

Christmas Eve



4 o'clock Holy Eucharist
December 24, 2022

Saint Dunstan's Episcopal Church

Welcome to St. Dunstan's

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.

*The clergy and staff of St. Dunstan's wish you a blessed Christmas season and peace in the coming year!
We recommend the wearing of masks indoors and ask that you please silence your phones.*

Prelude In Dulci Julibo BWV 608
Go Tell it on the Mountain
Musical Offering Silent Night

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Carlos Staszkeski (b. 1935)
Played by Nathan Lagier

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The people stand at the ringing of the bell.

Procession Hymn 83 O Come, All Ye Faithful
verses 1, 3, & 6

Adeste fideles

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O
2 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,
5 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
2 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;
3 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;
4 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
5 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 2 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;
 3 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;
 4 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;
 5 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
 born this happy morning;
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;
 Word of the Father,
 now in flesh appearing:

Refrain

Priest Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
 People **And Blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

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 Hymn 87 Hark! The herald angels sing
Verses 1 & 3

Mendelssohn

1 Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born King!
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a-dored; Christ, the ev-er-last-ing Lord;
3 Mild he lays his glo-ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer-cy mild, God and sin-ners rec-on-ciled!
late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the Vir-gin's womb,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec-ond birth.

Joy-ful, all ye na-tions, rise, join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head sec; hail the in-car-nate De-i-ty,
Risen with heal-ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an-gel-ic host pro-claim Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je-sus, our Em-man-u-el!
hail, the Sun of Right-eous-ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain
Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born King!

The Collect of the Day *The people remain standing.*

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Isaiah 9:2—7

A hymn of thanksgiving and hope offered at the birth of a new king in Jerusalem. The prophet hails the one born to be the ruler of his people. His reign will end oppression and bring justice, righteousness, and a lasting peace. Christians see these words coming to fulfillment in Jesus.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn 79 O little town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

Verses 1—3 are sung before the Gospel reading, verse 5 is sung after.

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 4 Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

1 A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 2 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 3 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 4 where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
 5 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

1 yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 2 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 3 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 4 where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
 5 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

1 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 2 and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth,
 3 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 4 the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.
 5 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - ell.

Luke 2:1—20

The story of the birth of Jesus. He is born amid very humble human circumstances. A government registration program requires Joseph and Mary to go to Bethlehem, the city of David. Because there was no other place for them to stay, Mary lays her new son in a stable manger.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, **“Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

A time with the children

The Rev. Laurel Coote

Homily

The Rev. Laurel Coote

After the homily a brief silence is kept.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The people stand or kneel.

Leader **B**rothers and sisters, on this most holy night of our Lord's birth,
let us pray for ourselves and all those in need of our prayers, saying:
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Eternal God, bless your holy church, that it may boldly proclaim
the good tidings of salvation to all the ends of the earth.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For your servants in this congregation, that, nourished by your word and holy
sacraments, we may minister in faithfulness to you and in love to one another.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For peace in our troubled world, that the darkness of war and injustice
may be replaced by the light of peace and love.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For those who travel during this holiday season,
that their reunions and celebrations may be occasions for joy,
and that they return safely to their homes and loved ones.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For those who labor this night on behalf of others: doctors and nurses,
police officers and firefighters, gas station attendants, bus and taxi drivers,
those in the armed forces, and all those whose work prevents them from
sharing this evening with those they love.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For those in need of our prayers: the homeless; the unemployed; the hungry; those who are hospitalized or sick at home; those who are imprisoned in body and soul; and those for whom this season is one not of joy but of trial and sadness.

Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader In thanksgiving we remember before you, O Lord, those saints who bore witness to the light, especially St. Dunstan and St. Andre. Grant that we may persevere in the faith to which we have been called and at the end behold your glory.

Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

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

The people may add their own prayers.

Priest **A**ll these things we ask in the name of him who came as the light in darkness of our world, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

Christmas Greeting *The people are seated.*

*The Rev. Laurel Coote
Rector of St. Dunstan's*

The Offertory

Priest Let us give to God with generosity and gladness
 the offerings of our lives, our labors and our love.

Offertory Anthem Christmas Lullaby

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Clear in the darkness, a light shines in Bethlehem
Angels are singing, their sound fills the air
Wise men have journeyed to greet their Messiah
But only a mother and baby lie there

Refrain:

Ave Maria, ave Maria
Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing
Ave Maria, ave Maria
Maiden and mother of Jesus our King

Where are his courtiers and who are his people?
Why does he bear neither sceptre nor crown?
Shepherds his courtiers, the poor for his people
With peace as his sceptre and love for his crown

Refrain

What though your treasures are not gold or incense?
Lay them before him with hearts full of love
Praise to the Christ child, and praise to his mother
Who bore us a Saviour by grace from above

Refrain

All stand.

Offertory Hymn 96 Angels we have heard on high
Verses 1 & 3

Gloria in Excelsis

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light,
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - ri - a

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

The Holy Communion

Priest For these gifts we receive on this most Holy Night, we thank you, God.
People Amen

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* And al - so with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant 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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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:

Sanctus S130 Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Franz Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord.

God of power and might, hea-ven and earth are
 full, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
 in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 many 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.



People

A-MEN.

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.

Fraction Anthem S164 Jesus, Lamb of God

Schubert

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Je - sus, Lamb of God; have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, bear - er of our sins; have mer - cy on us. Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world; give us your peace, give us your peace.'

Priest These are the Gifts of God, given for you, God's beloved. So wherever you are on your spiritual journey, come and receive. It is the Lord who invites you and His will that those who desire 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 Holy Communion.

The bread is received in the open palm.
If you choose to receive the cup, gently guide the chalice to your lips by touching the base.
At this time, we are not able to allow dipping the wafer into the chalice.

Those who prefer to receive a blessing, or who choose not to receive the cup,
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 Anthem *Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming*

arr. Howard Helvey

Communion Hymn 101 *Away in a manger*

Cradle Song

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for ev - er, and love me I pray.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is night.
and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

Post-Communion Hymn and Candle Lighting

Hymn 111 Silent Night

Stille Nacht

The people's candles are lit by the acolyte in the center aisle, followed by the singing of the hymn.



Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God.

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts—sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

The people extinguish their candles after the singing of Silent Night.

The Post-Communion Prayer *All stand.*

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 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 May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you
in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the
light of his holiness. Amen.

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth,
fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. Amen.

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to
heaven, give you his peace and favor. Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow; nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 3 far as the curse is found, far
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing,
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

Priest **A**lleluia! Alleluia!

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude Let our Gladness have no End

David Schack (b.1947)

*The people are invited to listen and observe silence during the postlude.
All are welcomed to enjoy fellowship at a reception following the service.*

Christmas flowers are given to the Glory of God

In Thanksgiving for

Katy & Joe Heston by Beth & Joe Heston

In Celebration of

Dugald Stewart Sr by Beth and Dug Stewart

And in Memory of

Dick Merrill by Grace Merrill

Jim & Margaret Tomlin and Ralph & Irene Hickcox by John & Julie Tomlin

Lou Kettel by Louis Kettel

Wilfred Scholefield by Jean Scholefield

Rev. Mark Wendland by Jackie Wendland

Rex Jones by Aliceon Jones

Carlyle Mothersill by Betty Kasson

Ruth Pryer Hardisty by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren

Our parents and siblings by The Rev. Laurel and Peter Coote

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