

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church



Christmas Eve

December 24, 2023

Festal Holy Eucharist

5 p.m.

Streaming on FaceBook Live

The Music of Christmas beginning at 4:45 pm

The Music of Christmas

Prelude "O Holy Night"	Adolphe Adam (1801-1856)
Grace Hauser, soloist	
"But Who May Abide the Day of His Coming"	From G.F. Handel's <i>Messiah</i>
Brandon Graham, soloist	
"Away in a Manger"	Traditional Carol
Ellisa Gaul, soloist, Elizabeth Wong Mark, flute	
"Still, Still, Still"	<i>Austrian Carol</i> , trans. John Rutter
Fina Hernandez and Brandon Graham, soloists	

1 O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phant, O
2 God from God, Light from Light e-ter-nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion,
*4 See how the shep-herds, sum-moned to his cra-dle,
*5 Child, for us sin-ners poor and in the man-ger,

1 come ye, O come ye to Beth-le-hem;
2 lol lie ab-hors-not the Vir-gin's womb;
3 sing, all ye ci-ti-zens of heaven a-bove;
4 leav-ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
5 we would em-brace thee, with love and awe;

1 come, and be-hold him, born the King of an-gels;
2 on-ly-be-got-ten Son of the Fa-ther;
3 glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est;
4 we too will thith-cr bend our joy-ful foot-steps;
5 who would not love thee, lov-ing us so dear-ly?

Refrain

O come, let us a-dore him, O come, let us a-

dore him, O come, let us a-dore him, Christ the Lord.

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

Words: John Francis Wade (1711-1786); tr. Frederick Cakelley (1802-1880) and others
Music: *Adeste fideles*, present form of melody at. John Francis Wade (1711-1786); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

The Word of God

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

People **Those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.**

Collect for Purity *said by the Celebrant*

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 hold Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Song of Praise 96

Angels we have heard on high

Gloria

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why these songs of hap - py cheer?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4 See him in a man - ger laid whom the an - gels praise a - bove;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
What great bright - ness did you see? What glad tid - ings did you hear?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while we raise our hearts in love.

Refrain
Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: French carol; tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882), alt. Copyright © by permission of Fleming, H. Revell Company. All rights reserved. Used with permission. Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shuppen Barnes (1887-1958)

Celebrant Let us pray.

Collect for Christmas Eve *Celebrant and People*

God of grace and truth, whose word brings light to birth in the heart of a darkening world which fears a love it cannot name: may flesh be blessed and born anew by a truth which leaves the heavens and walks the waiting earth; through Jesus Christ, the Word incarnate. *Amen.*

The First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

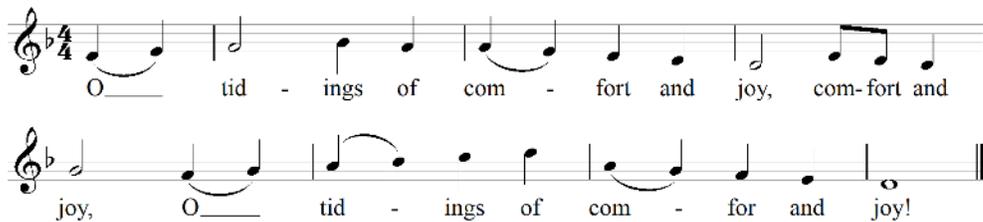
Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm *Cantate Domino*

Psalm 96

Antiphon: Cantor, then all. All repeat Antiphon as indicated.



Sing to the LORD a new song, for the Lord has done marvelous things.

God's right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

The LORD has declared victory,

and has revealed vindication in the sight of the nations. **Antiphon**

The Lord has remembered mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song. **Antiphon**

With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the Ruler, the LORD.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the land and those who dwell therein.

Let the rivers clap their hands;

and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth.

The Lord will judge the world with righteousness,

and the peoples with equity. **Antiphon**

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 107

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

In dulci jubilo

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt. Music: *In dulci jubilo*, German carol, 14th cent.; harm. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944).

The Gospel

Luke 2:1-20 (King James Version)

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

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

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into their own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; you shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward all. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord has made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

The Reverend Patricia Templeton

The Nicene Creed

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 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.

Christmas Prayers of the People

Holy Child of Bethlehem,
angels proclaimed your birth to shepherds at their
labors;
we pray for all people in their daily life and work,
for those called to shepherd your people,
and for those who carry your love into the world.
May we see your glory in the world around us, and
like the shepherds, may we bear witness
to your presence among us.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Holy Child of Bethlehem,
born in a stable
when your parents found no room in the inn,
we pray for all who are without shelter,
for all who know poverty,
and for all who offer even what little they have
to meet the needs of others.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Holy Child of Bethlehem,
welcomed into your mother's loving arms,
we pray for all who are lost and alone,
who have no arms to hold them;
for those who are sick or in need,
who depend upon loving arms to care for them;
for those whose arms are now empty,
who mourn loved ones gone,
and for those who are no longer with us
but have been welcomed into your loving arms.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Greeting and Announcements

Holy Child of Bethlehem,
in whom God was pleased to dwell,
help us, we pray,
to see the divine image in people everywhere,
and to honor the divine image in ourselves.
Forgive us where we have sinned,
strengthen us where we are weak,
heal us where we are blind.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant continues

Holy Child of Bethlehem,
you were born into our world,
that we might be reborn into eternal life.
May we daily live as children of God through your love,
as you live and reign with the Father and the Holy
Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Gloria

Antonio Vivaldi

Gloria in Excelsis Deo, Glory to God in the highest.

Hymn 87

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Mendelssohn

1 Hark! the her-ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!
2 Christ, by high-est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,

with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Refrain
Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new-born King!

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

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 sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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 Peter Schubert

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

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,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

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. Untie us to our 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 Mary, Dunstan and 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.**

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

Fraction Anthem 79

O little town of Bethlehem
 Verses 1,3,5

St. Louis

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
 yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
 the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight
 How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
 So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.
 No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
 Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.
 O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
 cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
 We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
 O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

The Communion of the People *All people are invited to receive Communion.*

Communion Hymn 82

Of the Father's love begotten

Divinum mysterium

1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be -
 2 O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin,
 3 Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
 4 Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly

gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga.
 full of grace. by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 prais - es sing; powers, do - min - ious, bow be - fore him.
 Ghost. to thee. hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing,

he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that
 bore the Su - vior of our race; and the Babe, the
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry

are, that have been, and that fu - ture
 world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his
 earth be - si - lent. ev - ery voice in
 and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal

years shall see. ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 con - cert ring; ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

Joseph Henry Monti, Kate and Ellisa Gaul, soloists

The Prayer after Communion

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.

Hymn 111

Silent Night
sung kneeling

Stille Nacht

Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm,
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake
Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God,

all is bright round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child.
at the sight, glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face,

Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in hea - ven - ly
heaven - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa - vior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.
horn! Christ, the Sa - vior, is born!
birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)
Music: *Stille Nacht*, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl II. Reinecke (1824-1910)

The Christmas Blessing

The blessing of God,
whose love created
light and darkness,
mystery and wonder,
be with you this night.

The blessing of God,
whose love entered this world
vulnerable, naked, and helpless,
be with you always.

The blessing of God,
whose love burns in your heart,
transforming your life,
send you into the world
to be the incarnation of God's love for
others. **Amen.**

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 *3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room, and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - cous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

1 and heaven and na - ture sing, and
 2 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 3 far as the curse is found, far
 4 and won - ders of his love, and

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heaven and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound - ing joy,
 as the curse is found,
 won - ders of his love,

The Dismissal

People

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Postludium on "O du fröhliche" (O, how joyfully)

German Christmas Carol
 Arr. Hans-André Stamm

St. Dunstan's Christmas Eve Musicians

Cameron Carey, Parish Musician

Penny France, Ellisa Gaul, Kate Gaul, Susan Hauser, Steve Hauser, Fina Hernandez, Bruce Lafitte, Nancy Knight Latimore,
Matthew McCawley, Joseph Henry Monti, John Morgan, Shirley Morgan, Marilyn Morgan, Lee Morris,
Andrea Patten-Weerakoon, Peggy Rogers, Vivian Siggers, Jeanne Taylor,
Ben Thomas, Jonathan Throop, Suzanne Van de Mark.

Guest Musicians

Flute: Elizabeth Wong Mark

Soloist: Brandon Graham

Soloist: Grace Hauser

Trumpet: Sawyer Prichard

Ministry Schedule

	DEC 24th Christmas Eve	DEC 25th Christmas Day
Vestry on Duty	Andrea Patten-Weerakoon	Susie Throop
Lay Reader: 10 am	-----	Susie Throop
Lay Reader: 4:45 pm	Susie Throop	-----
Lector 1 st Lesson	Rhea Hannah	Shirley Morgan
Lector 2 nd Lesson	Claudia Gimson	John Morgan
Ushers / Greeters	Gwen McAlpine / Paul Zimmer	-----
Altar Guild	Marshall / Elizabeth / Mary Jane / Ralph / Cathy / Claudia	Cathy Leake
Flower Guild	Kate / Claudia / Donna	

Contributions have been made
for the Music and Flowers of Christmas.

In Thanksgiving for St. Dunstan's Church
by Steven Schnieder & Tom Gibbs

In Memory of Joe Monti
by Tricia & Joseph Henry

In Thanksgiving for St Dunstan's
by Ralph Paulk

In Memory of Gilda ("Granny") Walker Morris
& Arvis ("G.G.") Morris.
Given by: Roy & Max Leyden.

In gratitude for the members of our Choir, and
the Altar & Flower Guilds who share their
time and talents with us each week in the glory of God.
given by Claudia.

Vestry 2023 – 2024

Bob Longino, Sr. Warden; Vivian Siggers, Jr. Warden;
Lynn Hood; Wayne Hood; Susie Throop;
Kate Gaul; Suzanne Johnson; Andrea Patten-Weerakoon; Ralph Paulk

The Reverend Patricia Templeton, Rector

The Reverend Maggie Harney, Priest Associate
Cameron Carey, Parish Musician
Claudia Gimson, Parish Administrator
Rhea Hannah, Volunteer Administrative Assistant



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