

July 19, 2026
The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
10:30 a.m.: Holy Eucharist



St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church
Seeking God • Building Community • Growing Faith • Reaching Out
5450 Massachusetts Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20816
301.229.2960 StDunstansBethesda.org

Welcome to St. Dunstan's!

Thought for the Day...

You must learn, you must let God teach you, that the only way to get rid of your past is to make a future out of it. God will waste nothing.

~ Phillips Brooks



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. 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. Please note that **there is no childcare or regular Children's Chapel throughout the month of July.** *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 chairs uncomfortable, feel free to borrow a **cushion** from the basket near the door 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. **Please return your name tag to the basket on the Welcome Table at the end of the service; we will hang it back up for you!**

This morning we welcome **Dr. David Palmer** as our **Guest Pianist**,
and **Ketti Muschler** as our **Guest Cantor**.

For Your Prayers

For healing, strength, and protection:

Diane Adams; Randy Alexander; Joyce Bleby; Phil and Patti Carroll;
Terry Conroy; Steve Cooper; Henry Cox; Traci Dean; Kenny Farnsworth;
Katie Beck Fey; Nick Gilbert; Louisa Greene; Terry Haight; Ben Hull;
Patricia Mackenzie; Jenna Monroe; Rick Nickles; Linda Rogers; Curtis Shively;
Nancy Thoreson; Jack Tovornik; Sandra Walters; David Wheeler; Martha Lou
Youngblood; Anne; Ben; Bill; Christopher; Craig and Robin; Griffin; JW; Karen;
Katherine; Lindsay and William; Marty; Melanie; Michelle; MT; Paola; Patrick;
Phyllis; Sherry; *and* Shiloh

For peace in Bolivia, Haiti, the Holy Land, Iran, Lebanon, Sudan and South
Sudan, Ukraine, the United States, and throughout God's world

For refugees and immigrants

For the women and men of our Foreign Service and Armed Forces

For emergency personnel and first responders

For the victims of climate and natural disasters, especially in Venezuela

For missionaries serving throughout the world

For parishioner Chong Park, competing in an Ironman triathlon today!



The flowers adorning the Altar this morning are given by
Jackie Jones and Chuck Cash, to the Glory of God and
in memory of Jackie's beloved father, **Leland Mayberry**.

The Holy Eucharist

Prelude

Fairest Lord Jesus

G. Sikes

David Palmer, *piano*

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

Opening Hymn

“We’re Marching to Zion”

Lift Every Voice and Sing, 12

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The lyrics are written below the staves, with four verses of text for each system. The first system ends with a double bar line. The second system ends with a double bar line. The third system ends with a double bar line.

1. Come, we that love— the Lord, And let our joys— be known;— Join
2. Let those re - fuse— to sing Who nev - er knew— our God;— But
3. The hill of Zi - on yields A thou-sand sa - cred sweets— Be -
4. Then let our songs— a - bound, And ev - 'ry tear— be dry;— We're

1. in a song with sweet ac - cord, Join in a song with sweet ac -
2. chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, But chil - dren of the heav'n - ly
3. fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, Be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly
4. march-ing through Im - man - uel's ground, We're march-ing thro' Im - man - uel's

1. cord, And thus sur - round the throne, And thus sur - round the throne.—
2. King, May speak their joys a - broad, May speak their joys a - broad.—
3. fields, Or walk the gold - en streets, Or walk the gold - en streets.—
4. ground, To fair - er worlds on high, To fair - er worlds on high.—

We're march - ing to Zi - on, Beau - ti-ful, beau - ti-ful

We're march - ing on to Zi - on,

Zi - on; We're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on, Zi - on, Zi - on,

The beau - ti - ful cit - y of God.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Robert S. Lowry (1826-1899).

The Liturgy of the Word

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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

The Song of Praise

Canticle 13

Hymnal, S-236

1. Glo - ry to you, Lord

God of our fa - thers; you are wor - thy of praise;

glo - ry to you. 2. Glo - ry to you

for the ra - di - ance of your ho - ly Name; we will

praise you and high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

3. Glo - ry to you in the splen - dor of your

tem - ple; on the throne of your ma - jes - ty, glo - ry to

you. 4. Glo - ry to you, seat - ed bet -

ween the Cher - u - bim; we will praise you and

high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er.

Descant

5. Glo - ry to you, _____ be -

5. Glo - ry to you, _____ be - hold - ing the

hold - ing the depths; _____ in the high vault of

depths; _____ in the high vault of hea - ven, glo - ry to

hea - ven, 6. Glo - ry to you, _____

you. _____ 6. Glo - ry to you, _____ Fa - ther,

— Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; we will

Son, and Ho - ly Spi - rit; _____ we will praise you and

high - ly ex - alt you Glo - ry to you! _____

high - ly ex - alt you for ev - er. _____

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray: Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever, **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Lesson: Genesis 28:10-19a

Lector A Reading from the Book of Genesis:

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please join in reciting the Psalm responsively.

Psalm 139:1-11, 22-23

O God, you have searched me out and known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

You trace my journeys and my resting-places
and are acquainted with all my ways.

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
but you, O God, know it altogether.

You press upon me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

Where can I go then from your Spirit;
where can I flee from your presence?

If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

Even there your hand will lead me
and your right hand hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me,
and the light around me turn to night,"

Darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day;
darkness and light to you are both alike.

Search me out, O God, and know my heart;
try me and know my restless thoughts.

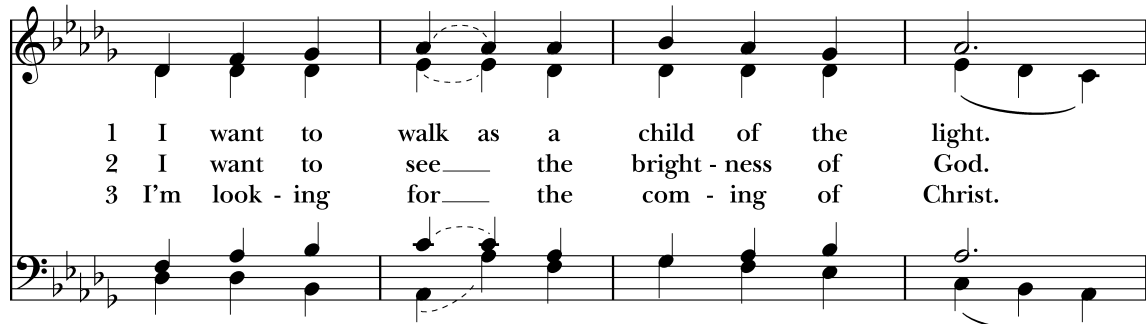
Look well whether there be any wickedness in me
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

Please stand and join in singing the Sequence Hymn.

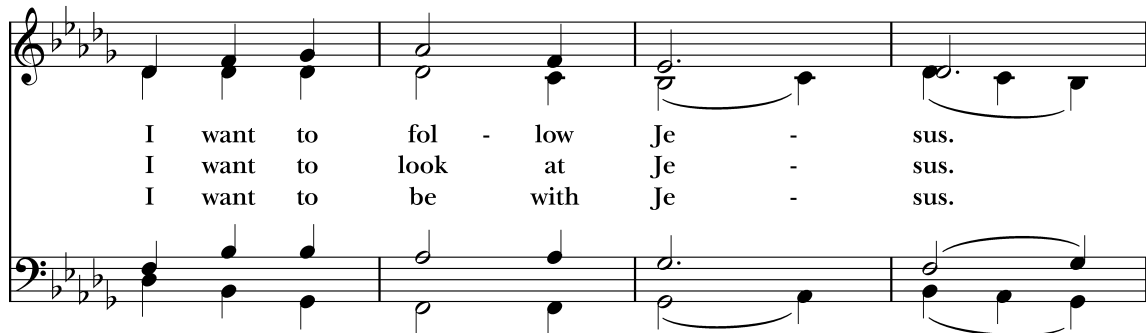
Sequence Hymn

“I want to walk as a child of the light”

Hymnal, 490



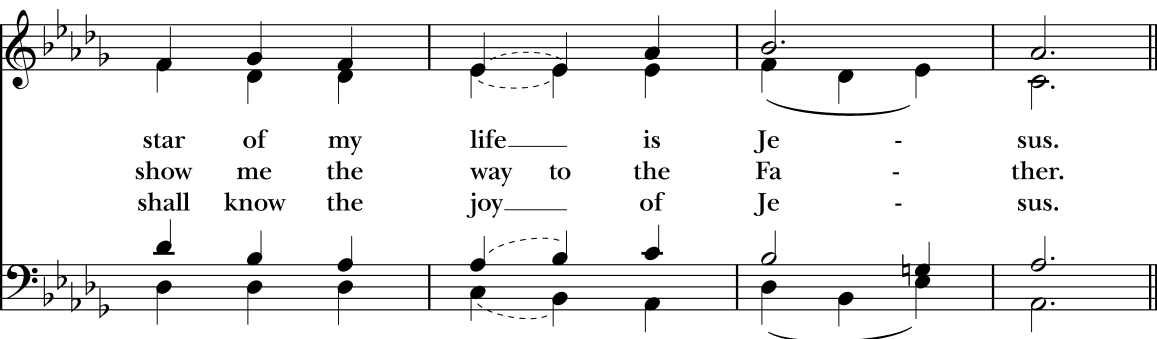
1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the bright - ness of God.
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
 I want to look at Je - sus.
 I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world. The
 Clear sun of right - eous - ness, shine on my path, and
 When we have run with pa - tience the race, we



star of my life is Je - sus.
 show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark - ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God. *rit.*

a tempo

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Words: Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934). Copyright © 1970, 1975, Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Music: Houston, Kathleen Thomerson (b. 1934).

The Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

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

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather

them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

Deacon 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

Leader 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.

**universal*

The Prayers of the People

The Intercessor and People pray responsively.

Let us pray.

Father, we pray for your Church throughout the world;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for *Sarah*, Archbishop of Canterbury; *Sean*, our Presiding Bishop; *Mariann*, our Bishop, and *Eugene*, our Assisting Bishop; *Hosam*, Archbishop in Jerusalem; and for all bishops, priests, deacons, seminarians, and lay ministers;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We remember the President and Vice-President, the members of Congress and the Justices of the Supreme Court, and all those called to serve the common good. We ask your blessing on the women and men of our nation's Foreign Service and Armed Forces, and we pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

We remember all who have been commended to our prayers, especially remembering those named on our Parish Prayer List (*see p. 3*). Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

We pray for those who have died, remembering especially this week *The Reverend Laura Cochran* and *Senator Lindsey Graham*. Give them, and all the departed, eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

We pray for our own needs and those of others, either silently or out loud.

Pause for prayers of petition, intercession, and thanksgiving

The Presider concludes

O God, from Whom all good things come, give us grace to live to your glory; give us respect for each other and for all your Creation; fill our lives with a sense of wonder, and give us wisdom in all our dealings; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

Deacon Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence

Deacon and People 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.

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

The Offertory

Presider

O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. *Revelation 4:11*

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 <https://stdunstansbethesda.org/support/donate.html> or mail a check to the Parish Office.

Offertory Anthem

Locus ist

Ketti Muschler, *soprano*

A. Bruckner (1824-1896)

The Holy Communion

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

The Doxology

Music: *Hymnal*, 380

**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 A

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.**

Presider

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 for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Lift Every Voice and Sing, 255

The musical score for the Sanctus is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

System 1:
Vocal: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly
Piano: Accompaniment for the first system.

System 2:
Vocal: ho - ly Lord God of hosts.
Piano: Accompaniment for the second system.

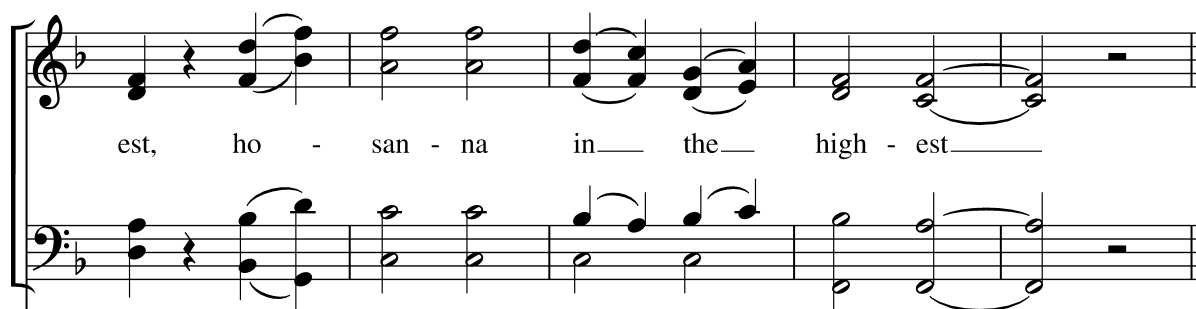
Heav-en and earth are filled with your glo

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

Bless-ed is He who comes in the name

of the Lord, of the Lord.

Ho - san - na in the high



Please stand or sit.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Dunstan, and all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: 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.**

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. Consecrated wine is available by sipping directly from the silver chalice or by dipping your bread gently into the blue chalice; 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 place your hand over your heart when you reach the Altar.

Music during Communion

Father, we thank thee who hast planted

Text: Greek, ca. 110 CE;
tr. F. B. Tucker (1895-1984)
Music: *Rendez à Dieu*

Ketti Muschler, *soprano*

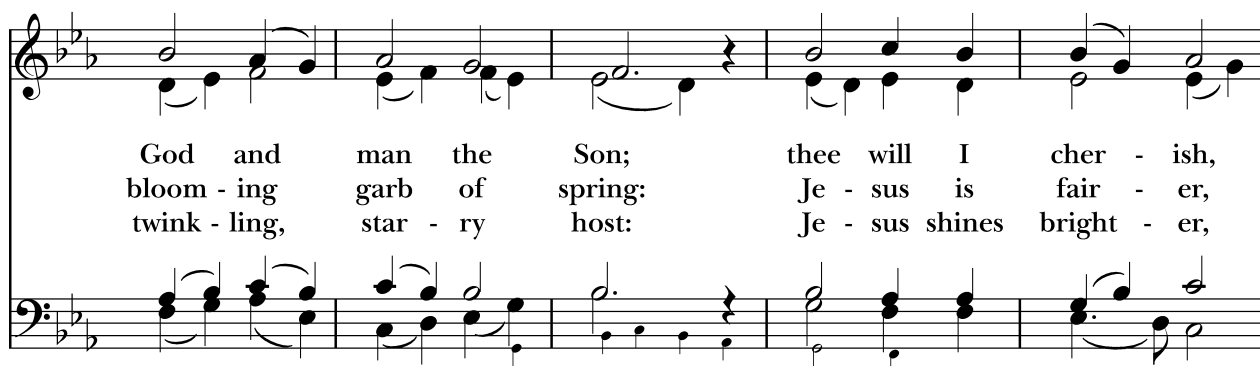
Remaining seated, please join in singing the Communion Hymn.

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

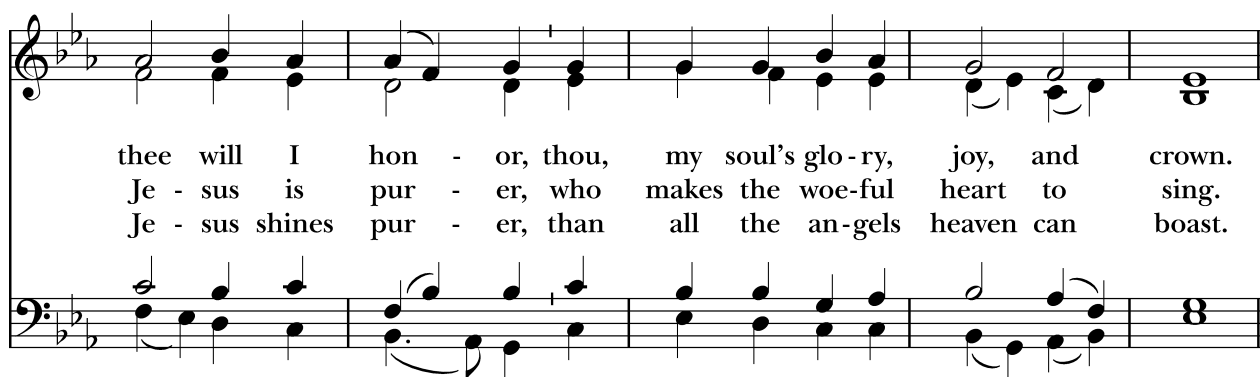
Hymnal, 383



1 Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Ru - ler of all na - ture, O thou of
 2 Fair are the mea - dows, fair - er still the wood - lands, robed in the
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the moon - light, and all the



God and man the Son; thee will I cher - ish,
 bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,
 twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,



thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 Je - sus shines pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.

Words: German composite; tr. pub. New York, 1850, alt. Music: *St. Elizabeth*, melody from *Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842; harm. Thomas Tertius Noble (1867-1953).

Please stand.

The 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

Life is short, and we haven't much time to gladden the hearts of those with whom we walk this earth. So be swift to love. Make haste to be kind. And may the blessing of God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – be upon you and remain with you, and all those you love, from this day forth and forevermore, **Amen.**

Please join in singing.

Closing Hymn

“Sweet, Sweet Spirit”

Lift Every Voice and Sing, 120

The musical score is written for a piano and voice. It is in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and 4/4 time. The piano accompaniment consists of a right hand with chords and moving lines, and a left hand with a steady bass line. The vocal line is a single melody line. The lyrics are provided for three different versions of the hymn.

1. There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, _____ And I
(2. There are) bless - ings you can - not re - ceive _____ Till you
(3. If you) say He saved you from your sin, _____ Now you're

1. know that it's the Spir - it of _____ the Lord. _____ There are
2. know Him in His full - ness, and _____ be - lieve. _____ You're the
3. weak, you're bound, and can - not en - ter in, _____ you can

1. sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, _____ And I
 2. one to pro - fit when you say, _____ "I am
 3. make it right if you will yield; _____ You'll en -

1. know they feel the pres - ence of _____ the Lord. _____
 2. going to walk with Je - sus all _____ the way." _____
 3. joy the Ho - ly Spir - it that _____ we feel. _____

Sweet Ho - ly Spir - it, Sweet Heav - en - ly Dove,

Stay right here with us, — fill - ing us with your love.

And for these bless - ings — we lift our hearts in

praise; With - out a doubt we'll know — that we have

been re - vived when we shall leave this place. 1. - 2. 3.
 2. There are
 3. If you place.

Words: Doris Akers (b. 1922). Music: Doris Akers. Copyright © 1962. Renewed 1990 Manna Music, Inc. 25510 Stanford Ave., Suite 101, Valencia, CA 91355. International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved.

Please be seated following the hymn.

Announcements (see pp. 23-25)

Please stand.

Dismissal

Deacon Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord!

People **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude

Now the Silence

C. W. Ore

David Palmer, *piano*

+++

Announcements

Today at St. Dunstan's:

- **Welcome, Visitors!** We are delighted that you are here, and we 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 **Welcome Table**, and help yourself to a **welcome bag** as a token of our gratitude that you have joined us today.
- **Fellowship Time:** We hope you will stay for a few minutes after worship for a cup of coffee or tea and a snack and some good conversation!

This Week:

- **Tuesday, July 21:**
 - + **9 a.m.: Memorial Service for Nancy Flentje** (*Nave or Parish Hall*)
 - + **11 a.m.: What Now?!** (*Parish Hall*)
 - + **7 p.m.: Monthly Vestry Meeting** (*Parish Hall*)
- **Wednesday-Saturday, July 22-25:**
 - + **Rector's Annual Retreat. Bible Study and Prayers for Peace and Healing** will **not** meet this week but resume on July 29 and 30.
- **Thursday, July 23:**
 - + **1 p.m.: Parish Administrator Elisabeth Saidi in the office**
- **Sunday, July 26:**
 - + **10:30 a.m.: Holy Eucharist, with July Anniversary and Birthday Prayers** (*Parish Hall*)

Coming Up:

- **Saturday, August 29:**
 - + **10 a.m.-4 p.m.: Children's Choir Camp ~ "A Mary Poppins Musical Adventure"** (*St. Dunstan's*). Please reach out to **Diane Atherton** for more information.

It's a Wrap! Vacation Bible School 2026



Photo courtesy of the Rev. Emily Elder

Once again this year Vacation Bible School was a *huge* success! Together we explored the theme “**Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs**” through music, story, crafts, games, and service (*see next page*). We also joined with our partners at **Little Falls Watershed Alliance** for a day down at the creek, hunting for macro-invertebrates and learning how we can care for our local stream. It was so much fun!

Thank you to all the families who entrusted us with your children this week, as well as to the many adult and youth volunteers who gave so lovingly and enthusiastically of your time and many talents...VBS would not have been possible without you.

2026 VBS Volunteers

Elizabeth Allen	Chad Holmes
Julie Anderson*	Quinn Holmes
Elin Botha	Alex Lane
Cami Caudill	Caroline McManus
Julien de Geuser	Jenna Monroe
Nancy Douglas	Monica Shelly
Theo Flynn	Fielder Valone
Jim Gresham	Jia Lynn Yang

*Tremendous thanks to VBS Director *extraordinaire* **Julie Anderson**, who organized every detail and ensured that we all had a wonderful, safe time!

Reaching Out

Serve one another humbly in love.

~ Galatians 5:13

Blessing Bags

This week the children in Vacation Bible School assembled and decorated **blessing bags** as a service project in thanksgiving for God's gift of **community**. Please take a couple of bags with you today and keep them in your car for those times when you would like to help someone seeking assistance but are uneasy about handing out money. When we run out, we as a congregation can make more in the coming weeks!

Cooking Oil for San Mateo

You can assist those struggling due to current immigration policies by contributing to the **food distribution** at **Iglesia Episcopal San Mateo** in Hyattsville. Every month San Mateo provides food for over 300 families, and they are asking for donations of **24 or 40 oz. plastic bottles of cooking oil**. Can you help? If you would like to donate, please bring your bottle(s) of oil to St. Dunstan's **between now and August 9**. This is a simple – yet effective – way to serve our neighbors facing unprecedented challenges.



From the Capital Campaign Committee

Your Capital Campaign contributions are being put to good use – and very quickly!

While you are admiring our new roof, we hope you enjoy the air-conditioned comfort of "church in the Parish Hall" this summer while our primary HVAC system is undergoing replacement. This is a massive project and our biggest budget item by far of the entire Capital Campaign. We want to thank you for the cash contributions already made and encourage anyone who is able to fulfill their pledges early to do so, as our cash outlays are projected to exceed cash inflows by the end of the summer. While we can borrow from the endowment to meet this short-term liquidity crunch, we can avoid it altogether if we collect some more pledges ahead of schedule. Thank you to everyone who has pledged to date. Your support to the physical structure and mission of St. Dunstan's means a lot to all of us. If you do wish to make a contribution, please let the Committee and/or **Elisabeth Saidi** know to expect your cash, stock, charitable trust or QCD distribution; please help us keep our records accurate and current!

Faithfully,

Karen Kosiba Edwards, Carmen Petruzzi, and Rosi Sweeney

Serving this Morning

Presider and Preacher:	The Rev. Patricia Phaneuf Alexander
Assisting Priest:	The Rev. Emily Elder
Deacon:	The Rev. Jessica Ault
Musicians:	Ketti Muschler and David Palmer
Altar Guild:	Marsha Barnes, Ann Johnson, and Michelle Mesen
Flower Guild:	Melissa Deehring and Madeleine Johnson
Greeter:	Julie Anderson
Acolyte:	Connelly Anderson Gomez
Livestream Minister:	Andrew Alexander
Lector:	Michelle Mesen
Psalm Leader:	Fred Atwood
Intercessor:	Jia Lynn Yang
Lay Eucharistic Minister:	Ray Donnelly
Ushers:	David and Janet Repka
Hospitality:	Elin Botha, Cindy Mathis, and Fred Smoak
Vestry Member of the Day:	Fred Atwood

Attributions

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On the Cover*:

Jacob Dreams of Angels (Mixed media liturgical art by Sue Carroll)

The Scripture Readings:

The New Revised Standard Version Bible, © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA

The Psalm:

The Saint Helena Psalter: A New Version of the Psalms in Expansive Language,
© 2018, Church Publishing, Incorporated

The Collect after the Prayers:

David Adam, *Glimpses of Glory*, © 2000, Morehouse Publishing

The Confession:

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

The Blessing:

Adapted from Henri-Frédéric Amiel

***Artist's Reflection**

This image is Jacob's surreal dream: angels going up and down a stairway to heaven. What could this mean, to a young man who'd tricked his father and robbed his brother? The angels don't say anything to him; they just travel between heaven and earth. But the very fact that they demonstrate a connection between the earthly and the divine seems reassuring - and then God appears to him! Although Jacob has behaved terribly, the link between the heavenly and the earthly has not been severed. So I imagine the angels as beautiful, bright, and promising.

Made with painted paper toweling, netting, and angelina fibers.

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

St. Dunstan's Staff

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Lila Saidi and Sany Saidi, *Sunday Morning Childcare Providers*

Parish Leadership

Vestry

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

Nancy Douglas
Doug McManus
Marie Park
Carmen Petruzzi
Graham Rehrig

Liturgical Artist-in-Residence

Sue Carroll

St. Dunstan's Rectors Emeriti

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

Treasurer Emeritus

Cliff White



St. Dunstan's
Episcopal Church

Come share the journey with us