



# THE 14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 29, 2021

8 am

**ST. DUNSTAN'S**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Welcome BACK to St Dunstan's! We are glad you are here!*  
*Please silence your phones and wear your mask while indoors.*

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## THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

**Prelude** Canon in D

*Johann Pachelbel*

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

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

**People** 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.

**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.

God of unclean hands, touching those rejected by the world,  
despised by the religious: guide us from false purity which hides misshapen hearts;  
lead us to the joyful feast in which all are renewed;  
through Jesus Christ, the beauty of God's face. **Amen.**

## **Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9**

*Moses urges the people to keep the Lord's commandments in order that they and their children may live well in the promised land. The long journey through the wilderness is nearly over, and here Moses is presented speaking to the people shortly before his death. They are to observe the Lord's statutes and so become known as a great and wise people with a just law and a God close at hand.*

Moses said: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 15 *Domine, quis habitabit?***

*The psalm describes the virtues of one who is worthy to worship the Lord.*

1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*

who may abide upon your holy hill?

2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*

who speaks the truth from his heart.

3 There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; \*

he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*

but he honors those who fear the Lord.

5 He has sworn to do no wrong \*

and does not take back his word.

6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*

nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

7 Whoever does these things \*

shall never be overthrown.

## James 1:17-27

*A series of teachings on the meaning of true religion: doing God's word. Every good gift comes from the unchanging Father. By God's word of truth we are given birth and have a first place among all creatures. Purified from anger and all other bad conduct, we are not only to hear God's word but to put it into practice. So do we observe the perfect law that sets people free—the law as interpreted by Jesus.*

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

### **Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

*Jesus denounces those who find ways to ignore the genuine commandments of God, and he calls people to the awareness that the only evil which can corrupt a person comes from within. His judgments are occasioned by an accusation against his disciples that they are not following the rules of ritual cleansing. On one level Jesus' words warn against the human tendency to fashion traditions that become more important than the law itself. More significantly still, his teaching points to the dangers involved in making legalism the basis for one's life.*

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

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

When the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines."

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **The Sermon**

*After the sermon a brief silence is kept.*

The Rev. Laurel Coote

The Nicene Creed *All Stand.*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

Who with the Father and the Son is worshipped 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

*from* Intercessions for the Christian People

*The people stand or kneel*

Leader Inspired by the Spirit, we now offer our Sunday prayers to God in the name of Jesus Christ, saying: Lord, have mercy.

For the fulfillment of the mission of the church,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the liberation of the children of God from the bondage of fear,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the consolation of all those who struggle with doubts or disbelief,  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For renewed witness to the gospel among Christian people in positions of public trust, let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For our assembly as we hand on the faith of our ancestors from one generation to another, let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader For the sick and the suffering, the lonely and the dying, [especially N.],  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader We remember those who have died, [including N.],  
let us pray to the Lord:

**People Lord, have mercy.**

Leader In the communion of the Holy Spirit, with Mary, the mother of the Son of God, with St. Dunstan, St. Andre and with all the saints in light, let us commend our lives and the lives of one another to the Lord. **Amen.**

Priest Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **Confession of Sin** *Standing or kneeling. Silence may be kept.*

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

*We pause for a moment of reflection as we prepare to acknowledge the ways we have turned away from God.*

People **M**ost merciful God, we confess that 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 on 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 **A**lmighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord 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.*

### **Birthday & Anniversary Blessings**

**O** God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant N. as he/she begins another year. Grant that he/she may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen his/her trust in your goodness all the days of his/her life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Offertory**

Priest Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

Priest Blessed are you, God of all creation;  
through your goodness we have these gifts to share.  
Accept and use our offerings for your glory.

**People Blessed be God forever.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer B*

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 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. In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth; uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.

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 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 all 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.

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.**

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

**People** **O**ur 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 **W**e break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

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

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.

### **ALL ARE WELCOME TO RECEIVE THE HOLY COMMUNION.**

When directed by the usher, come forward to the communion station.  
Please keep your mask on with your hands extended to receive the Host.  
The bread is received in the open palm.

Once you have moved away from the Minister,  
you may remove one side of your mask, consume the Host, and replace your mask.

Those who prefer to receive a blessing 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.

## **The Post-Communion Prayer**

Priest Let us pray.

People **E**ternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as  
living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us  
spiritually with 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.

## The Blessing

Priest **L**ife is short.  
And we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts  
of those who travel the way with us.  
So be swift to love.  
Make haste to be kind.  
And may the blessing of God, who made us, who loves us,  
and who travels with us be with you now and forever. **Amen.**

Priest **G**o in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
People **T**hanks be to God.

*The people are invited to listen and observe silence during the postlude.  
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  
by Betty & Jim Kasson in celebration of their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary*

*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.*

*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.

*Daughters of the King to host*  
**5th Sunday Brunch Today**  
**9—9:45 am**  
On the fifth Sunday of this month,  
plan to join us for breakfast between the  
8 o'clock and 10 o'clock Holy Eucharists

## Weekly Bulletins available electronically

Whether you want to save the environment by using less paper,  
like the idea of reading on your device, want to see what's coming up  
or what is past, our weekly worship bulletins are available as a PDF  
online at [stdcv.org/bulletins](http://stdcv.org/bulletins)

**THE 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 2013**  
July 28, 2013  
10 am

**ST. ANSELME**  
Welcome to St. Dunstan's! We are glad to have you here!  
If you are new to our church, please contact the church office for more information.  
[stducv@stducv.org](mailto:stducv@stducv.org)  
St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1000 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005

**THE MINISTRIES OF THE WORD**  
All are invited to participate in the ministries of the church.  
Please do not be shy to share your gifts and talents with us.  
We are a community of believers and we need your help.

**Prayers of the People**  
Please pray for the needs of the church and the world.

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## A Storied Pilgrimage with Race

“A Storied Pilgrimage with Race” explores the issues of race in our diocese through video interviews, education materials, action items, and reflection. Please join Rev. Laurel and others from our community as we engage in this year-long pilgrimage. The completion of this curriculum fulfills the requirement for anti-racism training in the Diocese of El Camino Real.

Our next gathering is this coming Wednesday, September 1, from 6:30—8 pm. You may join us in person or via Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85691775520?pwd=NHdPbDNheFpVclpvQU1nbjQvSDNsUT09>  
Meeting ID: 856 9177 5520 Passcode: 317147

For more information, please contact the parish office.

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### *Feast of St. Francis celebrated with* **Blessing of the Animals** **September 26**

All creatures -- great and small, stuffed and animate -- are invited to bring your humans to church to watch you receive a blessing when we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis on Sunday, September 26th.

The 8 am Holy Eucharist will be indoors, and the 10 am Holy Eucharist will be celebrated outdoor with guitar-led music.

### **Louis on vacation next week**

The office will be staffed by our valiant volunteers who will help in any way they are able. Louis will be back in the office and begin catching up on messages Tuesday, September 7.

### **Zoom Compline, Mondays at 5:30 pm**

Please consider joining us for prayer as we give thanks to God for the day that is past and place our hope and faith in God for the night.

We are currently using the Order for Compline from the New Zealand Prayer book, which can be downloaded at [stdcv.org/bulletins](http://stdcv.org/bulletins).

### **Join Zoom Compline**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85070384899>

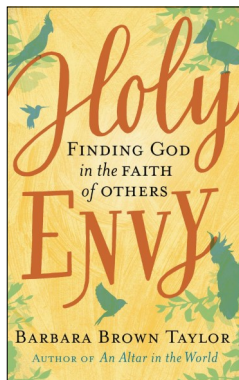
Meeting ID: [850 7038 4899](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85070384899)

### **Rector's Sabbath**

Rev. Laurel is observing her sabbath day on Fridays. Please respect this important time away except for pastoral emergencies. She will reply to any messages on Saturday.

## Discussion Group Sundays, 9 am

We continue to discuss Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others by Barbara Brown Taylor.



**We are now meeting in -person in the Guild**

**Room with masks.** However, if you prefer to join us via Zoom, we will gladly bring you in with this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89077277480>

*Imagining Session: Sept 19*

## Outreach Imagining Session

We are living in a time of great need: people in our local communities, in our state, nation and throughout the world are struggling, are suffering, and could benefit from some assistance. Our present involvement with — St. Andre's in Haiti, Nancy's Project, I-Help program, has been life-changing, rewarding, and valued for all involved.

Maybe you're aware of a need in the world? Maybe there is a ministry that you've always wanted to explore? If you do, or if you're just curious, join us Sun, Sept 18 at 11:30 in Brock Hall as we wonder and imagine together how God might be calling us into new ways of serving our neighbors.

## Informational meeting Sept 12 2023 Holy Land Pilgrimage

I am excited to share with you that St. Dunstan's, in collaboration with St. Cross Episcopal Church in Hermosa Beach, is offering a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, scheduled for February 10 - 21, 2023.

If you have ever longed to visit the Holy Land, to see and experience the places where Jesus was born, lived, died and was resurrected, and to have your faith brought to life, then mark your calendar to attend this information session. Led by Qumri Pilgrimages Ltd., this journey offers the opportunity to become immersed in our rich Christian faith, and to deepen your own spiritual journey.

Rev. Laurel will share details about the journey including a sample itinerary, accommodations, transportation and anticipated costs to participate, as well as gather names of those who are interested in attending. Interested but unable to attend, contact Rev. Laurel directly.

## Rev. Laurel to be Installed September 26, 4 pm

Join us as we welcome Bishop Lucinda for the installation of Rev. Laurel as our Rector.

If you would like to help with the reception, contact Mystery Chastain or the church office.

## Pastoral Care & Prayer Requests

For pastoral concerns, contact Rev. Laurel [via email](#) or on her cell [310-562-5746](tel: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 5.

Our Daughters of the King chapter welcomes your prayer requests in this time when many are in crisis. Please email the DOK's [Elizabeth Buche](#), who manages the Daughters' prayer list. The Daughters pray for members of our parish and for many other individuals daily.

*Help us know you by*

### Filling out a Pew Card

If you are visiting us, are new to Saint Dunstan's, or if your contact information has changed, please fill out a Pew Card and drop it in the collection plate. Thanks!



## 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 \$20, but some give more. Checks should be made out to St. Dunstan's with "Altar Flowers" in the memo.

You can check available Sundays on our Master Calendar at [stdcv.org/calendar](http://stdcv.org/calendar). (hint: if you see ". . ." before "The Altar Flowers", that Sunday is available.)

### This week's guest organist

This week we welcome Cathryn Wilkinson to the bench. Welcome back, Cathryn!

### Deadline for eNews, Bulletin

Items for our eNews and Sunday Bulletin should be submitted to [office@stdcv.org](mailto:office@stdcv.org) by midnight Sunday.

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2 Bette Nybakken	6 Pam Austin	19 Noemy Garcia
3 June Saunders	10 Sandy Hendrickson	23 Clare Riggs
4 Ann Quattlebaum	10 Patricia Stewart	23 Jacey Talley
4 Elise Simonsen	17 Carol Stang	

# THIS WEEK AT ST DUNSTAN'S

PARISH OFFICE OPEN TUESDAY—THURSDAY, 9 AM—12 NOON

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## Sunday, August 29

8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
9:00 am Discussion Group  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)  
11:00 am Coffee Hour

## Monday, August 30

5:30 pm Zoom Compline

## Tuesday, August 31

7:30 pm AA

## Wednesday, September 1

10:00 am Holy Eucharist  
11:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry  
12:30 pm Daughters of the King  
6:30 pm Storied Pilgrimage with Race

## Thursday, September 2

12:00 pm Quilters  
4:00 pm I-Help

## Friday, September 3

## Saturday, September 4

## Sunday, September 5

8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
9:00 am Discussion Group  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist (live-streamed)  
11:00 am Coffee Hour

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

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Pinky McCammon	12 Sarah Pease	18 Judy Hill
3 Duncan Murray	12 JJ Bohlman	19 Lois Kettel
3 Tim Condon	14 Michael Carter	20 Broden Murray
4 Georgia Byrne	14 Marcia Lockwood	23 Ella Duddy
7 Marikay Morris	14 Juju Lewis	25 Eva Kasdan
8 Ross Quattlebaum	15 Dick Habermann	27 Margo Fuselier
11 Sharon Tiner	17 Kate Rule	29 Jan Pina



## **WE HOPE YOU FIND YOURS HERE**

Here is a place that is ancient and new, a faith that we hold going back to Jesus, back to his spiritual ancestors, back to those who walked the earth and found holy ground. And what we do is often based on really ancient patterns—worship and music; loving service to the poor, the hurting, the lonely; working for justice and peace; lively, fearless education and formation of minds and souls. And that faith is also completely contemporary, engaged in the culture and the needs of the moment.

## **WHAT WE ARE FOR**

The dignity and worth of every person. An open minded, passionate commitment to truth. The importance of everyone's own spiritual journey. God's friends wherever we find them. Seeking Christ in every person who comes through the door. The sacredness of life's rites of passage. The value of community. The hard work necessary to make sure that all are welcomed. Telling the truth about life's challenges. A "user-friendly" church experience. Children, youth and families. We believe that God is love, and we pray that God will use us to spread that love.

## **WHAT WE ARE AGAINST**

Claiming to have all the answers. Elitism and exclusivism, especially in church. Bigotry for any reason. Authoritarianism. Indifference to injustice and suffering. Certitude in the face of ambiguity and superficial answers to hard questions. Boring sermons, bad music and general cluelessness. (So, God help us, because we don't always avoid these!)

## **WHAT WE VALUE**

Community, open hearts, open minds, open arms. Faith. Fortitude. Staying current, but equally staying rooted in tradition. Reason and honesty. Civic responsibility. Debate that allows for mutual respect. Music and beauty for their own sake. Joy in God's creation. Anyone who makes an effort to get to know and follow Jesus.

## **WELCOME!**

*Originally written by the people of St. Bartholomen's, New York, this statement has been modified for our use with their permission.*

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## **St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church**

28005 Robinson Canyon Road, Carmel, California 93923

(831) 624-6646 ✉ [stdcv.org](http://stdcv.org)