



ST. DUNSTAN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE 16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 17, 2023

8 am

Welcome to St Dunstan's! We are glad you are here!

If you are new, or would like to update your information, please fill out a pew card.

Thank you for silencing your cell 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.*

All stand at the ringing of the bell.

Priest Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever.

People Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day *The people stand or kneel.*

Priest God be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

God of debts forgiven, you call to account our hunger for power; you disturb hierarchies which crush the weak: break the vicious cycles of revenge and domination that we might look to him whose mercy never ends, Jesus Christ our redeemer. **Amen.**

Genesis 50:15–21

Joseph's brothers fear his wrath upon learning of the death of their father Jacob. It could be that Joseph will seek vengeance for the wrong done to him now that Jacob is no longer able to intercede on their behalf. The brothers manufacture a story and plead for mercy. Joseph tearfully and warmly reassures them that he intends only their good and the well-being of their families.

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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

People Thanks be to God.

Psalms 103:8–13

A hymn of blessing in thanksgiving for healing forgiveness and for all the Lord's acts of compassion and justice.

8 The LORD is full of compassion and mercy, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

9 He will not always accuse us, *
nor will he keep his anger for ever.

10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, *
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth, *
so is his mercy great upon those who fear him.

12 As far as the east is from the west, *
so far has he removed our sins from us.

13 As a father cares for his children, *
so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

Romans 14:1–12

Paul calls upon the Roman disciples to live with tolerance for one another's scruples, recognizing that everything can be done to honor the Lord with whom each Christian has a relationship. Especially should those who are strong and untroubled in their consciences respect the attitudes of the weak in matters such as observing certain days and eating meat. It is possible that there was tension in the Roman church between liberal Gentile Christians and more scrupulous Jewish Christians. God, Paul reminds them, is the one to whom final answer must be given, and the risen Christ is Lord of all.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Reader	Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People	Thanks be to God.

Matthew 18:21–35

Jesus bids his disciples to offer a forgiveness which is, for all practical purposes, unlimited, and he tells a parable about a man who, although forgiven much, still himself had no mercy. Jesus has extended to all manner of people God's amazingly generous offer of acceptance into the kingdom. Those who have been so forgiven must show mercy to others. Their own forgiveness may otherwise be revoked.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

“For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped 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

Enriching Our Worship; Form V

The people stand or kneel

Leader Comfort and liberate the lonely, the bereaved, and the oppressed. In your mercy:

People Hear us, O Christ.

Leader Keep in safety those who travel and all who are in peril. In your mercy:

People Hear us, O Christ.

Leader Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit, and provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute. We pray especially for _____. In your mercy:

People Hear us, O Christ.

Leader Guard and protect all children who are in danger. In your mercy:

People Hear us, O Christ.

Leader Shower your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble. In your mercy:

People Hear us, O Christ.

Leader Forgive our enemies, persecutors and slanderers, and turn their hearts. In your mercy:

People Hear us, O Christ.

Leader Hear us as we remember those who have died, and grant us with them a share in your eternal glory. We pray today for _____. In your mercy:

People Hear us, O Christ.

Priest Loving and compassionate God, we lift our prayers to you, entrusting them into your loving care. May the desires of our hearts align with your will, so to bring forth comfort, healing & restoration to your people. Let us never forget, O Lord, that your power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Help us to be bearers of your love, hope and grace to all we encounter, as we continue on our journey of faith. This we ask in the name of your son, Jesus Christ, who with the Holy Spirit, reigns with you for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Confession

Priest Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

People God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Absolution

Priest Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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 Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people exchange the peace with one another.

Announcements *All are seated.*

The Offertory

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Priest Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Priest It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing(say) this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

People **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People **We remember his death,**
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory

Priest **A**nd 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.**

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.

Priest: This is the true bread which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.

People: **Whoever eats this bread will live forever.**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR 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.

The Post-Communion Prayer

Priest Let us pray.

People **God of abundance, you have fed us
with the bread of life and cup of salvation;
you have united us with Christ and one another;
and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world
and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

Priest **T**he peace of the ocean wave be with you,
The peace of the ocean breeze surround you.
The peace of the quiet earth be in you.
The peace of the night stars cover you.
And the deep peace of the son of Peace be always with you.
And the blessing of God: Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be
upon you, today and always. **Amen.**

Priest **G**o in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **T**hanks be to God.

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 loving memory of Nancy Vout and Marge Taylor by Kurt and Elizabeth Buche*



*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.*

NEXT SUNDAY!
September 24th
HEAVENLY PIE SALE!

And this year we are adding CAKES to the event! Sign up on the welcome table to let us know what you would like to contribute to the sale. Pies and cakes will be available to purchase by the slice or whole. \$5 per piece, \$25 per whole pie or cake. We are also looking for help serving, boxing pies and cakes and cashiering. If you would like to help please let Mystery Chastain or Elizabeth Buche know.





The St. Dunstan's Foundation is now accepting applications for the current 2023-2024 grant cycle. The applications are due by September 30, at which time all applications will be reviewed.

If you, or someone you know is connected to a 501 C (3), an application form can be found on the church website: stdunstans.org



Pastoral Care & Prayer Requests

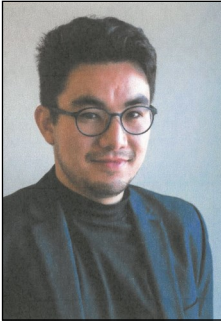
For pastoral concerns, contact Rev. Laurel revlaurel@stdcv.org or on her cell 310-562-5746. And you can always leave a message on the Pastoral Care line at church [831-624-6646](tel:831-624-6646) ext 110.

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.

I-Help this Thursday, September 21st

Look for the Sign-Up sheet on the welcome table to bring in food for the men's dinner on the 21st. We appreciate your contributions. Thank you from the I-HELP Team!

Music at St. Dunstan's Autumn Organ Concerts

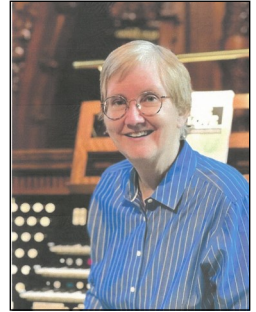


David Lim
organist

Saturday
September 30
4 o'clock

Angela Kraft Cross
organist

Saturday
October 14
4 o'clock



*Reception with the artists follows
\$25, \$40 if purchased together
Students and children under 18 free*

Deadline for eNews, Bulletin

Items for our eNews and Sunday Bulletin should be submitted to stdunstanschurch@gmail.com by midnight Monday.

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.



Children and Families

We are looking forward to fall and a few changes! Beginning in October we will offer Sunday School on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. The 4th Sunday the children will be participating in the service in various ways; ringing the bell, assisting the ushers with welcome and handing out bulletins, bringing up the elements for communion, helping with the offering as well as gathering around the altar during communion. If you would like more information or would like to get involved in our program please contact the church office.

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!

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 \$30, but some give more. Checks should be made out to St. Dunstan's with "Altar Flowers" in the memo.



Sign up on the Welcome Table

THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN TUESDAY - THURSDAY 9AM –1PM

Sunday, September 17

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am The Path Bible Study Ch. 1
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
11:00 am Coffee Hour

Monday, September 18

Tuesday, September 19

9:30 am Discipleship Group
5:30 pm The Path Bible Study Ch. 1
5:30 pm Zoom Compline
7:30 pm AA

Wednesday, September 20

10:00 am Holy Eucharist
11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
11:00 am The Path Bible Study Ch. 1

Thursday, September 21

4:00 pm I-Help Men
4:00 pm Vestry Meeting

Friday, September 22

Saturday, September 23

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, September 24

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:00 am Pie and Cake Sale
9:00 am The Path Bible Study Ch. 2
10:00 am 4th Sundays @ St. Dunstan's
Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
11:00 am Coffee Hour
11:00 am Pie and Cake Sale

View the entire parish calendar stdcv.org/calendar

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3—Duncan Murray
4—Georgia Byrne
11—Sharon Tiner
11—Cindy Tiberend
12—Sarah Pease

14—Michael Carter
14—Marcia Lockwood
14—Susan Pitts
15—Dick Habermann
20—Broden Murray
27—Margo Vermilyer

Sermon Notes