



ST. DUNSTAN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

February 25, 2024
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.

The ministers process in silence.

Priest Blessed be the God of our salvation:

People Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.

Priest Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion
and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

The people stand or kneel. A moment of silence is kept.

**People God eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbors,
in what we have thought, in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light. Amen.**

Priest May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw us to himself, and cleanse us
from all our sins that we may behold the glory of his Son and Word made
flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Remain standing or kneeling.

Priest Lord, have mercy.

People Christ, have mercy.

Priest Lord, have mercy.

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.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16

God appears to Abram and enters into covenant with him, promising to make him an ancestor to multitudes. Abram is now a changed person. He will henceforth be called Abraham, and his wife Sarai will now be called Sarah. The covenant is to be an everlasting covenant made not only with Abraham and Sarah, but with all generations which issue from them. The Hebrew people will come to see this covenant as the originating source of their own identity, and Christians will find an example of saving faith in Abraham's response to God's promise.

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:22–30

A song of praise to the Lord, who rules over all and cares for the downtrodden.

- 22 Praise the LORD, you that fear him; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.
- 23 For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them; *
but when they cry to him he hears them.
- 24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who
worship him.
- 25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek
the LORD shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,*
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
- 27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.
- 29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.
- 30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.

Romans 4:13–25

Paul explains that the new relationship with God is open to everyone who follows in Abraham’s faith. This means that righteousness before God comes through God’s free gift and the response of faith—not because of obedience to the law. This was first true in the case of Abraham, who trusted in God’s promise before the law even existed. Now it is true for all who have faith and so show themselves to be among Abraham’s descendants from many nations.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

All stand.

Mark 8:31–38

Jesus teaches his disciples of the true nature of the ministry of the Son of Man and what it means to follow in his way. Peter has just previously stated his belief that Jesus is the Christ. But now he is called Satan because he tempts Jesus with human ideas rather than God's. Peter needs to understand that, as the Son of Man, Jesus' mission leads through suffering and death before resurrection. Disciples must also learn that the true self and true life are found by those who let themselves be lost for the sake of Jesus and the gospel.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. David Starr

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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He 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 *Standing or kneeling.*

Form II

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

Leader I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; For our Presiding Bishop, Michael; our Bishop, Lucinda; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

Silence

Leader I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

Leader I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

Leader I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

Leader I ask your prayers for the departed, especially:

Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Leader I ask your prayers for members of the St. Dunstan's community, especially:
I invite you to add your names and thanksgivings either silently or aloud.

Silence

Leader Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

Priest O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **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.*

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 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 But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. *Hebrews 13:15-16*

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

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.

8 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; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again.

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

**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 Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Priest We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

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.

Priest Christ, our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The Fraction

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

People **Have mercy upon us.**

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

People **Have mercy upon us.**

Priest 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.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

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 Compassionate and loving God, through your Son Jesus Christ you have fed us, and reconciled your people to yourself. May we who have shared in the holy meal know your forgiveness in our lives, bring your reconciliation to others, and be a sign of your wholeness in this broken world. Following Christ's example of fasting and prayer, may we obey you with willing hearts and serve one another in holy love. Amen.

All stand for the blessing and dismissal

The Blessing

Priest Bow your head before the Lord.

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon 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.

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The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in Memory of Lawrence Reiersen by Star Reiersen

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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.

We've arrived at Week 2 of Lent, and we continue our reflection on Prayer. Sometimes we are so busy talking to God in prayer, that we fail to take time to sit in silence, and to listen. Silence and stillness can be disconcerting for some of us. Somehow our inner voice gets louder, and sometimes our minds race with all sorts of thoughts. One way to become more comfortable with sitting in silence so to hear God's voice, is to practice it in small increments. Just two-to-three minutes at a time will do. Begin by setting a timer; then close your eyes, inhale a deep cleansing breath, and as you breathe in and out, listen. Be present to what you feel, notice, and hear. When your timer rings, simply end with a spoken prayer. And repeat!!

God has much to say!

Dear God,

Speak gently in my silence.

When the loud outer noises of my surroundings
and the loud inner noises of my fears
keep pulling me away from you, help me to trust
that you are still there
even when I am unable to hear you.

Give me ears to listen to your small, soft
voice saying:

"Come to me, you who are overburdened,
and I will give you rest.....

for I am gentle and humble of heart."

Let that loving voice be my guide.

Amen.



Question for Meditation:

Why do I avoid silence?

LENTEN LABYRINTH WALK UNDER THE STARS

Members and their friends of all ages are invited to gather on **Friday evening, March 1, 2024 at 6pm for a Lenten Labyrinth Walk under the Stars!** We will adorn our Labyrinth and patio with lights, set a fire pit for roasting marshmallows and making s'mores, and lean into the Lenten Season by journeying with God to the Center of the Labyrinth for prayer, and back out into the world, filled and restored. Labyrinth crafts and prayers will be provided.

Labyrinth Prayer

Dear God of our whole selves,
As we journey through this season of Lent,
Teach us how to give,
So that we can joyfully respond when you call us to serve.
Teach us how to pray,
So that we can be closer to you in all we do throughout the day.
Teach us how to let go,
So nothing can stand in the way of our connection with you.
Teach us how to prepare,
So we can be ready to receive your love, wisdom, and blessing.
Help us to remember that in all ways, we belong to you,
Amen.



Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.

A Lenten Exploration of Forgiveness

Mondays at 5pm — Soup Supper and Program

Jesus is always speaking into our human condition, giving us words of wisdom on how to follow him, and how to best tend to and care for ourselves and one another. Life can be hard, people disagree, and harm is done. We all know what it is to hurt, and each of us has at some time hurt others.

Along with his call to Listen, Trust, Serve and Love, Jesus calls us to Forgive. And we all know — to forgive is not always simple nor is it easy. And while we may long to be forgiven, seeking it, or even accepting it can be equally challenging. Each one of us, at some time, will need to forgive and will be in need of forgiveness. But sometimes we don't know where to begin. Sometimes we hurt so much, we don't even want to try. Yet, forgiveness is central to our Christian Faith and has the power to transform our lives, if we are courageous enough to try.

This week, we continue our exploration of Forgiveness. We'll hear from a variety of voices, writers and theologians as we look at what forgiveness is and isn't, how to forgive, and explore the challenges, barriers that get in our way — and also the difference forgiving can make. For us.

Please plan to join us for a delicious meal and rich conversation. And if you want to help with the preparation of the Soup Supper, send Peter Coote an email at pacoote57@gmail.com.

Lent Madness is back!

Learn about two saints every day and vote on which should progress toward the Golden Halo! This is just for fun, but you also learn about two saints every day— a good thing for Lent. Go on line and visit lentmadness.Org every morning, read and vote! Watch the progress toward the Golden Halo on the bracket posted in Brock Hall.

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!

Deadline for eNews, Bulletin

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

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.

St. Mary's Game Night

March 21st

6:30-8:30

The adult "Seekers" group at St. Mary's has graciously invited any interested folks from St. Dunstan's to their upcoming game night! Participants are asked to bring a board game they'd like to play and a snack or beverage (wine is fine) to share with the group. If you plan to attend, please let Jackie Wendland know (text 831-236-0799 or e-mail jawendland@hotmail.com). St. Mary's needs an approximate head count to know how many table to set up. This kind invitation is a result of our two parishes coordinating to attend the movie "A Case for Love" and have dinner together afterwards in January. It promises to be a fun evening enjoying games and making new Episcopalian friends.



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 Vestry



Susan Pitts, Senior Warden
Jr. Warden—TBD
Duncan Clarke
Jack Enbom
Sheila Hiebert
Tracy Jones
Carol Langland
George Lockwood
Jackie Wendland

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.

St. Dunstan's Staff

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J2A (Journey To Adulthood) is back for the Spring!

Journey to Adulthood is a youth ministry program of spiritual formation for 6th-12th grades. J2A is centered on inclusive, relational ministry and uses Bible study, prayer, rites of passage, and service projects.

We welcome new and returning youth! If you didn't make it last year you are still welcome to join us now!

Here are Spring 2024 J2A dates. We will meet at St. Dunstan's on:

- March 10th, 4-5:30pm
- April 14th, 4-5:30pm
- May 5th, 4-5:30pm

Please also hold May 17th-18th for a possible overnight service pilgrimage to San Francisco. (Budget would be covered by the Women of St. Dunstan's. We will discuss details in our first meeting on March 10th and if overnight travel is unfeasible, we will do a local service project on Saturday May 18th like we did last year.)

Children's schedule for February and March

February 25 - No 4th Sunday Family service as Rev. Laurel will be away for a Vestry Retreat. Children in church with their families.

March 3— Sunday School in Brock Hall

March 10— Children in Church with their families

March 17— Sunday School in Brock Hall



THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

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

Sunday, February 25

Vestry Retreat

8:00 am Holy Eucharist

8:30 am Choir Rehearsal

9:00 am The Path Bible Study Ch. 19

10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)

11:00 am Coffee Hour

Monday, February 26

Office Closed

5:00pm Lenten Soup Supper

Tuesday, February 27

5:00 pm Zoom Compline

5:30 pm The Path Bible Study Ch. 18

7:30 pm AA

Wednesday, February 28

10:00 am Conversation and Communion
Holy Eucharist

11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry

12:00 pm The Path Bible Study Ch. 19

Thursday, February 29

9:30am Discipleship Group

Friday, March 1

6:00pm Family Lenten Nighttime
Labyrinth Walk

Saturday, March 2

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, March 3

8:00 am Holy Eucharist

8:30 am Choir Rehearsal

9:00 am The Path Bible Study Ch. 20

10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)

11:00 am Coffee Hour

View the entire parish calendar stdcv.org/calendar

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

January

27—Jack Enbom

29—Helena Miller

30—Lincoln Talley

February

7—Beverly Klinger

10—Tammy Hawkins

11—Kim Murray

12—Sue Masters

14—Tom Logan

26—Sarah Hawthorne

27—Joseph Talley

28—Crosby Hawthorne

Sermon Notes