



ST. DUNSTAN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 29, 2024

10 am

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.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The congregation is invited to observe silence during the prelude, out of respect for those who are listening, and as an opportunity for prayer, meditation, and healing.

Prelude: Lo, how a Rose is blooming

*Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)*

All stand at the ringing of the bell.

This morning we light the center candle of our Advent Wreath, the Christ candle, to welcome the light of the world into our midst.

Processional Carol 102 Once in royal David's city
(Vss. 1,2,5,6)

Irby

Bidding Prayer

Beloved in Christ, we gather this first Sunday of Christmas in our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels; in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem and see this thing which is come to pass, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture the tale of the loving purposes of God from the first days of our disobedience unto the glorious Redemption brought us by this Holy Child; and let us make this Sanctuary, dedicated to St. Dunstan, glad with our carols of praise.

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.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The congregation is seated for the Lessons, and stands to sing the carols.

First Lesson: Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

Adam and Eve rebel against God and are cast out of the Garden of Eden.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Thanks be to God.

Carol: Hymn 105 God rest you merry, gentlemen

God Rest You Merry

Second Lesson: - Isaiah 7:10-15

God promises that a child shall be conceived who will be known as "God with us."

The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good."

Thanks be to God.

Carol: Hymn 115 What child is this?

Greensleeves

Third Lesson: - Luke 1: 5-25

An angel announces to Zechariah that his wife Elizabeth will bear a son.

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side

of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Zechariah said to the angel, "How will I know that this is so? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah, and wondered at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he could not speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, "This is what the Lord has done for me when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people."

Thanks be to God.

Carol: Lullay my liking

Gustav Holst

Fourth Lesson: - Luke 2:1-20

Jesus is born at Bethlehem and is worshiped by angels and shepherds.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Thanks be to God.

Carol: Hymn 99 Go tell it on the mountain

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Fifth Lesson: John 1:1-14

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 82 Of the Father's love begotten
Vss. 1-3

Divinum mysterium

Homily

Rev. Laurel Coote

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The people stand or kneel.

Leader Brothers and sisters, with awe and wonder for our Lord's holy birth, let us pray for ourselves and all those in need of our prayers, saying:
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Eternal God, bless your holy church, that it may boldly proclaim the good tidings of salvation to all the ends of the earth.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For your servants in this congregation, that, nourished by your word and holy sacraments, we may minister in faithfulness to you and in love to one another.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For peace in our troubled world, that the darkness of war and injustice may be replaced by the light of peace and love.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For those who travel during this holiday season, that their reunions and celebrations may be occasions for joy, and that they return safely to their homes and loved ones.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader For those in need of our prayers: the homeless; the unemployed; the hungry; those who are hospitalized or sick at home; those who are imprisoned in body and soul; and those for whom this season is one not of joy but of difficulty and sadness.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader In thanksgiving we remember before you, O Lord, those saints who bore witness to the light. Grant that we may persevere in the faith to which we have been called and at the end behold your glory.
Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Leader Let us offer our prayers, thanksgivings, and lift up to God the names of those on our hearts today.

The people may add their own prayers.

Priest All these things we ask in the name of the One who came as the light into the darkness of our world, Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 Behold, the dwelling of God is with humankind. God will dwell with them, and they shall be God's people, and God will be with them, and be their God.

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; because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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:

Sanctus S130 Holy, Holy, Holy Lord *Franz Schubert*

The musical score is presented in three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are". The piano accompaniment consists of block chords and simple rhythmic patterns, often with a melodic line in the bass clef.

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The people stand or kneel.

Priest We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People **We remember his death,**
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

Priest And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:
 give us your peace, give us your 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.



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.

Communion Hymn 112 In the bleak mid-winter

Cranham

The Prayer After Communion *the people stand or kneel*

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

The Blessing

Priest May Almighty God, who sent Christ to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. **Amen.**

May God, who sent angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. **Amen.**

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you peace and favor. **Amen.**

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Recessional Carol 107 Good Christian friends, rejoice

In dulci jubilo

The Dismissal

Priest Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude The Holly and the Ivy

Richard Shephard

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.

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.



Holiday Schedule

Please note that the church office will be closed December 26th—January 1st

Coffee Hour Hosts

Thank you to the Bette Nybakken for providing baked goods for Coffee Hour today!

If you are able to host coffee hour on a Sunday please



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

Children's schedule

December 29th—Children in church with their families



January 5th—12th Night Kings Procession. Children in church with their families.

January 12th—Children in Church with their families.

January 19th—Sunday School in Brock Hall.

January 26th—4th Sunday service

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

St. Dunstan's Vestry



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



The Yale Whiffenpoofs Save the Date!

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

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 \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:annclarke1000@gmail.com)

Tickets at <https://whiffs.ticketbud.com/whiffenpoofs-in-monterey>, or at the door.

Pastoral Care & Prayer Requests



For pastoral concerns, contact Rev. Laurel revlaurelc@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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THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

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

Sunday, December 29

- 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
Lessons and Carols
- 11:00 am Coffee Hour

Monday, December 30

Office Closed

Tuesday, December 31

Office Closed

7:30 pm AA

Wednesday, January 1

Office closed

Thursday, January 2

12:00 pm Quilters Group

Friday, January 3

Saturday, January 4

9:00 am Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 5

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist
- 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00 am Adult Formation
Luke Bible Study Ch. 12
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)
King's Procession
- 11:00 am Coffee Hour

View the entire parish calendar stdcv.org/calendar

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

December 30—Elin Rosen
January 9—Dug Stewart
January 10—David Whaley
January 15—John Greenway
January 17—Joe Hestson
January 22—Duncan Clarke

January 22—Ollie Collins
January 22—Cathy Solms
January 26—Norman Parris
January 27—Jack Enbom
January 29—Helena Miller

Sermon Notes

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