

# St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church

## The Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025



Light one candle for love  
one bright candle for love.

Christ brings love to every heart.  
Christ comes! Christ comes!

## The Holy Eucharist

STREAMING FACEBOOK LIVE AT 10:45 A.M.

Prelude

Voluntary on 'O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Alec Wyton

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:  
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,  
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

## The Word of God

### Opening Acclamation

Celebrant      Blessed are you, holy and living God.

People      **You come to your people and set them free.**

### 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 holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Song of Praise

Music: *Besançon Carol* Words: Eleanor Farjeon

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Together, let us pray.

**The Collect** *said by all*

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen..

## The First Lesson

**Isaiah 35:1-10**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the

ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

*Lector*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm** *Lauda, anima mea*

**Psalm 146:4-9**



Give the king your justice, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the king's Son;

Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help! \*  
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; \*  
who keeps his promise for ever;

Who gives justice to those who are oppressed, \*  
and food to those who hunger.

The Lord sets the prisoners free;  
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind; \*  
the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

The Lord loves the righteous;  
the Lord cares for the stranger; \*  
he sustains the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

The Lord shall reign for ever, \*  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.  
Hallelujah!

**The Second Lesson**

**James 5:7-10**

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

*Lector*      The Word of the Lord.

*People*      **Thanks be to God.**

1 "Thy king - dom come!" on bend - ed knee the pass - ing a - ges pray;  
 2 But the slow watch - es of the night not less to God be - long;  
 3 And lo, al - rea - dy on the hills the flags of dawn ap - pear;  
 4 the day to whose clear shin - ing light all wrong shall stand re - vealed,  
 5 when know - ledge, hand in hand with peace, shall walk the earth a - broad;

1 and faith - ful souls have yearned to see on earth that king-dom's day.  
 2 and for the ev - er - last - ing right the si - lent stars are strong.  
 3 gird up your loins, ye pro - phet souls, pro - claim the day is near;  
 4 when jus - tice shall be throned in might, and ev - ery hurt be healed;  
 5 the day of per - fect right - eous - ness, the prom - ised day of God.

Words: Frederick Lucian Hosmer (1840-1929). Music: St. Flavian, melody from *Day's Psalter*, 1562; adapt. and harm. Richard Redhead (1820-1901).

### The Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

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

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

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

*Priest* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Creed**

I believe in God, the Creator, the Almighty,  
maker of a heaven and earth without borders or nations,  
who created all people in the Divine image,  
who led people from slavery to freedom  
through exile and exodus,  
the God of homelands lost and found,  
the God of Temple and desert, of manna and sacrifice.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and was made human, joining us as strangers and exiles on the earth,  
showing us how to bring about God's kingdom here and now,  
who was born under occupation  
and as an infant fled with his parents to Egypt for safety,  
becoming aliens in a foreign land,  
who suffered under the imperial power of Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified by the state, died, and buried.  
On the third day he rose again, opening for us the door to new life,  
destroying the power of death.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who speaks all languages, lives in all countries, and reunites all races,  
who proceeds from the Creator and the Son, unity in diversity, three in one.

I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church,  
a communion of saints across countries and centuries.  
I look for the coming of the Kingdom of God,  
where our passport is love,  
our bodies are resurrected and healed,  
where the image of God in all of us is honored,  
and all nations, tribes, creeds, and people are reconciled in the place  
where there is no mourning or sadness, no exile or despair,  
where we will be no longer strangers or guests  
but lambs gathered safely home in the arms of the Good Shepherd.      AMEN.

## **Advent Prayers of the People**

God of the watching, God of the waiting: Be present with us.

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

God of the watching, thank you for the symbol of the Advent wreath, whose circle reminds us that your mercy is endless, with no beginning or end. Help us to set our mind on things eternal.

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

God of the waiting, we pray for all in authority. We look forward to the day when the nations of the world walk in light and your peace is experienced by all.

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

God of the watching, we pray for this city that we may be a community of hope and light in this world.

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

God of the waiting, we pray for all the people of your church that you may strengthen us all for the ministry you have set before us.

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

God of the watching, we pray for the sick, the friendless, and the needy, especially **L Lucy Kaltenbach; Holly Swing; Suzanne Johnson; Brenda Patten; Vivian Siggers; Penny France; Priscilla Davis; Donna Thomas; and Cathy Leake.** May they experience your healing presence.

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

God of the watching, we pray for all who have died, remembering especially **Erik Klanderman**, friend of Elizabeth Wong Mark, and **Jeannette Davis**, sister-in-law of Priscilla Davis that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

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

God of the waiting, we are challenged in our worship to set our hearts and minds on the here and now, and to remember and be thankful for what matters. We give thanks especially for these members of our parish community **Sandra & Joe Dobbs; Titu Doctor; Penny France; The Gaul Family; and Tom Gibbs & Steven Schneider**, though they be far away.

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

God of the waiting, we pray for all those who are watching and waiting for your promised time of justice and peace for all people. Make us co-creators of your coming kingdom.

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

*Celebrant*

Hasten, O God, the coming of your kingdom, and grant that we, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his advent in glorious majesty. ***Amen.***

Together, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

### **Absolution**

Almighty 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**

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

*People*      ***And also with you.***

### **Announcements**

# The Holy Communion

## Offertory Anthem

## “The Angel Gabriel”

## *Gabriel's Message*

## Offertory Hymn 72

## Hark! The glad sound! The Savior comes

## *Richmond*

*Descant*

4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior  
 2 He comes, the pris - oners to re - lease in Sa - tan's  
 3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre -  
 bond - age held; the gates of brass be -  
 soul to cure; and with the trea - sures  
 shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.  
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
 arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

## 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:

*Celebrant and People:*

***Sanctus*** S.128

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Mathias

*The people stand or kneel.*

*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. 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 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.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

**Fraction Anthem** O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear,  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*The Celebrant continues*

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

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

**Communion Hymn**

Taizé -- Prepare the way of the Lord

Jacques Berthier

Pre-prepare the way of the Lord. Pre-prepare the way of the  
Lord, and all people will see the salvation of our God.

## **Prayer after Communion *Celebrant and People***

Jesus, Lord of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

We, who have so much to do, seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.

We, who are anxious over many things, look forward to your coming among us.

We, who are blessed in so many ways, long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We, whose hearts are heavy, seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" Amen.

## **Advent Blessing**

The blessing of God, who has promised to come into our lives, be with you today.	The blessing of God, whose love ransoms us from all captivity, be with you forever.	The blessing of God, whose breath brings new beginnings, send you forth into the world to create a new day for the good of all. Amen.
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**Recessional Hymn 640**

Watchman, tell us of the night

*Aberystwyth*

**On following page**

## **The Dismissal**

*Response*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

Voluntary on 'Winchester New'

C. S. Lang

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We welcome Ernest Plunkett as our guest musician this Sunday.

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## **Ministry Schedule**

	<b>December 14<sup>th</sup> Third Sunday in Advent</b>	<b>December 21<sup>st</sup> Fourth Sunday in Advent</b>
Vestry on Duty	Sarah Hancock	Susie Throop
Lay Reader: 8:30	Harriett Smith	<b>No Service – one service at 10</b>
Lay Reader: 10:45	Susie Throop	Zoe McMichael
Lector 1st Lesson	John Morgan	Karen Dessables
Lector 2nd Lesson	John Gimson	Vivian Siggers
Ushers / Greeters	Elizabeth Wong Mark	Marshall Kress
Altar Guild	Claudia / Fina / Claudia	Ralph / Mary Jane
Flower Guild	No Flowers during Advent	No Flowers during Advent

## Recessional Hymn 640

## Watchman, tell us of the night

## Aberystwyth

1 Watch-man, tell us of the night, what its signs of prom - ise  
 2 Watch-man, tell us of the night; high - er yet that star a -  
 3 Watch-man, tell us of the night, for the morn-ing seems to

are. Trav - eler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, see that glo - ry -  
 scends. Trav - eler, bless - ed - ness and light, peace and truth its  
 dawn. Trav - eler, dark - ness takes its flight, doubt and ter - or

beam - ing star. Watch-man, does its beau - teous ray  
 course por - tends. Watch-man, will its beams a - lone  
 are with - drawn. Watch-man, let thy wan - derings cease;

aught of joy or hope fore - tell? Trav - eler, yes; it  
 gild the spot that gave them birth? Trav - eler, a - ges  
 hie thee to thy qui - et home. Trav - eler, lo! the

brings the day, prom - ised day of Is - ra - el.  
 are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.  
 Prince of Peace, lol! the Son of God is come!

*Two groups may sing antiphonally, alternating by sentences.*

Words: John Bowring (1792-1872). Music: Aberystwyth, Joseph Parry (1841-1903).

# Happy Birthday

Mary Grace Brown December 16 Susie Throop December 20

## Prayer Requests

**Parishioners:** Lucy Kaltenbach; Holly Swing; Suzanne Johnson; Brenda Patten; Vivian Siggers; Penny France; Priscilla Davis; Donna Thomas; and Cathy Leake.

**Family:** Jane & Walter Schneiderwind, sister and husband of Mimi Gold; **Cody Young**, cousin of Lindsey Reece; **Pamela V. Bowers**, sister of Suzanne Van de Mark; **Tim Leyden**, father / father-in law of Tim & Jessie Leyden; **Kathy Benedict**, family of Andrea, Anil and Brenda; **Preston Wilson**, brother of Mary Jane Hannah; **Roswitha Moos**, grandmother of Katharina McCawley; **Carson Morris**, daughter; **Mary Morris**, sister-in-law of Lee Morris; **Tiffiny Lucas**, niece, of Vivian Siggers; Gwen McAlpine; **Joyce Emmons**, cousin of Elizabeth Wong Mark; **Chris Ekmark**, cousin of Heather Robertson; **Cody Young**, nephew, Deborah & Bill Reece; **Carra & Vincent Lafitte, Larry & Sharon Mobley, Jack & Linda Mobley** family of Daria and Bruce Lafitte; **Charlie Bunn**, cousin of Tiffany Wilson; **Aggie Whyte, Priscilla Williams**, sisters of Bessie Holland; **Oakley Family**, cousins of Priscilla Davis; **Mary Jane Hobbs**, sister of Sara Thomas; **Deni Omundson, Sydney Cortez & Family**, relatives of Jeanne & Josh Taylor; **Karen**, sister of Steve Hauser; **Jessica LeClaire**, sister of Sara Thornton; **Clare Richardson**, sister-in-law of Penny France; **Deborah Ellis-Williams**, mother of Jackie O'Connell; **Barbara Martello**, niece of Mimi Gold.

**Friends:** **Bob Adams** (Mary Jane Hannah); **Joe James**; **Miriam & Santana Herrera**; **Cary Ralls & Mark Sillay**; **Patricia Woods**; **Walter Buchanan** (Rhea Hannah); **Marilyn Reynolds** (Bessie Holland); **Tony Rizzuto** (Daria Jones); **Dann Brown** (Tricia Templeton); **Carol Davis, Carolyn Timmons** (Sandra & Joe Dobbs); **Sara Corredor** (Tiffany Wilson); **Lynell Walker, Pat Park and Rik Rasmussen** (Anil & Andrea Patten-Weerakoon); **Carol Fitzgerald, Sam Roberson** (Lee Morris); **Gay McNeely, John Ware** (Suzanne Van de Mark); **Lauren Courtney Robinson** (Lindsey Reece); **Neil, Emma, Addison Bonser** (Brown family); **Barry Mazor** (Bob Wolfson); **Kishell Muir** (Barbara Hawker); **Loretta Roberts, Benjamin Banas** (Cathy Leake); **Bill Cobb, Sandy Jusak, Michellene Tipton, Joshua Dowd, Debbie Bogard, James Bogard** (Jeanne & Josh Taylor); **Carolyn Neely Holmes** (Vivian Siggers); **Madison Fucita & Family**; **Rose Faison, Mary Jane Graff, Anne Henry, Tim Embry** (Priscilla Davis); **Jennifer Pern, Sherrel Howard** (Mimi Gold).

We give thanks for our parish especially **Sandra & Joe Dobbs**; **Titu Doctor**; **Penny France**; **The Gaul Family**; and **Tom Gibbs & Steven Schneider**, though they be far away.

We pray for those who have died, remembering especially **Erik Klanderman**, friend of Elizabeth Wong Mark, and **Jeannette Davis**, sister-in-law of Priscilla Davis.

# Announcements

## Advent / Christmas Events

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent (December 21)**

10 a.m. -- ONE service this day. We will decorate the Christmas tree and celebrate with a festive potluck lunch after the service.

### **Christmas Eve (December 24)**

5 p.m. -- Come celebrate the birth of the Messiah.

### **December 28**

10 a.m. -- One service of Christmas Lessons & Carols.

### **January 4, 2026**

10 a.m. -- One service.

### **Vestry 2025 - 2026**

Susie Throop, Sr. Warden; Andrea Patten-Weerakoon, Jr. Warden;  
Suzanne Johnson; Ralph Paultk; Sarah Hancock;  
Marshall Kress; Jessica Peoples; Alexander Pierre; Tom Wilson

### **The Reverend Patricia Templeton, Rector**

The Reverend Maggie Harney, Priest Associate

The Reverend Colin Brown, Priest Associate

Claudia Gimson, Parish Administrator

Rhea Hannah, Volunteer Administrative Assistant



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