

Ascension Day & the Feast of St. Dunstan

(observed) ♣ May 16, 2021

Words of Welcome

Gathering Hymn: "Hymn of St. Dunstan"

**1. Come, let us sing the fame of dear Saint Dunstan,
His noble life proclaim to earth and heaven;
Raise we our voices clear before God's altar here,
His holy name revere, our blessed patron!**

**2. See him in lowly cell at Glastonbury,
His great devotion tell, his skill and study;
In silver work and gold God's glory he retold,
And with his tongs lay hold upon the devil.**

**3. Praise we our God today for Abbott Dunstan,
To him high homage pay, Bishop of London,
All England felt the spell when he went forth to dwell
And serve Emmanuel at Canterbury.**

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Celebrant God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**4. To Jesus, loving King, shout alleluias!
Let all creation sing loud alleluias!
To Christ our gracious Lord, by all the church adored;
May he in Heav'n reward kind Father Dunstan.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God of truth and beauty, you richly endowed your bishop Dunstan with skill in music and working of metals, and with gifts of administration and reforming zeal: Teach us, we pray, to see in you the source of all our talents, and move us to offer them for the adornment of worship and the advancement of true religion; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Reading (from Luke 24 and Acts 1)

Reader

A reading from the final chapter of the Gospel of Luke and the first chapter of the Acts of the Apostles.

Jesus said to his friends, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you: that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures.

He said to them, "Thus it is written, that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high. For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

They asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Then, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.' And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 1

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, *

nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

Their delight is in the law of the Holy One, *

and they meditate on that law day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water,

bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; *

everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked; *

they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, *

nor the sinner in the council of the righteous;

For the Holy One knows the way of the righteous, *

but the way of the wicked is doomed.

Sermon

The Rev. Miranda Hassett

Office Hymn: I sing a song of the saints of God

Hymnal #293

**I I sing a song of the saints of God,
patient and brave and true,
who toiled and fought and lived and died
for the Lord they loved and knew.
And one was a doctor, and one was a queen,
and one was a shepherdess on the green:
they were all of them saints of God, and I mean,
God helping, to be one too.**

**2 They loved their Lord so dear, so dear,
and God's love made them strong;
and they followed the right, for Jesus' sake,
the whole of their good lives long.
And one was a soldier, and one was a priest,
and one was slain by a fierce wild beast:
and there's not any reason, no, not the least,
why I shouldn't be one too.**

**3 They lived not only in ages past;
there are hundreds of thousands still;
the world is bright with the joyous saints
who love to do Jesus' will.
You can meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea,
in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea;
for the saints of God are just folk like me,
and I mean to be one too.**

The Prayers

Celebrant We now enter a time of prayer. You may wish to bow your head, open your hands, or prepare your body for prayer in some other way.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Now, let us pray as God's beloved children, using the prayer Jesus taught us.

**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.**

The Prayers of the People

Send prayer requests to prayers@stdunstans.com.

- Officiant* Let us continue in prayer. We will hold up our needs and blessings to God. You can speak your prayers out loud, type them into the Chat area, or hold them in your heart. As you are able, please hold others' prayer requests before God in your heart as well.
Let us pray for all churches and their leaders, and for all God's people everywhere.
The people may offer their prayers aloud.
- Officiant* Let us pray for all those in authority. We pray especially for all public officials, for those working to alleviate the pandemic, for all those working for justice and equity, and for those you now name.
The people may offer their prayers aloud.
- Officiant* Let us pray for all nations and peoples.
The people may offer their prayers aloud.
- Officiant* Let us pray for the earth and the whole created order.
The people may offer their prayers aloud.
- Officiant* Let us pray for our local communities. We pray for all essential workers and healthcare workers. This week I invite your prayers for , and those whom you now name.
The people may offer their prayers aloud.
- Officiant* Let us pray for those in any need or trouble, especially those on our parish prayer list:
You are invited to name others in need of prayer, and to hold up your own struggles to the light of God's love.
The people may offer additional names.
- Officiant* Let us pray for all who have died, and for those who mourn. We hold before you all those who have lost their lives to the pandemic, and all the bereaved.
The people may offer additional names.
- Officiant* Let us pray for our common life and work as God's people.

The people may offer their prayers aloud.

Celebrant O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in your great mercy, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Sharing of Blessings

The Peace

Leader Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father'. Alleluia.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you. Alleluia!**

We greet one another, wishing one another the peace of Christ.

The Blessing

Celebrant

May the Spirit, who set the Church on fire upon the day of Pentecost, bring the world alive with the love of the risen Christ. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Officiant Waiting expectantly for the promised Holy Spirit,
go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!**

The Easter Troparion (*sung three times, at increasing speed; bells may be rung*)

Three times

Christ is ri - sen from the dead, tram - pling down death by death,
and up - on those in the tombs, be - stow - ing life.

Music: Serbian melody. Copying for local use is permitted and encouraged.