



# THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 15, 2024  
8 am

ST. DUNSTAN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Welcome to St Dunstan's! We are glad you are here!*

*St. Dunstan's acknowledges that the land on which we gather, and which we steward, is the historic territory of the Rumsen and Esselen peoples, who cared for this land throughout the generations. We give thanks for their strength and resilience in protecting this land, and aspire to uphold our responsibilities according to their example.*

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## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*The congregation is invited to observe silence before the service begins, as an opportunity for prayer, meditation, and healing.*

*All stand at the ringing of the bell.*

Priest Blessed be the one, holy and living God.

**People Glory to God forever and ever. Amen.**

### Lighting the Advent Wreath

God of joy, it is in your love that we find lasting joy. Keep us from seeking happiness in things that will not last. Teach us instead to find joy in the gift of your Son, who came into this world with nothing, yet gave us everything. May his joy fill our hearts and overflow to all we meet this Advent season.  
**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.

God of flood and fire, calling us to turn from dead halls echoing with greed: may the gift of your Spirit come to us from another place, burning with life and a hope that will not be quenched; through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. **Amen.**

*The people are seated.*

### **Zephaniah 3:14–20**

*The prophet foretells a time when the judgment of Israel will be ended and the mighty Lord will bring victory and renewal to God's people. The city of Jerusalem and its holy Mount Zion may rejoice and sing. All enemies will be defeated and the crippled healed. The fortunes of Israel will be restored, and the nation will be praised by all peoples.*

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,  
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.

The LORD, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing  
as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,  
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

I will deal with all your oppressors  
at that time.

And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you home,  
at the time when I gather you;

for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes, says the LORD.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

**Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah *Ecce Deus* (Isaiah 12:2-6)**

*A canticle of praise announcing the vindication of those who have placed their confidence in the Lord God.*

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*  
I will trust in him and not be afraid.  
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*  
and he will be my Savior.  
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
from the springs of salvation.  
And on that day you shall say, \*  
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;  
Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*  
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.  
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*  
and this is known in all the world.  
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*  
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.  
  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

**Philippians 4:4–7**

*Paul invites the new disciples at Philippi to exult in the Lord, who is near at hand. In prayer and thanksgiving they need have no anxiety. God's peace, which is beyond human understanding, will keep their hearts and thoughts in Jesus. Even though Paul was experiencing his own troubles and may at this time have been in prison, this letter is often called "the epistle of joy."*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

*All stand*

**Luke 3:7–18**

*John the Baptist preaches repentance to all those who hear his call to baptism, and he tells them of the mighty one to come. It is not sufficient to claim to be children of Abraham. All who are to escape judgment must learn to share with others and to be just in their daily work. John himself is not the Christ but the servant of the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and a refining fire.*

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

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered 4

all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

**Priest** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*All are seated.*

## **The Sermon**

Rebecca Miller  
*Licensed Lay Preacher*

*After the sermon a brief silence is kept.*

## **The Nicene Creed** *All Stand.*

*New Zealand Prayer Book*

**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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
and 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 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 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.**

Leader May God, who has blessed each of us with unique gifts and talents continue to be active in our lives and inspire us to share them generously. We give thanks today, especially for our St. Dunstan's Staff: Antonio, Aristela, Carol, Elizabeth, Fred, Joe and Lauren—for their dedication and service to our church and school. 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 in Christ, and empower us to be faithful and loving people. In the name of Jesus, we pray,  
**Amen.**

### **The Confession**

Priest Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence may be kept.*

**All God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

### **The Absolution**

Priest 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](http://www.stdcv.org)*

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

*All stand*

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Enriching Our Worship, Eucharistic Prayer 2*

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, 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 now pray,

**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** God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.

**People** **Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lord.**

**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.



Prayers for yourself or another are available during Communion by a member of the Daughters of the King in the back of the church near the Sacristy door.

*All stand or kneel.*

## The Prayer After Communion

Priest Let us pray.

**People Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## The Blessing

*All Stand*

Priest May the Holy eternal Majesty,  
the Holy incarnate Word,  
and the Holy abiding Spirit,  
bless you and keep you for evermore. **Amen.**

## Dismissal

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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*



**come. explore. serve. be.**

**Come** walk with us in faith and friendship.

Share our desire to **explore** our relationship with God  
and support one another.

Join us to make a difference in our world and **serve**  
those who need compassion and help.

**Be** yourself among us.

## I-HELP

Bring some holiday cheer to our I-Help community! We are collecting \$20 cash gifts for the men and women in the program. I-Help supports sobriety and the homeless. Look for the info sheet and donation envelopes on the welcome table.

Thank you to our Licensed Lay Preacher Rebecca Miller for bringing a good Word today!

## Haiti Giving Tree

For more than 30 years, St. Dunstan's has supported St. Andre's school in Hinche, Haiti. Thanks to St. Dunstan's, generations of school children in Haiti have received a hot lunch every day along with their education. Hungry children don't learn well. Your generosity has filled their tummies and brightened their minds.

Once more this holiday season we are asking for your support so that the 1500 children of St. Andre's know that we continue to hope and pray for them, as they pray for us in thanksgiving every day. Thank you more than we can say for caring for these needy children.





## **Advent Season at St. Dunstan's**

### **December 15—Third Sunday in Advent**

Lighting of Advent Candles & Prayers

*Creche Coffee Hour* - after the 8 & 10am Services.

The Nativity Scene (also known as the Creche) is central to our Advent and Christmas celebrations, and there are many different varieties. We invite you to join us during coffee hour today. Tables will be set up in Brock Hall where we'll have Coffee, Hot Chocolate, and Hot Cider, Fresh Baked Scones with Jam & Clotted Cream, and a Nativity Scene Activity for kids.

### **December 22—Fourth Sunday in Advent**

Lighting of Advent Candles & Prayers

Christmas Pageant at 10am: A Telling of the Christmas Story through the eyes of the animals, featuring our children, their parents and our choir.

### **December 24th—Christmas Eve**

4pm Family Christmas Eve Service

7pm Christmas Eve Choral Eucharist

### **December 25th—Christmas Day**

9am - An a Capella Christmas Morning Service

### **December 29—Christmas I**

10am - A Service of Christmas Lessons and Carols

### **January 5—Christmas II**

8am - Holy Eucharist

10am - 12th Night Kings Procession with Holy Eucharist

***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.

**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 suggested donation is \$30. 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

Dr. Fred Burgomaster, Director of Music  
fburgo33@gmail.com

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Carol Langland, Treasurer  
carolstang@icloud.com

Joe Heston, Verger  
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Alicia Sanoian, Asst. Controller  
alicia@axcessbcinc.com

**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 **TODAY!**



*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!

### **I-Help next Thursday, December 19th**

Look for the Sign-Up sheet on the welcome table to bring in food or to help out for the men's dinner on the 19th.

We appreciate your participation!

Thank you from the I-HELP Team

### **The Yale Whiffenpoofs Save the Date!**

Yale Whiffenpoofs are returning to perform at St. Dunstan's the evening of January 15, 2025.

More information to follow.

If you are able to provide lodging for the singers the night of January 15 and a light breakfast on the 16th or for more information please contact Ann Clarke at [annclarke1000](mailto:annclarke1000@gmail.com) (at) [gmail.com](mailto:annclarke1000@gmail.com)

*Tickets will be available at the door and at  
<https://whiffs.ticketbud.com/whiffenpoofs-in-monterey>*





### Creche Coffee Hour Today!

Join us in Brock Hall following the service for Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Hot Cider, Fresh Baked Scones with Jam & Clotted Cream, and a Nativity Scene Activity for the children.

And THANK YOU to everyone who brought in their nativity set to share with us today!

### 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.

### St. Dunstan's Vestry



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

### Children's schedule



**December 15**—Sunday School in Brock Hall. Nativity activity after church.

**December 22**—Christmas Pageant!

**December 24th**—Christmas Eve Family Service 4pm

**December 29th**—Children in church with their families

Activity clipboards and children's books can be found in a basket at the back of the church.

### Pastoral Care & Prayer Requests



For pastoral concerns, contact Rev. Laurel [revlaurel@stdcv.org](mailto: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](mailto:dok@stdcv.org). The Daughters pray for members of our parish as well as many others daily.

## Call for Vestry and Convention Delegates

As we head into 2025, 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 an 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. In 2025 we will elect 4 new Vestry members: (3) three serving 3-year terms (Class of 2028) and (1) one serving a 2-year term. We will also elect (5) Delegates to Diocesan Convention. The form contains all information required and is due by January 11, 2025. 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

## Adult Faith Formation

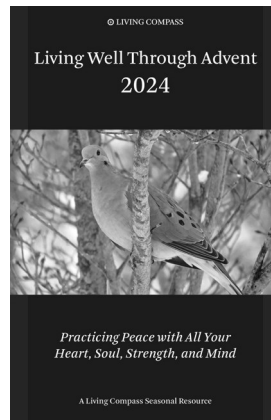
### ***Living Compass Advent Reflection.***

*Pick up your copy on the Welcome Table*

Sunday December 15—9:00am

Tuesday, December 17—6:00pm

Wednesday, December 18—11:00am



# THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

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

## Sunday, December 15

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist
- 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00 am Adult Formation Living Compass  
Advent Reflection
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
- 11:00 am Creche Coffee Hour in Brock Hall

## Monday, December 16

Office Closed

## Tuesday, December 17

- 4:30 pm Zoom Compline
- 5:30 pm Adult Formation Living Compass  
Advent Reflection
- 7:30 pm AA

## Wednesday, December 18

- 10:00 am Conversation and Communion  
Holy Eucharist
- 11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 11:00 am Adult Formation Living Compass  
Advent Reflection
- 2:30 pm Haiti Team Meeting

## Thursday, December 19

- 3:00 pm Vestry Meeting
- 4:00 pm I-Help Men

## Friday, December 20

## Saturday, December 21

- 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal

## Sunday, December 22

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist
- 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00 am Adult Formation Living Compass  
Advent Reflection
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)  
Christmas Pageant
- 11:00 am Coffee Hour

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

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- |                  |                       |                |
|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1—Cindy Poole    | 20—Charlotte Cabral   | 27—Perry Rosen |
| 10—Gus Hawthorne | 22—Jennifer Lama      | 30—Elin Rosen  |
| 16—Bob Young     | 22—Aleksander Simpson |                |
| 17—Jack Lagier   | 24—Taylor Hawthorne   |                |

## Sermon Notes