



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 3, 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 LITURGY OF THE WORD

All stand at the ringing of the bell.

Lighting the Advent Wreath

God of hope, we light this candle as we prepare for the coming of your Son. Awaken our hearts to you this Advent season, so that when Christ arrives, we are ready to receive him with all our hearts, all our minds, and all our strength. **Amen.**

The Song of Praise

Hymn 56 O come, O come, Emanuel (*vss. 1 and 2*)

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

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

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Let us pray.

God of unveiled truth, faithful flame in times of darkened sun and waning moon: lift up our unknowing hearts, and waken our sleeping love to announce the coming dawn of unexpected peace; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. **Amen.**

The People are seated

Isaiah 64:1–9

A contrite plea to God for merciful justice. The prophet recalls earlier times when the Lord's presence made the very mountains quake. Now the people have sinned grievously and are suffering for their wrongs. They can only pray that the Lord will remember them as God's children, God's creatures, and temper divine anger.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence--

as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil--

to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.

You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;

for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.

Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19

A lament and a plea to the Lord, the shepherd of Israel, that God will turn away divine anger and restore the people.

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

1 Corinthians 1:3–9

Paul greets the new disciples in Corinth, telling them of his gratitude to God on their behalf and offering comfort and assurance. Because they are sanctified in Christ, these converts, together with those everywhere who call upon Jesus, have a vocation as saints. They are rich in spiritual gifts. Trusting in a faithful God, they wait for the great revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

All Stand

Mark 13:24–37

Jesus presents his disciples with a vision of the end of human history and repeatedly urges them to be on watch. The universe itself will reflect this transformation as the Son of Man comes. That time is near, but no one knows it exactly. Disciples must live expectantly and be on the alert for their Lord's coming.

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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

The Sermon

After the sermon a brief silence is kept.

The Rev. Laurel Coote

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 *The people stand or kneel.*

Leader In joy at the nearness of the Christ, let us offer our prayers to God.
May the power of God's holy presence clear a path through the rubble
of broken lives and hearts to make our world and each of us a new
creation.

With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader May our gracious God always console and comfort us, nourish our
deepest hungers, and guide us in ways of justice and peace.

With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader May we find in the deserts of our lives a new Jordan, a stream of blessing
that bears forgiveness, refreshment and joy.

With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader For the people of St. Dunstan's and St. Andre's, for Lucinda our Bishop,
and all who do ministry near or far; may the God of John the Baptist raise
up holy prophets in our midst, voices to challenge us to greater integrity
and truthfulness.

With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader May the God who is our comfort hear the cries of all in need, especially:

With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Leader May the God who is our future hold those who have died in the embrace of
faithful love, especially:

Together may we see new heavens and a new earth.

With hopeful hearts,

People We pray to you, O God.

Priest O Emmanuel, God-with-us, You show us the face of divinity, and reveal the fullness of our humanity. Come: Hear our prayers, renew your creation, restore us all in Christ, and enable us to become who we are, your faithful and loving people. We pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Priest Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence

People Most merciful God, we confess we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
We have not loved our neighbors as
ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy upon us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Absolution

Priest Through the cross of Christ,
God have mercy on you, pardon you, and set you free.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.
God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in life eternal. **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.

Announcements *All are seated.*

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.

The Great Thanksgiving

Enriching Our Worship, Eucharistic Prayer 2

The people stand at the procession of the offering and remain standing.

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 our thanks and praise.

Priest We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us.

Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

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 Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor.

He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Priest Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Priest Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with blessed Dunstan, blessed Andre, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

People Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Priest And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**People Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread.

Priest We share this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Priest Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

People Have mercy on us.

Priest Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

People Have mercy on us.

Priest Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.

People Grant us peace.

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.

The Prayer After Communion

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.**

All stand for the blessing and dismissal

The Blessing

Priest May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the Darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks 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

~

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.

Today, Sunday, December 3, 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:



How does a
weary world
rejoice?

- 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.

The Holiday Season is here!

This year there are 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.
- **Haiti – St. André's School** (11/26 –12/24): The Giving Tree is back! Please support our feeding program at St. Andre's School in Hinche, Haiti by putting an ornament on our Giving Tree. \$50 feeds a child a hot, nourishing meal every school day for a school year. For many of these children, this is their only meal of the day. The perfect Christmas gift for friends or family--and we have cards to send to tell them of your thoughtful gift. Put a smile on the face of a Haitian child as they sit down to a hot meal--thanks to you!
- **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 today.

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

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.

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. Thanks!

Christmas Poinsettia Dedications

Dedicate a Christmas poinsettia in remembrance of a loved one, to mark an anniversary, or simply to give thanks. Recommended donation is \$20 each. Checks should be made out to St. Dunstan's with "Christmas Flowers" in the memo.



Please sign up on the Welcome Table. The deadline for submissions is December 17th.

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.

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 stdcv.org/subscribe and entering your email address.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

December 24th - Advent IV

One Service at 9am

December 24th - Christmas Eve

Family Service 4pm

Choral Eucharist 7pm

No Service Christmas Day

December 31st

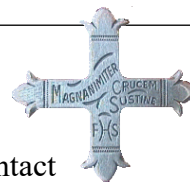
First Sunday of Christmas

Lessons and Carols

One Service at 9am



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.

Children's schedule for November and December

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!

J2A Schedule
(Children 6th through 12th grade)

Sundays: *TODAY*
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!

**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.

St. Dunstan's Staff

Rev Laurel Coote, Rector
revlaurelc@gmail.com

Elizabeth Buche, Parish Administrator
stdunstanschurch@gmail.com

Carol Langland, Treasurer
carolstang@icloud.com

Alicia Sanoian, Asst. Controller
alicia@accessbcinc.com

St. Dunstan's Vestry



Jack Enbom, Senior Warden
Rodger Langland, Jr. Warden
Duncan Clarke
Tracy Jones
George Lockwood
Rebecca Miller
Susan Pitts
Jean Scholefield
John Tomlin
Michelle Wildon

THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

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

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)
- 10:00am** Sunday School in Brock Hall
- 11:00 am** Coffee Hour
- 12:00 pm** J2A (children 6th –12th grade)

Monday, December 4

Office Closed

Tuesday, December 5

- 9:30 am** Discipleship Group
- 5:00 pm** Zoom Compline
- 7:30 pm** AA

Wednesday, December 6

- 10:00 am** Conversation Communion
Holy Eucharist
- 11:00 am** Prayer Shawl Ministry

Thursday, December 7

- 12:00 pm** Quilters Group
- 3:00pm** Finance Meeting

Friday, December 8

Saturday, December 9

- 9:00 am** Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00am** Christmas Cookie Baking

Sunday, December 10

- 8:00 am** Holy Eucharist
- 8:30 am** Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00am** Christmas Cookie Sale
- 9:00 am** Advent Devotional Book Study
in Brock Hall
- 10:00 am** Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
- 11:00 am** Coffee Hour
- 11:00am** Christmas Cookie Sale

View the entire parish calendar stdcv.org/calendar

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1—Cindy Poole | 19—Chandler Clark | 27—Perry Rosen |
| 4—Charlie Rose Talley | 20—Charlotte Cabral | 28—Andro Vissani |
| 10—Gus Hawthorne | 22—Aleksander Simpson | 30—Elin Rosen |
| 14—Mack Talley | 22—Jennifer Lama | |
| 16—Bob Young | 24—Taylor Hawthorne | |
| 17—Jack Lagier | 25—Joanie Webb | |

SERMON NOTES

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
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(831) 624-6646 stdunstanschurch@gmail.com