# August 17, 2025 The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 a.m.: Celebration of Holy Eucharist with Children's Chapel



#### St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church

Seeking God • Building Community • Growing Faith • Reaching Out 5450 Massachusetts Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20816 301.229.2994

**StDunstansBethesda.org** 

The Reverend Patricia Phaneuf Alexander, *Rector* rector@stdunstansbethesda.org
Ms. Diane Atherton, *Minister of Music* music@stdunstansbethesda.org
Mr. Ulysses Squitieri, *Organist* organist@stdunstansbethesda.org
Ms. Jenna Monroe, *Children's Minister* familyministry@stdunstansbethesda.org
Ms. Elisabeth Saidi, *Parish Administrator* admin@stdunstansbethesda.org

# Welcome to St. Dunstan's

Days pass and the years vanish and we walk sightless among miracles. God, fill our eyes with seeing and our minds with knowing. Let there be moments when your Presence, like lightning, illumines the darkness in which we walk. Help us to see, wherever we gaze, that the bush burns, unconsumed. And we, clay touched by God, will reach out for holiness and exclaim in wonder, "How filled with awe is this place and we did not know it."

~ From the Mishkan T'filah, "A Prayer for Shabbat"

#### +++

Thank you for choosing to worship with St. Dunstan's this morning! We are a community of seekers doing our best to live authentically and faithfully in this challenging and complicated world, and we are delighted that you are sharing the journey with us today.

Children are *always* welcome here; please make yourself and your family at home. There are coloring sheets on the round table between the glass doors, as well as books and soft toys at the back of the church. Rest assured: We are delighted by the "joyful noise" that children inevitably make, *and* don't worry if you feel you need to take your child out of the service for a few minutes. *To learn more about offerings for children and families, please share your contact information on the clipboard on the Welcome Table*.

**Restrooms** are located in the hallway by the glass doors.

If you find the wooden pews uncomfortable, feel free to borrow a **red seat cushion** from the rear of the Nave for use during worship.

Please wear a **name tag!** Permanent name tags are on the board in the entry hall. If you don't yet have a permanent tag, please use a stick-on badge until we can make you an official one.

Unless otherwise noted, music for this morning's **hymns** may be found in the blue *Hymnal 1982* or the red and black *Lift Every Voice and Sing* in your pew rack.



Today we welcome Aurelio Dominguez as our Guest Cantor.

# The Holy Eucharist

#### **Prelude**

Ulysses Squitieri, organ

Please stand, as you are able, and join in singing.

Music: Hymnal, 365

#### **Processional Hymn**

"Come, thou Almighty King"

Come, thou almighty King, help us thy Name to sing, help us to praise.

Father whose love unknown all things created own, build in our hearts thy throne, Ancient of Days.

Come, thou incarnate Word, by heaven and earth adored; our prayer attend: come, and thy people bless; come, give thy word success; stablish thy righteousness, Savior and friend.

Come, holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour: thou, who almighty art, now rule in every heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

To Thee, great One in Three, the highest praises be, hence evermore; thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

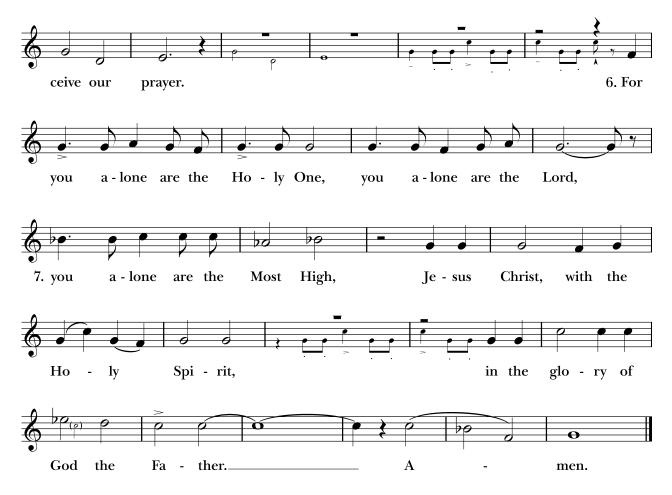
# The Liturgy of the Word

#### **Opening Acclamation**

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People Glory to God for ever and ever.





Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

#### The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray: God of fire and water, your searing justice has set alight the earth; may we share Christ's Baptism, even when it leads to pain

and division; through Jesus Christ our Liberator, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for

ever, Amen.

Please be seated.

Children are invited to attend Children's Chapel in the Youth Room.

#### **The Lesson: Hebrews 11:29—12:2**

*Lector* A Reading from the Book of Hebrews:

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Lector Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Thanks be to God.

Please join in reciting the psalm responsively.

#### Psalm 82

God stands in the council of heaven \* and gives judgment in the midst of the gods:

"How long will you judge unjustly, \* and show favor to the wicked?

Save the weak and the orphan; \* defend the humble and needy;

Rescue the weak and the poor; \* deliver them from the power of the wicked.

They do not know, neither do they understand; they go about in darkness; \* all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

Now I say to you, 'You are gods, \* and all of you children of the Most High;

Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, \* and fall like any ruler.'"

Arise, O God, and rule the earth, \* for you shall take all nations for your own.

Please stand and join in singing.

#### **Sequence Hymn**

"O God of every nation"

Music: *Hymnal*, 607

O God of every nation, of every, race and land, redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand; where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled, in love and mercy guide us and heal our strife-torn world.

From search for wealth and power and scorn of truth and right, from trust in bombs that shower destruction through the night, from pride of race and nation and blindness to your way, deliver every nation, eternal God, we pray!

Lord, strengthen all who labor that we may find release from fear of rattling saber, from dread of war's increase; when hope and courage falter, your still small voice be heard; with faith that none can alter, your servants undergird. Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease, when hatred and division give way to love and peace, till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign and Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.

#### The Gospel: Luke 12:49-56

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you Lord Christ.

Please be seated at the preacher's invitation.

The Sermon The Rector

After a moment of silence, please stand.

#### The Nicene Creed

Presider and People

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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come, Amen.

#### The Prayers of the People

The Intercessor and People pray responsively

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us offer our prayers to God.

For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray:

#### Lord, have mercy.

For *Sean*, our Presiding Bishop; *Mariann*, our Bishop; *Eugene*, our Assisting Bishop; *Hosam*, Archbishop in Jerusalem; and for all who serve God in the Church, let us pray:

#### Lord, have mercy.

For our Armed Forces, Foreign Service, and Emergency Services; for the leaders of the nations; and for all entrusted with positions of authority, let us pray:

#### Lord, have mercy.

For this city, for every city and community, and for those who live and work and serve in them, let us pray:

#### Lord, have mercy.

continued

For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray: **Lord, have mercy.** 

For the blessings and joys of our own lives and of this community, especially the marriage this past week of *Bill Sander* and *Jen Kamber* and the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday this weekend of *Martha Lou Youngblood* (aunt of Diane Adams), let us pray:

#### Lord, have mercy.

For all in need of God's healing, remembering in particular those on our Parish Prayer List (see p. 16) and those we name now, silently or aloud:

#### Pause for prayers of petition and intercession

Let us pray:

#### Lord, have mercy.

For the poor and the oppressed; for the unemployed and the destitute; for the hungry and unhoused; for prisoners and captives; for refugees and displaced persons; and for all who remember and care for those the world forgets, let us pray: **Lord, have mercy.** 

For *Mary Luzier*, and for all the departed, let us pray:

#### Lord, have mercy.

In the communion of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life, to Christ our God:

#### To you, O Lord our God.

The Presider concludes

God of hope, from you come every blessing and all peace: Show us that, in the midst of our struggles, you are with us. Give us the abundance of your grace, that we may do the work you give us to do and that we may be for the world a sign of your presence; through Christ, the Way and the Truth, **Amen.** 

#### The Confession and Absolution

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and one another.

A brief silence

Presider God of all mercy,

and People 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. Presider 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

Presider May the peace of Christ be always with you!

People And also with you!

Please greet one another in the Name of Christ and then be seated.

Welcome

Holy One, we praise you for the wonders of your creation:

make us joyful and faithful stewards.

At the Offertory

Thou Shalt Break Them

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

Aurelio Dominguez, tenor

Thank you for supporting the mission and ministry of St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church. If you would like to make an offering this morning, you may place it in the Offertory bag. Please also feel free to donate online at <a href="https://stdunstansbethesda.org/support/donate.html">https://stdunstansbethesda.org/support/donate.html</a> or mail a check to the Parish Office.

### **The Holy Communion**

Please stand as the Offering is brought forward and join in singing.

The Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

#### The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

Music: *Hymnal*, 380

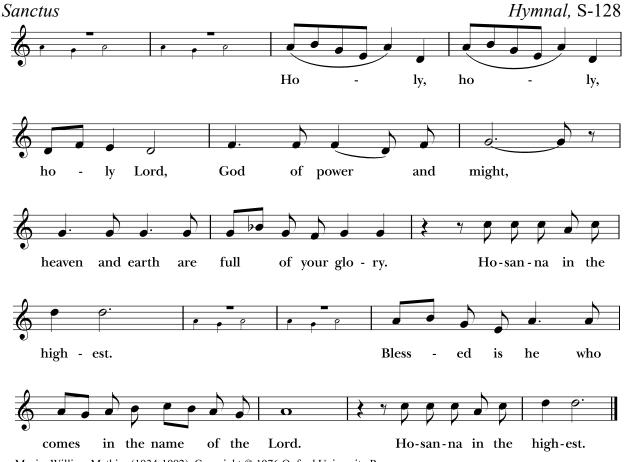
Presider The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth: For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Music: William Mathias (1934-1992). Copyright © 1976 Oxford University Press.

Please stand, kneel, or sit.

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,

Presider and People

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

The Presider 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 the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed 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 forever, **AMEN**. **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.

#### The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Presider Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Presider These are the Gifts of God, for you, the People of God, Amen.

Please be seated.

#### The Communion

All are welcome to receive the Sacrament in one or both kinds; gluten-free Communion bread is available upon request. If you would prefer not to receive, you are invited to come forward for a blessing, the signal for which is to cross your arms over your chest when you reach the Altar.

#### **Music during Communion**

"Thou, who at thy first Eucharist didst pray"

Hymnal, 315

Music: Hymnal, 662

Aurelio Dominguez, tenor

Please join in singing.

"Abide with me"

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide; the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide: when other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour; what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power? Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless; ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.

Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?

I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes; shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies; heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Please stand.

#### **Prayer after Communion**

Presider Let us pray:

and 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.

#### The Blessing

Presider

May the God of surprise and new life bring you hope today.

May the Christ of faithfulness and righteousness expand your love today.

May the Spirit of steadfastness and encouragement bless you with unity today.

Love comes; light shines. Awe is everywhere; the miracle of God surges around us.

And may the blessing of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you and all those you love from this day forth and forevermore, **Amen.** 

Please join in singing the closing hymn.

Music: Hymnal, 569

#### **Closing Hymn**

"God the Omnipotent!"

God the Omnipotent! King, who ordainest thunder thy clarion, the lightning thy sword; show forth thy pity on high where thou reignest: give to us peace in our time, O Lord.

God the All-merciful! earth hath forsaken thy ways all holy, and slighted thy word; bid not thy wrath in its terrors awaken: give to us peace in our time, O Lord.

God the All-righteous One! earth hath defied thee; yet to eternity standeth thy word, falsehood and wrong shall not tarry beside thee: give to us peace in our time, O Lord.

God the All-provident! earth by thy chastening yet shall to freedom and truth be restored; through the thick darkness thy kingdom is hastening: thou wilt give peace in thy time, O Lord.

Please be seated following the hymn.

Announcements (see pp. 16-17)

Please stand.

#### The Dismissal

Presider Let us go forth in the Name of Christ!

People Thanks be to God!

#### **Postlude**

Ulysses Squitieri, organ

The flowers adorning the Altar are given by **The Rev. Patty Alexander**, to the Glory of God and in thanksgiving for her husband, **The Rev. Randy Alexander**, on their 27<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

#### +++

#### Please remember in prayer:

Julie Anderson; Jeff Boesch; Phil and Patti Carroll; Rick Conroy; Bill Cooke; Steve Cooper; Austin Cox; Henry Cox; Donna Embry; Kenny Farnsworth; Katie Beck Fey; Joann Fowler; Jon Michael Gaudioso; Ben Hull; David Hull; Frank Libutti; Patricia Mackenzie; Jim McGee; Elena Marchetti and family; Cathy Nerantzis; Rick Nickles; Joyce Nugent; Linda Rogers; Shannon Rose; Curtis Shively; Tom Shimkin; Max Thompson; Jack Tovornik; Peggy Vaughn; Sandra Walters; David Wheeler; Ben; Bill; Christopher; David; Farid; Gerald; Grace; Henry; Karen; Katherine; Marty; Melanie; Sherry; and Shiloh

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# Announcements

#### Today at St. Dunstan's:

+ Welcome, Visitors! We are delighted you are here and hope you will stay for a few minutes after worship so that we can greet you properly. To learn more about St. Dunstan's, please fill out a visitor form, found on the table in the entry hall, and help yourself to a welcome bag as a token of our gratitude that you have joined us today.

SHC

BACK TO SCHOOL

+ Fellowship Time: Come share a cup of coffee or tea, a snack, and good conversation in the Parish Hall immediately following this service! *And while you're there...* Please lend a hand as we fill pencil cases with school supplies for refugee children served by Solutions in Home Connections!

#### The Week Ahead:

- + Tuesday, August 19:
  - 12 Noon: Prayers for Peace and Healing (Zoom and Facebook\*)
- + Wednesday, August 20:
  - 10:30 a.m.: Bible Study on The Gospel of Luke (Zoom\*)
- + Sunday, August 24:
  - 10:30 a.m.: The Rev. Dr. Frank Wade, Guest Presider and Preacher

#### Reaching Out:

- + Support a Student through Education Equals Hope (E = H):
  - Once again this year, St. Dunstan's is sponsoring students at **Buen Pastor Episcopal School in Ecuador**, which serves vulnerable children and their families. Your contribution of \$40/month or \$480/year will make an enormous difference in the life of a student. To donate: Write a check to St. Dunstan's, noting "E = H" on the Memo line, or visit <a href="StDunstansBethesda.org">StDunstansBethesda.org</a>, click the green "Give" button, then "One Time Donation," with "E = H" in the Details of Contribution box. We ask that contributions be in by **September 1.** Thank you! (For further details, please contact Outreach Chair **Elin Botha**: elin.botha@gmail.com.)

#### Coming Up:



# Serving this Morning

**Presider and Preacher:** The Rev. Patricia Phaneuf Alexander

Musicians: Aurelio Dominguez and Ulysses Squitieri

**Altar Guild:** Michelle Mesen

Flower Guild: Trudy Surut and Anne Tager

**Greeter:** Susie Cooper

**Livestream Minister:** Andrew Alexander

**Acolyte and Crucifer:** Connelly Anderson Gomez

Children's Chapel: Julie Anderson and Jenna Monroe

**Lector:** Michelle Mesen

**Psalm Leader:** Fred Atwood

**Intercessor:** Nancy Douglas

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Michelle Mesen

Usher: Elin Botha

Barista: Fred Smoak

Snack Angels: Nancy Douglas and Claire Owen

**Vestry Member** 

of the Day: Michelle Mesen

# Attributions

Unless otherwise noted below, this morning's liturgy is taken from *The Book of Common Prayer*, © 1979, Church Publishing, Incorporated. *All music used with permission, all rights reserved, reprinted under OneLicense.net A-7122* 

#### On the Cover\*:

A great cloud of witnesses (Mixed media liturgical art by Sue Carroll)

#### The Collect of the Day:

A New Zealand Prayer Book—He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa', © 1997, Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia

#### The Opening Acclamation and Confession:

Enriching Our Worship 1, © 1998, Church Publishing, Incorporated

#### The Epistle and Gospel:

New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicized Edition, © 1989, 1995 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.

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#### The Psalm:

The Saint Helena Psalter: A New Version of the Psalms in Expansive Language, © 2004, The Order of Saint Helena

#### The Collect after the Prayers and The Offertory Sentences:

Adapted from *Daily Prayer for All Seasons*, © 2014, Church Publishing, Incorporated

#### The Blessing:

Adapted from Christine Aroney-Sine, © 2019, <a href="https://godspacelight.com">https://godspacelight.com</a>

Artist's Reflection: "A great cloud of witnesses." What a lovely idea, that the witnesses (the ones who have gone before us in the faith) hover in the air around us. The figures you see in the clouds here have all appeared in previous pieces, as ones who praise, or pray, or lead with lit lamps, or run to welcome a prodigal son home with open arms. There is even a Jesus figure there. But the context in the epistle is that, BECAUSE we have so many faithful around us, we must therefore "run with perseverance the race that is set before us." The witnesses are not just there to pat us on the back – they are cheering us on! Made from painted papers, and some fuzzy stuff that was wrapped around the leaves of a potted plant that was mailed to me. (Question for further reflection: Who are the "witnesses" who have inspired your faith?). ~ Sue Carroll, Liturgical Artist-in-Residence

# Parish Leadership

The Reverend Patricia Phaneuf Alexander, Rector
Vince Leonard, Senior Warden
Fred Atwood, Junior Warden
Nils Overdahl, Treasurer
Michelle Mesen, Registrar

Leo Bouma Nancy Douglas Doug McManus Carmen Petruzzi Janet Repka

**Liturgical Artist-in-Residence**Sue Carroll

#### Seminarian's Lay Support Team

Chuck Cash
Nancy Douglas
Lynne Leonard (Chair)
Carmen Petruzzi

# St. Dunstan's Rectors Emeriti

The Rev. John S. McDuffie The Rev. Jeffrey B. MacKnight

Treasurer *Emeritus*Cliff White

