



# THE EPIPHANY

January 7, 2024  
8 am

**ST. DUNSTAN'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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*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.*

**Priest** Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People** **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

**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.**

### The Gloria

**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 The Lord be with you.

**People And also with you.**

Priest Let us pray.

Shepherd of Israel and Light of all Nations, made known in the gifts of those who call to other names and walk on different ways: may unjust powers and the hatred within us be dismayed by your friendship and dethroned by your love; through Jesus Christ, the open arms of grace. **Amen.**

### **Isaiah 60:1–6**

*The prophet envisions the end of exile and the glorious restoration of Jerusalem.*

*Although darkness covers the earth, the Lord will be a light making God's people shine. To this radiance shall come the nations. Rich treasures will be brought from afar to honor God.*

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.  
Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.  
Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.  
Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 72:1–7, 10–14**

*The psalm asks that God endow the king with compassionate justice and righteousness, and that his reign may extend over all nations and throughout all generations.*

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously \*  
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \*  
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \*  
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \*  
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \*  
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, \*  
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
- 11 All kings shall bow down before him, \*  
and all the nations do him service.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, \*  
and the oppressed who has no helper.
- 13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; \*  
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
- 14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, \*  
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

## **Ephesians 3:1–12**

*Here is set forth the great theme of Paul's apostolic commission: the revealed mystery that Christ's salvation extends beyond Judaism to include all peoples. The apostle is near the end of his ministry and in prison at the time of the writing of this letter. Now it is recognized as God's eternal purpose that the Gentiles are to be members of the same body. The wisdom of God is made known through the church even in transcendental realms.*

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

## **Matthew 2:1–12**

*The wise men from the east, who, guided by a star, come to worship the child born to be king. Despite the wicked plotting of Herod, the Magi are able to bring their gifts to Jesus without betraying his exact location. Early Christians found in the rich symbolism and motifs of the story the fulfillment of both Hebrew scripture prophecy and the dreams of many peoples. The meaning of this birth, amid terrifyingly human circumstances, enlightens and transcends human history.*

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

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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** *Standing or kneeling.*

**Leader** God's glory has been veiled in flesh. Our flesh has become a glorious epiphany. Let us then present before the Lord of glory our gift of prayer for those who are in need, saying: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who walk in the darkness of violence and oppression, and for all who by their life and preaching cast into that darkness the light of God's peace and justice, let us pray to the Lord.

**People** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader** For all who carry on the teaching of prophets and apostles, and for the full communion in life and worship of those who receive God's word, let us pray to the Lord.

**People** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader** For all who have at their disposal this world's riches, and for all who call out to them, let us pray to the Lord.

**People** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader** For all who raise their eyes to the heavens looking for healing and deliverance [especially N.], let us pray to the Lord.

**People** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader** For the rulers of the earth, and for every child that stands in need of their protection, let us pray to the Lord.

**People** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Leader** For all who through death have passed into the full epiphany of God's glory [especially N.], let us pray to the Lord.

**People** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Priest** O God of stars and journeys, you lead us day by day to the joyful vision of your light. Move us by the power of your word that we too might share our gifts with others and so receive in our hearts the child of Bethlehem. So may you be praised and adored through the same Christ our Lord, in the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **The Confession**

Priest Let us turn to the most holy One and confess our sin,  
confident in God's faithful and steadfast love for us.  
*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 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 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](http://www.stdcv.org)*

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

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer C*

*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 God thanks and praise.**

Priest God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

**People Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Priest At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, And this fragile earth, our island home.

**People By your will they were created and have their being.**

Priest From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

**People Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Priest Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

**People** By his blood, he reconciled us.  
By his wounds, we are healed.

**Priest** And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

**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** And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

**People** We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

**Priest** Lord God of our Ancestors; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ:  
Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**People** Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Priest Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **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. A period of silence is kept.*

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

**People Have mercy on us.**

Priest These are the Gifts of God, given for you, God's beloved. So come and receive. It is the Lord who invites you and His will that those who desire him, should meet him here.

### **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 Spirit's love,  
flowing like water across the face of the earth,  
fill you with every gift for the good of the world.

And the blessing of God, Eternal Source,  
Fountain of Life, and Giver of Gifts, be with you always.

### **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.*

## **Call for Vestry and Convention Delegates**

As we head into 2024, it is time to herald the call for Vestry and Convention Delegate Nominations. Now is the time to prayerfully consider if God is calling you to serve in a leadership role at St. Dunstan's. You can pick up the official **Vestry and Convention Delegate Nomination Form on the welcome table**, which should be submitted for anyone wishing to be nominated and considered for one of these leadership positions. We will be seeking to fill two (2) Vestry positions, and Five (5) Convention Delegate positions. The form contains all information required and is due by **January 22, 2024**. The nominating committee confirms eligibility of each proposed nominee and willingness to serve if elected, then prayerfully discerns, and proposes the recommended slate of nominees for the open positions.

If you want to know more about possibly serving on the Vestry or as a Delegate, please don't hesitate to reach out to any Vestry Member, or to Rev. Laurel.

### **Calling All Ministry Team Leaders!**

The Annual Meeting is just around the corner! Please submit your annual report to the church office, [stdunstanschurch@gmail.com](mailto:stdunstanschurch@gmail.com), by January 22nd. Thank you!

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

#### **2024 Annual Parish Meeting**

**Sunday, February 4th 11:30 am**

**Please make a note that there is only ONE service, 10am on February 4th!**

***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](http://stdcv.org/subscribe) and entering your email address.

**St. Dunstan's Staff**

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***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!

**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 Wilsdon

**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.

**Deadline for eNews,  
Bulletin**

Items for our eNews and Sunday Bulletin should be submitted to [stdunstanschurch@gmail.com](mailto:stdunstanschurch@gmail.com) by midnight Monday.

# THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

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

## Sunday, January 7

**8:00 am** Holy Eucharist  
**8:30 am** Choir Rehearsal  
**9:00 am** The Path Bible Study Ch. 12  
**10:00 am** Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)  
**11:00 am** Coffee Hour

## Monday, January 8

**Office Closed**

## Tuesday, January 9

**5:00pm** Zoom Compline  
**5:30pm** The Path Bible Study Ch. 12  
**7:30 pm** AA

## Wednesday, January 10

**10:00am** Conversation & Communion  
Holy Eucharist  
**11:00am** The Path Bible Study Ch. 12  
**11:00am** Prayer Shawl Ministry

## Thursday, January 11

**9:30am** Discipleship Group  
**3:00pm** Finance Meeting

## Friday, January 12

## Saturday, January 13

**9:00 am** Choir Rehearsal  
**7:00pm** Whiffenpoofs Concert  
6pm pre concert reception

## Sunday, January 14

**8:00 am** Holy Eucharist  
**8:30 am** Choir Rehearsal  
**9:00 am** The Path Bible Study Ch. 13  
**10:00 am** Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)  
**11:00 am** Coffee Hour

View the entire parish calendar [stdcv.org/calendar](http://stdcv.org/calendar)

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

9—Dug Stewart	22—Ollie Collins	27—Jack Enbom
11—Remy Ryan	22—Cathy Solms	29—Helena Miller
15—John Greenway	22—Duncan Clarke	30—Lincoln Talley
17—Joe Heston	26—Norman Parris	

## Children's schedule for January

**January 7** Sunday School in Brock Hall  
**January 14** Children in Church with their parents—  
Baptisms!  
**January 21** Sunday School in Brock Hall  
**January 28** 4th Sunday Family Service. Children participate  
in the service.



**Sermon Notes**