

ST. DUNSTAN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE 17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 24, 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.

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Exodus 16:2–15

The story of God's feeding of the people in the wilderness. The Israelites are full of complaints and now think they would prefer slavery and death in Egypt to their present difficulties. The Lord appears to them and promises sustenance, but also a test, for they will only be given food on a day-to-day basis. It is possible to explain the food in natural terms: the flock of quail provide flesh and the secretion of insects the bread-like substance. But the point of the narrative is that God provides. The Israelites call the bread manna (perhaps from words meaning "What is this?").

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 145:1–8

A hymn of praise to the Lord, who is mighty in deeds yet tender and compassionate.

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day will I bless you *
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 One generation shall praise your works to another *
and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, *
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, *
slow to anger and of great kindness.

Philippians 1:21–30

Paul tells the Philippians that he would prefer to be with Christ beyond death, but he recognizes that he still has good work to do in his earthly life. The passage suggests that Paul had reason to think his death might be near, perhaps by martyrdom. He looks forward to a closer union with Christ, but believes it more likely that he will be able to visit the Philippians again. Either way, he asks that they live in a manner worthy of the gospel and stand firm in unity with one another.

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Matthew 20:1–16

The story of the laborers in the vineyard, who are all paid the same wage despite their different hours of work. Like most parables, this story can have many meanings, as have been given to it in the life of the church. On one level it suggests that nobody can presume on God's grace, so often extended to those who may seem the least deserving. The parable deliberately flies in the face of normal human expectations. It offers a clue pointing to God's extraordinary evenhandedness in dealing with people quite apart from human ideas about their merit. Jesus may have told it in defense of his own sharing in the lives of the outcast.

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

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

Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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.*

Prayer for a Birthday

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

The Offertory

Priest 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 **W**e 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.**

Priest **T**he gifts of God for the people of God.

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 **G**od 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 The 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 Thanksgiving for Jill Sprague and Katie Amuchastegui by Steve Andrews*



*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 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

TODAY!!
September 24th
HEAVENLY PIE SALE!

Pies and cakes will be available to purchase by the slice or whole.

\$5 per slice

\$25 per whole pie or cake.

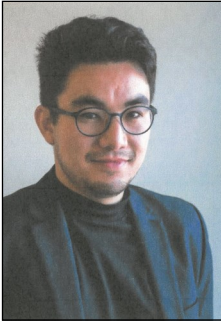


Help us get to know you by

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!

Music at St. Dunstan's Autumn Organ Concerts

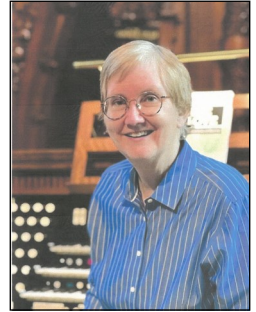


David Lim
organist

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.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Stewardship Luncheon

Sunday
November 5th
11:30am

More details coming soon!

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

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.

THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

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

Sunday, September 24

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am The Path Bible Study Ch. 2
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
11:00 am Coffee Hour
11:00 am Pie and Cake Sale

Monday, September 25

Office Closed

Tuesday, September 26

9:30 am Discipleship Group
3:30 pm Organ Concert Meeting
5:30 pm The Path Bible Study Ch. 2
5:00 pm Zoom Compline
7:30 pm AA

Wednesday, September 27

10:00 am Holy Eucharist
11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
11:00 am The Path Bible Study Ch. 2

Thursday, September 28

Friday, September 29

Office Closed

Saturday, September 30

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
4:00 pm David Lim Organ Concert

Sunday, October 1

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
8:30 am Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am The Path Bible Study Ch. 3
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
11:00 am Coffee Hour

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—Brodan Murray
27—Margo Vermilyer

Sermon Notes