St. Dunstan's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rite II - Holy Eucharist

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 27

November 8, 2026
11:15am

The Clergy

The Reverend Dr. Roman D. Roldan - *Rector*
The Reverend Steve Ferguson - *Associate Rector*
The Reverend Naty Menjivar - *Associate Rector*

Welcome

We are so glad that you are here! If you are new or visiting, please let an usher know so that we can connect with you! Children are welcome at all of our services. We also offer the following opportunities for children every Sunday:

- Nursery: Open 8:45am-12:45pm for children ages infant - 5 years old and located in the Bentley Education Center (BEC). Enter thru the doors under the porte-cochere
- Children's Chapel: After the Collect, the children may follow the cross to Children's Chapel in the BEC and will return to the worship service during the announcements.
- Prayground: A soft space near the choir loft for little ones to get the wiggles out during service while getting a front row seat to worship. Pews available in the area for parental supervision.

Please note that this service is being livestreamed and members of the congregation may be captured on camera during communion and other parts of the service.

The Word of God

Prelude

Prelude — *Johann Kaspar Ferdinand Fischer*

Entrance Hymn *All standing* — Hymnal 436

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates

Verse 1
Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold the King of glory waits!
The King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here.

Verse 2
O blest the land, the city blest,
where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes
to whom this King of triumph comes!

Verse 3
Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Verse 4
Redeemer, come! I open wide
my heart to thee: here, Lord, abide!
Let me thy inner presence feel:
thy grace and love in me reveal.

Verse 5
So come, my Sovereign; enter in!
Let new and nobler life begin;
thy Holy Spirit guide us on,
until the glorious crown be won.

Opening Acclamation

The Celebrant says

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

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant continues with the Collect for Purity

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**.

The Celebrant continues with following

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith:
Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets. *Matthew 22:37-40*

Gloria in Excelsis *Sung* S- 280

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**.

At this time , all children ages 3-3rd grade are invited to meet at the back of the church and follow the Children's Chapel Cross and adult leaders to your designated Chapel space in the BEC. The Children w ill return to the service during the announcements.

First Reading *The people sit.* Amos 5:18-24

Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 70: *Chanted by the choir, Congregation joins at Antiphon*

*Antiphon: O Lord, make haste to help me**

*1 Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; **
O Lord, make haste to help me.
*2 Let those who seek my life be ashamed and altogether dismayed; **
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and be disgraced. [ANT]
*3 Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, **
because they are ashamed.
*4 Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; **
let those who love your salvation say for ever,
"Great is the Lord!" [ANT]
*5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; **
come to me speedily, O God.
*6 You are my helper and my deliverer; **
O Lord, do not tarry. [ANT]

Second Reading — 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn *All standing.* — Hymnal 620

Jerusalem, my happy home

Verse 1
Jerusalem, my happy home,
when shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end?
Thy joys when shall I see?

Verse 2
Thy saints are crowned with glory great;
they see God face to face;
they triumph still, they still rejoice
in that most happy place.

Verse 3
There David stands with harp in hand
as master of the choir:
ten thousand times would one be blest
who might this music hear.

Verse 4
Our Lady sings Magnificat
with tune surpassing sweet,
and blesséd martyrs' harmony
doth ring in every street.

Verse 5
Jerusalem, Jerusalem,
God grant that I may see
thine endless joy, and of the same
partaker ever be!

The Gospel — Matthew 25:1-13

The Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

[Jesus said,] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those

bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Steve Ferguson

The Nicene Creed

All standing and saying together,

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 People respond to all the petitions with

Lord, have mercy.

The prayers conclude with

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

People **To you, O Lord Our God.**

The Celebrant says

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

The Confession of Sin

The Celebrant then says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept. All saying

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant then pronounces the absolution of sins,

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

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

At this time you may exchange the sign of peace with those around you - wave, bow, give the peace sign, etc. or verbally acknowledge those around you saying "peace be with you" or "good morning".

Announcements & Offering

Scan The QR code to go directly to our PayPal donation site, or you can give online at www.saintdunstans.org/give. Thank you for your generosity.

The Celebrant says

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings and come into his courts.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Pray of St. Richard of Chidester — *L.J. White*

O Holy Jesus, most merciful redeemer, friend, and brother,
May I know thee more clearly, love the more dearly,
and follow thee more nearly.
Amen.

The Presentation of Alms and Oblations

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts.
The People stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar, singing

The Doxology — Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

The Celebrant says

All things come of Thee, O Lord,

People **and of Thine own have we given Thee.**

The Great Thanksgiving — Eucharistic Prayer D

The people remain standing. The Celebrant says,

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,

Sanctus and Benedictus *Sung* S-125

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures.

When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People say

We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.

The Celebrant continues

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace. Remember our bishops, Andrew, Jeff, Kai, Hector, and Brian, and all who minister in your Church. Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with Blessed Dunstan, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

AMEN.

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

People and Celebrant, kneeling

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

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread and a period of silence is kept, then is said

Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world
People **Have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world
People **Have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world
People **Grant us thy peace.**

The Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's Table. To receive Holy Communion follow the direction of the ushers towards the altar. Place your hands together (palms upward), receive the host, and carefully dip the host in the chalice before consuming, or drink from the cup. If you wish to only receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest. Prayer teams offering prayers for healing and thanksgiving are stationed in the chapel. You may go before or after you receive the Eucharist.

Communion Hymn — Hymnal 324

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Verse 1
Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

Verse 2
King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
in the Body and the Blood
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.

Verse 3
Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of Light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

Verse 4
At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim with sleepless eye
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
'Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, Lord Most High!'

Postcommunion Prayer

The People kneel. The Celebrant and People say

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

The Priest blesses the people

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

Hymn of Mission — Hymnal 596

Jusdge eternal, throned in splendor

Verse 1
Judge eternal, throned in splendor,
Lord of lords and King of kings,
with thy living fire of judgment
purge this land of bitter things;
solace all its wide dominion
with the healing of thy wings.

Verse 2
Still the weary folk are pining
for the hour that brings release,
and the city's crowded clangor
cries aloud for sin to cease;
and the homesteads and the woodlands
plead in silence for their peace.

Verse 3
Crown, O God, thine own endeavor;
cleave our darkness with thy sword;
feed all those who do not know thee
with the richness of thy word;
cleanse the body of this nation
through the glory of the Lord.

The Dismissal

From the back of the church, the Priest dismisses the people, who respond

Thanks be to God.

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of Kimberly J. Cross' birthday, given by Barbara Jones.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

Pick up a NAM Christmas Bag!

NAM Bags are available to pick up today! Shop for toys for the age listed on your bag so children in need get a Christmas present! Bags are due back to church by **November 29th.**

COMING UP

Bingo Fundraiser - November 14

Join us for Bingo at 3:00pm on November 14th! Proceeds support our youth and help send them to camp! Scan the QR Code to get your card!

Commitment Sunday - November 15

Commitment Sunday will be on November 15th at all services! We invite you to prayerfully consider a commitment for 2027 and look for a letter from Fr. Roman in the mail. Your gifts make our ministries and day to day operations possible! Visit saintdunstans.org/give to set up your 2027 pledge!

DOK Meetings - November 15 & 19

"Reflections on Thanksgiving" is the topic for the meeting on Sunday, Nov. 15 at 10:15am in BEC 309. Our speaker is Sister Veronica-Noel. On Thursday, Nov. 19 at 11am, the DOK hosts a docent-led tour of St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Houston's own Gothic Revival church. Following the tour, lunch will be available in the Cafe as well as shopping in the Gift Shoppe. Please RSVP to currentsa@gmail.com by November 10. All parish women are invited!

Thanksgiving Eve Service - November 25

Come give thanks at the Lord's table before Thanksgiving Day! Join us for a service at 7:00pm on November 25th.

Advent Decorating - November 29

Help decorate and make the Christmas season come alive on our campus! Meet in the Mace Room at 10:15am.

Breakfast with St. Nicholas - December 12

Enjoy food, holiday crafts, & a visit from Saint Nicholas. FREE—invite friends for some holiday Fun! Scan the QR Code to shop our Seafarers amazon wishlist for items to assemble in boxes during the event!

MINISTRIES

Become a Stephen Minister!

Stephen Ministry training equips you to provide one-on-one, Christ-centered care through listening, prayer, and encouragement. You don't need all the answers—just a willing heart! Could God be calling YOU to this ministry? Contact Kelley Helmick to learn more: 713-899-1746.

Clothed by Faith Collection

JDOK is still collecting clothes for the whole family through December! Clothed by Faith provides clothes and shoes for families in need throughout Houston. Bring donations to the bin outside of Sandy's office in the Mace Room!

SUNDAY FLOWERS

Four dates remaining for the rest of 2026! Please note we accept only one donation per Sunday so that each person's dedication receives the proper attention. Visit saintdunstans.org/give to donate!

The Church Office will be Closed on Wednesday, November 11 for Veterans Day.

ST. DUNSTAN'S LINKTREE
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