessional Hymn 690 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Cwm Rhondda

#### The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

Heinrich Scheidemann (1595-1663)

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 greens are given to the Glory of God & in loving memory of John Garvan III by Nancy Budd-Garvan and the Garvan-Lines family

Ж

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



# **Baptisms offered at Easter Vigil**

Our next date for Baptisms will be at the Easter Vigil, **Saturday, April 16th**.

If you or someone you know may be interested in being baptized, contact Rev. Laurel for more information and details on preparation.



Items for our eNews and Sunday Bulletin should be submitted to <a href="mailto:office@stdcv.org">office@stdcv.org</a> by midnight Sunday.

# Parish Beautification Day Saturday, April 9

9 - noon

Our annual Parish Beautification Day will take place from 9 am - noon, Saturday, April 9; the day before Palm Sunday. The greater the numbers the greater the joy and fellowship! We are sure we can find a task for all volunteers.

We need help in gardening, church cleaning (including window washing), and kitchen cleaning. We'll have lunch together at noon including hamburgers and other donated dishes.

Signup sheets to work or to help provide food are available on the Welcome Table.

Please join us!



**Stations of the Cross booklets** will be available in the church Tues—Thurs, 9 - 12.

#### Palm Sunday, April 10

8 am Holy Eucharist

**10 am** Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)

#### Monday & Tuesday, April 11 & 12

5 pm Stations of the Cross & Compline

#### Wednesday, April 13

10 am Stations of the Cross

#### Maundy Thursday, April 14

**7 pm** Holy Eucharist with foot washing & Stripping the Altar (live-streamed)

8 pm the "Watch at Gethsemane" begins

#### **Good Friday, April 15**

Noon Good Friday Liturgy (live-streamed)

#### Holy Saturday, April 16

**7 pm** The Easter Vigil (live-streamed)

#### Easter Day, Sunday, April 17

8 am Holy Eucharist

10 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)

11:30 Pot luck & Easter Egg Hunt

#### Music at St. Dunstan's returns with

# **Trumpet and Organ Magic!**

Sunday, March 27; 3 pm Reception, 4 pm Concert

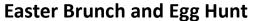
Greg Smith, trumpet, joined by St. Dunstan's Music Director Rodney Gehrke, organ, for an ethereal afternoon of duets and solos.

Mr. Smith performs at this event as part of his candidacy for the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Washington.

The first half of the program features baroque music for trumpet from Corelli to Viviani and Biber. The second half moves to the 20th and 21st centuries with a virtuoso showpiece by French composer Henri Tomasi and an opera aria adapted from John Adams' Doctor Atomic.

Mr. Gehrke will play three organ-only pieces from Buxtehude and Alain.

Tickets will be available at the door for \$25; students and under 18 free.



Following the 10 am service on Easter Sunday we will be offering an Easter Brunch and an Egg Hunt for children of all ages. The church will provide sliced ham and a variety of drinks. The remainder is potluck so please sign up at the welcome table to help complete our menu!



# Help for the Easter Bunny

We are collecting filled plastic eggs for the children's Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday. Please help us by bringing your egg donations to the church office by Sunday, April 10th (Palm Sunday). Thank you!

# **Making Palm Crosses**

Join us Sunday, April 3, after the 10 am service as we make palm crosses in Brock Hall to be given out on Palm Sunday, April 10. All ages are welcome and a light lunch will be served. Cynthia Young will demonstrate how to make the crosses and then we will get to work! Please sign up at the welcome table or rsvp to families@stdcv.org

# 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!





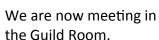
# Sign up today to receive

# St. Dunstan's weekly eNews

Getting weekly news, links to sermons, updates, and schedules is as simple as visiting <a href="stdcv.org/subscribe">stdcv.org/subscribe</a> and entering your email address.

# Discussion Group Sundays, 9 am

We are reading "Living Well Through Lent". There are daily readings, and you are invited to join the conversation inperson or via zoom.



Or you can join us via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9109922704

Meeting ID: 910 992 2704

More info? Speak with Janel Hornbeck.

# Prayer Requests

For pastoral concerns, contact Rev. Laurel <a href="mailto:revlaurel@stdcv.org">revlaurel@stdcv.org</a> or on her cell 310-562-5746. And you can always leave a message on the Pastoral Care line at church <a href="mailto:831-624-6646">831-624-6646</a> ext 110.

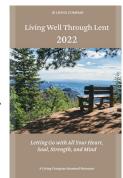
Our Daughters of the King chapter welcomes your prayer requests. Prayer requests may be sent to <a href="dok@stdcv.org">dok@stdcv.org</a>. The Daughters pray for members of our parish as well as many others daily.

# **Dedicate Easter Flowers**

Help fill the church with Easter flowers. Flowers can be given in memory of a loved one, in celebration of an event, or simply and as always, to the Glory of God.

Sign up on the Welcome Table.

Minimum recommended donation is \$20.



#### St. Dunstan's Staff

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

Elizabeth Buche, Director Family Ministries families@stdcv.org

Rodney Gehrke, Director of Music music@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, March 27

8:00 am8:30 am9:00 amHoly EucharistChoir RehearsalDiscussion Group

**10:00** am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)

11:00 am Coffee Hour

3:00 pm Concert Reception

**4:00 pm** Trumpet & Organ Concert

Monday, March 28

**5:30 pm** Zoom Compline

Tuesday, March 29

3:00 pm Staff Meeting

**7:30 pm** AA

Wednesday, March 30

10:00 am Holy Eucharist

11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry

**6:00 pm** Lenten Soup Supper & Program

Thursday, March 31

Friday, April 2 ~ Mother's Day

Saturday, April 2

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal (Church)

Sunday, April 3

8:00 am Holy Eucharist8:30 am Choir Rehearsal9:00 am Discussion Group

10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)

**11:00** am Coffee Hour

View the entire parish calendar stdcv.org/calendar

#### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

28 Tracy Jones 28 Liz Rondelle 30 Art Pasquinelli 30 Niki Tugwell

#### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

1 Shelby Lambert	7 Rachel Mueller	17 Hannah Priestley
2 Gene Davis	9 Laurel Coote	19 Mark Read
2 George Lockwood	10 Richard Mueller	22 Bobby Clampett
2 Hampton Stewart	11 Mel Britton	22 Steve Denmark
4 Karen Deaton	12 Scott Brown	23 Todd Lueders
4 Don Kirk	12 Natalie Stewart	26 Lauren Leonoff
5 Sue Peccianti	14 Susie Carr	28 Melanie Cervi
6 Mac Moss	14 Donna Rica	

6 Mac Moss 14 Donna Rico 6 June Parris 15 Mark Olsheskie



#### 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

28005 Robinson Canyon Road, Carmel, California 93923