

THE REIGN OF CHRIST November 26, 2023 10 am

ST. DUNSTAN'S

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 LITURGY 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 Ballad opus 38

All stand at the ringing of the bell.

Processional Hymn 397 Now thank we all our God

Nun danket alle Gott

Chopin

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

People Glory to God for ever and ever.

Priest Let us pray.

All 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 S278 Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis

William Mathias





The Collect of the Day The people stand or kneel.

Priest God be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

The Lord promises to be the shepherd of the people. God will bring them home and heal them. God will feed and protect them. The exile of Israel is coming to an end. Ezekiel has prophesied against the false shepherds, the rulers who only fed off the flock. Now God will tend the sheep who have been dispersed and preyed upon, but the overfed will be judged.

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

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

Psalm 100

A call to praise and to offer thanksgiving to the Lord.

1 Be joyful in the LORD, all you lands; * serve the LORD with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

2 Know this: The LORD himself is God; * he himself has made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; * give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

4 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; * and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Ephesians 1:15-23

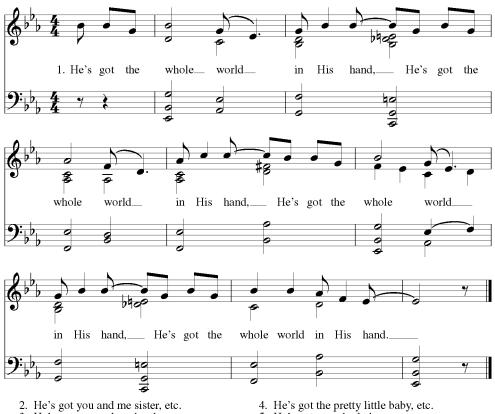
Paul gives thanks for the faith and love of the Ephesians and prays that they may see with their inward eyes the power of God, who has raised and enthroned Jesus far above all earthly and heavenly dominions. How vast is the treasure that God offers to those who trust in the Lord! The Lord Christ now reigns as head of the church, which is his body and which experiences the fullness of his love.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who

believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

Gradual Hymn He's got the whole world in His hands Negro Spiritual Arr. Hezekiah Brinson, Jr. (b. 1958)



- 3. He's got you and me brother, etc.
- 5. He's got everybody here, etc.

Matthew 25:31-46

A picture of the universal judgment when the Son Of Man, acting as judge and king, will separate humankind into two groups: those who have cared for the Lord in the needy, the stranger, and prisoners—and those who have not. On one level the evangelist intends those in need to be understood as Christian disciples. But the bringing of all peoples into judgment has caused Christians to realize that the Christ is to be recognized in every individual. Beneath this awareness lies a profound theological mystery: the likeness of God, which has been decisively revealed in the human person of Jesus, may be perceived in each human being.

PriestThe Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.PeopleGlory to you, Lord Christ.

esus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord. 6 People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

After the sermon a brief silence is kept.

The Nicene Creed All Stand.

 ${f W}$ e believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. ${f W}$ e 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. ${f W}$ e 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

The people stand or kneel

Leader Loving God, we offer our prayers this day in Gratitude and thanksgiving, for in Christ you have laid a foundation for us that we might follow you more closely.

We pray for the mission of your church and thank you for the joy and encouragement we receive from you through our church family: Give us the grace to plant faith and build love wherever you lead us to the benefit of your reign.

- People Hear us, O God.
- Leader We pray for all leaders and people of this world: Give us a clear vision of the world as you intend and the will to realize that dream of justice and peace for all.
- People Hear us, O God.
- Leader Almighty God, source of all wisdom and understanding: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the hearts and minds of those who will choose our next presiding bishop, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for all of your people, equip us for our ministries, and proclaim your word to us and to the world.
- People Hear us, O God.
- Leader We pray for all who suffer in body, mind or spirit, especially *N*., and those we name now either silently or aloud:

The people may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.

Bring refreshment to their hearts through Christ that they may know your abiding presence and power to comfort and heal.

People Hear us, O God.

- Leader We pray for your creation: Convict us in the ways in which we break down and destroy the fabric of your world and give us the will to amend our ways as we seek to live in harmony with goodness you have created.
- People Hear us, O God.

We pray for the dying and for those who have died, especially N., Leader and those we now name, either silently or aloud: The people may add their own petitions either silently or aloud.

May they rest in your eternal glory with all the saints in light.

People Hear us, O God.

Priest Now to you be all the glory, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

The Confession

- Priest If we call out in need, the Lord will answer. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor: Silence may be kept.
- People God of goodness and truth, we have failed to seek after your wisdom and have followed paths that have led away from you. Forgive our foolish ways, and lead us in your truth, that we may live in the fullness of life as you intend, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

The Absolution

Priest Beloved, your sins are forgiven, for God is merciful and just. Therefore, be reconciled to the Lord and to one another, walking in the light of Christ. Amen.

The Peace All stand.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. Priest

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. 9

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Offertory Sentence

During the setting of the table a collection is taken to support the life and ministry at St. Dunstan's. The people's offerings of bread, wine and money or other gifts will be brought to the priest. The people stand while the offerings are presented. Offerings may also be made online at www.stdcv.org

Priest Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Offertory Anthem He Leadeth Me

Arranged by Janelle A. Clark

He leadeth me, O blessed thought! O words and heavn'ly comfort fraught. What'er I do, where e're I be, Still 'tis God's jhand that leadeth me.

Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine, Nor ever murmur nor repine; Content whatever lot I see, Since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

He leadeth me, He leadeth me! By His own hand, He leadeth me. His faithful follower I would be, For by His hand He leadeth me.

And when my task on earth is done, When by Thy grace the vict'ry's won. E'en death's cold wave I will not flee Since God through Jordan leadeth me.

He leadeth me . . .

Offertory Hymn 291 We plow the fields, and scatter the good seed

Wir pflugen

Our Prayers of Thanks

Priest God, through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer. They will become for us spiritual food.

People We bless God forever.

Priest God, receive our gifts for the work of your Church.

People We bless God forever.

- Priest God, you have blessed us with the joy of families and members of all ages. We thank you that they are with us to gather at your table.
- People We bless God forever.

Priest God is here.

People We praise God together.

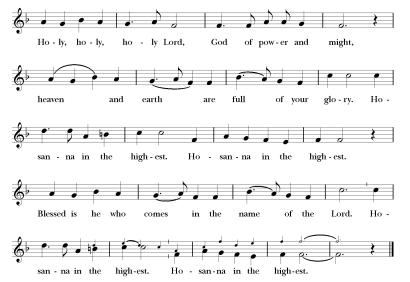
Priest Let us say thank you to God

People God has done so much for us.

- Priest O God, you made all things, and you blessed them.
- People You gave us the earth to feed us, the sky to open our hearts, the water for us to drink. You blessed all those who came before us, and you bless us, also.
- Priest When it was time, you sent angels to Mary and Joseph to tell them about having a child, whom they would call Jesus. Jesus would be the Savior of the world. And so we praise you with all the angels as we sing:

Sanctus S125 Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Richard Proulx



Priest God, you made us, and the world and everything in it. All the good we see comes from you. You have always loved us but people have not always loved you. You sent Jesus to show us how to live and to bring us back to you again.

People Amen. We are alive in Jesus.

- Priest He died for us on the cross so that through your Spirit we can all be your people. And so, with thanks we praise you.
- People Amen. We are alive in Jesus.
- Priest We are here because on the night before he died Jesus shared a meal with his friends. There he took some bread and gave thanks to you, God. He broke it into pieces, and gave it to them. "This is my body," he said.

People Do this, and know that I am with you.

- Priest Later, he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to you. He shared it with them, and said "This is my blood, which brings new life.
- People Do this, and know that I am with you."
- Priest We remember what Jesus has done for us:
- People Jesus died, then was raised to new life by you, and is alive for ever. We are glad to share that life and live in him. Amen. We are alive in Jesus.
- Priest Send your Holy Spirit so that this bread and wine can be for us the body and blood of Jesus, and through this food give us strength to live as your people.

People Amen. We are alive in Jesus.

Priest Help us care for your world and for each other in the way that Jesus showed us.

People Help us to love God, love others, serve the world, Until he comes again, with all your people in every time and every land.

Priest We worship you and say:

People We praise you. We thank you. We bless you. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

- 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.

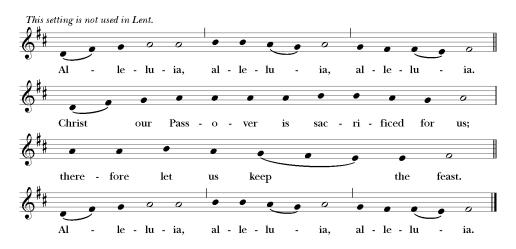
Give us this day our daily bread.And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread.

Fraction Anthem S154 Christ our Passover

New Plainsong; David Hurd



Priest The gifts of God for the people of God.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

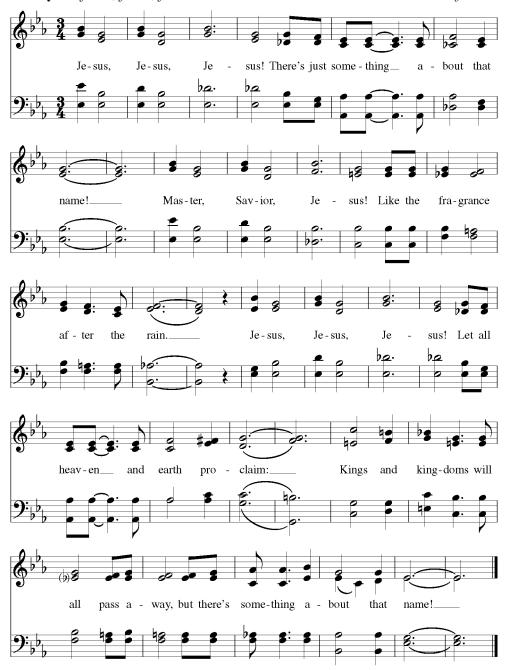
All who come in faith seeking a deeper knowledge and love of Jesus Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Come forward to receive the bread in your open palm.

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. You may have communion brought to your seat by notifying an usher. Communion Hymn Jesus, Jesus, Jesus

William J. Gaither



14

The Prayer After Communion

Priest Let us pray.

People God of all Life, we have seen with our own eyes and touched with our own hands the Bread of Life, this precious gift of your Son Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith that we may grow in love for you, in love for one another, and in love for all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Priest May the peace of Christ be with you, May the love of God dwell deep in your heart, May the Spirit enlighten your way, May you walk in the comfort of God's care. And the blessing of God Almighty, who creates, redeems and sustains, be upon you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn 518 Christ is made the sure foundation *Westminster Abbey*

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. **People Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Valse opus 34 No 2

All are welcome to enjoy fellowship with one another outside the church during coffee hour.

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The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God

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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.

Chopin



How does a weary world rejoice? Next Sunday, December 3, 2023 we commence the **Season of Advent,** a season of preparation, anticipation, and watchful waiting as we journey toward Christmas and the celebration of God's in-breaking into the world in the person of Jesus. We are pleased to make several resources available to bring the season of Advent alive for you and your family:

- Family Packets: with activities to engage your children each day of the season.
- A limited number of the Illustrated Advent Calendars (for Adults), which includes a daily prompt for reflection and action (Look for the burlap sacks and please, one per family.)
- Advent Devotional Booklet: *How does a weary world rejoice?* by A Sanctified Art includes art, poetry, and reflections from Luke's Gospel. You may use this for at-home devotions along with its accompanying Advent Calendar, or in participation with the Sunday Discussion Group.
- Weekly Inserts & other sources: each Sunday of Advent we'll include a weekly insert informed by The Way of Love plus you'll find a Way of Love Advent Calendar, as well as Forward Movement's Advent Word Daily Reflection on the breezeway table.
- Advent Quiet Morning: Plan to join us for a morning of rest and renewal on Saturday, December 16th, from 9am to 1pm, where we'll explore advent through the eyes of Mary.

May you find in this Advent season time to pause, reflect and prepare for Christ's coming.



Thank you to Rachel Mueller and the I-Help team for providing baked goods for coffee hour this week!

If you would like to host coffee hour on a Sunday please sign up on the Welcome table.

Welcome this week's guest pianist

Margaret Counihan

Welcome back to St. Dunstan's Margeret! Thank you for helping lead us as we worship in song this week.

Wonder what's going on at St. Dunstan's?

Sign up today to receive

St. Dunstan's weekly eNews

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

The Holiday Season is here!

This year there will be several ways to share our abundance with others near and far. Four of our St. Dunstan's ministries are offering these opportunities:

- Nancy's Project Christmas gifts! (11/19-12/10) Wrapped gifts tagged with age and gender may be dropped off in Brock Hall and will be distributed to needy kids. Soccer balls (highly desired!), electronic games, gift cards to Starbucks, McDonalds, Chipotle, games, hair ornaments, caps and shirts with local sports team logos are some ideas.
- **Daughters of The King** (11/12 12/3): collecting gifts and monetary donations for The Salvation Army's Adopt-A-Family program. We are sponsoring 2 families and you can find their needs on a signup sheet in the breezeway starting *today*.
- Haiti St. André's School (11/26 –12/24): setting up a Giving Tree to feed children at St. Andre's school in Hinche. A \$50 donation feeds one child for an entire school year and adds a shiny red ornament to our tree.
- I-HELP (12/3 12/17) collecting cash gifts again this year for the men and women in the program. I-Help supports sobriety and the homeless. Look for the info sheet and donation envelopes on 12/3.

We invite your participation & thank you for blessing our neighbors during the holidays!

Help us get to know you by Filling out a Pew Card

If you are visiting us, are new to St. Dunstan's, or if your contact information has changed, please fill out a Pew Card and drop it in the collection plate. Thank you!

Baptisms Offered

January 7, 2024



If you are interested in

baptism for yourself or your child, call or email Rev. Laurel by December 17th to prepare.

Thank you to all who have filled out their 2024 Pledge Card. If you have not yet done so, pledge cards are available to pick up after the service.

Pastoral Care & Prayer Requests



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

Our Daughters of the King chapter welcomes your prayer requests. Prayer requests may be sent to

<u>dok@stdcv.org</u>. The Daughters pray for members of our parish as well as many others daily.

J2A Schedule (Children 6th through 12th grade)

Sundays: *TODAY* and December 2 12-1pm at St. Dunstan's.

We will be working through the Journey To Adulthood curriculum for the end of Year 1. In this unit, we learn about loving and honoring God, ourselves and others. The 3 parts are: Self: Identity and Vocation Self: Sharing Our Gifts from God Self: My Purpose Statement

We look forward to seeing you! Lunch will be provided at every meeting!

Children's schedule for November and December



November 26—Children participate in the service

December 3— Sunday School in Brock Hall December 10—Children in Church with their parents December 17—Christmas Pageant December 24—Children in Church with their parents December 31—Children in Church with their parents



CALLING ALL INTERESTED CHILDREN!

We are beginning preparation for our Christmas pageant on December 17th, which will also be our Children Inclusive Service for December. If your child would like to participate please let us know!

THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

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

 Sunday, November 26 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am The Path Bible Study Ch. 11 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed) 11:00 am Coffee Hour 	Thursday, November 30 Friday, December 1 Saturday, December 2 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
Monday, November 27 Office Closed <u>Tuesday, November 28</u> 9:30 am Discipleship Group 5:00 pm Zoom Compline 5:30 pm The Path Bible Study Ch. 11 7:30 pm AA	 Sunday, December 3 8:00 am Holy Eucharist 8:30 am Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am Advent Devotional Book Study in Brock Hall 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed) 11:00 am Coffee Hour
 Wednesday, November 29 10:00 am Conversation Communion Holy Eucharist 11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry 11:00 am The Path Bible Study Ch. 11 	

View the entire parish calendar stdcv.org/calendar

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 27—Mike Cervi
- 28—Janet Morse
- 30—Pam Lawrence
- 1—Cindy Poole
- 4—Charlie Rose Talley
- 10—Gus Hawthorne

- 14—Mack Talley
- 16—Bob Young
- 17—Jack Lagier
- 19—Chandler Clark
- 20—Charlotte Cabral
- 22—Jennifer Lama

- 22—Aleksander Simpson
- 24—Taylor Hawthorne
- 25—Joanie Webb
- 27—Perry Rosen
- 28—Andro Vissani

30—Elin Rosen

Sermon Notes