

December 12, 2021  
at 10:00 a.m.

# The Booklet

Third Sunday of Advent  
A Celebration of Holy Eucharist

Livestream the service at  
[www.facebook.com/saintalbans](https://www.facebook.com/saintalbans) or

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA)



**ST ALBANS**

*Spirit-Led. Christ-Centred. Contemporary Urban Church*

[www.stalbanschurch.ca](http://www.stalbanschurch.ca)



## **Welcome/Bienvenue**

*Welcome to St. Albans, worshipping in and livestreaming from beautiful downtown Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.*

*Join us in **person** by registering at [www.stalbanschurch.ca/in-person](http://www.stalbanschurch.ca/in-person); or **online** via livestream at [www.facebook.com/saintalbans](http://www.facebook.com/saintalbans) or YouTube at [www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA).*

*Our French-language sister community worships at noon on Sundays, in person and online at [www.facebook.com/CommunauteStBernard](http://www.facebook.com/CommunauteStBernard).*

## **Land Acknowledgement**

St Alban's gathers on the unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg people. We remember the Indigenous peoples on whose land we are gathered, wherever we are. Our acknowledgement is also a statement of our commitment to the ongoing work of reconciliation with our Indigenous neighbours.

## **Greeting**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **The Opening Prayer**

Almighty God,  
**to you all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hidden.**  
**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.**

## **Joy: The Third Advent Candle**

### **First Reader**

Today is the third Sunday in Advent. We join with the writers of the Bible in shouting for joy that God is always with us. The child of Mary brought a message of compassion and healing, the things that make for real joy. That joy spreads as we follow Jesus' words and actions.

## **Second Reader**

The first Advent candle reminds us to have hope for a better world.

*The first Advent candle is lit.*

The second Advent candle reminds us that God's dream for peace can become real in our world.

*The second Advent candle is lit.*

## **Third Reader**

Today, we light the third Advent candle. It reminds us that God calls us to be part of the healing of the world – to bring real joy.

*The third Advent candle, which is pink, is lit.*

**All: Dear God, so many people need your healing and hope. In this season of giving, and on every day of the year, help us to say and do those things that will help bring Christ's compassion and caring to all. Amen.**

## **Holy, Holy, Holy | arranged by Sufjan Stevens**

Holy, holy, holy!

Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning

Our song shall rise to thee

There is a sign at the sight of thee,

Merciful and mighty

God in three Persons,

God in three Persons,

Blessed Trinity

Holy, holy, holy!

Though the darkness hide thee,

Through the eyes of power & greed

Thy glory may not see;

Only Thou art holy;  
There is none beside thee,  
Perfect in power  
Perfect in power  
In love, and purity

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy Name,  
in Earth, and sky, and sea  
There is a sign at the sight of thee,  
There is none beside thee,

God in each person,  
God in three Persons,  
God in each person  
God in three Persons,  
Blessed Trinity

### **Collect of the Day**

Let us pray.

*We pray silently.*

God for whom we watch and wait,  
**you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son:  
give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice,  
and to suffer for the cause of right,  
with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **We Proclaim the Word**

*Each Sunday we read from sections of the Bible: the Old Testament, Psalms, New Testament and the Gospel. These same readings will be proclaimed to over a billion Christians around the world today.*

## **The First Reading** | *Zephaniah 3:14-20*

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Song of Thanksgiving** | *Isaiah 12:2-6*

Surely God is my salvation;

**I will trust, and will not be afraid,**

for the Lord God is my strength and my might;

**he has become my salvation.**

With joy you will draw water

**from the wells of salvation.**

And you will say on that day:

**Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;**

make known his deeds among the nations;

**proclaim that his name is exalted.**

Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;  
**let this be known in all the earth.**

Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,  
**for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

**The Second Reading** | *Philippians 4:4-7*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Joyful, Joyful/Gravity** | *Lyrics Henry Van Dyke;*  
*tune Ode to Joy, Beethoven; Gravity, John Mayer*

Joyful, joyful, we adore You,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You,  
Op'ning to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of fear and sadness;  
Drive the dark of fear away;  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day!

Gravity is working against me  
And gravity wants to bring me down  
Oh, I'll never know what makes this man  
With all the love that his heart can stand  
Dream of ways to throw it all away

Whoa, gravity is working against me  
And gravity wants to bring me down

Oh, twice as much ain't twice as good  
And can't sustain like one half could  
It's wanting more that's gonna send me to my knees

Oh twice as much ain't twice as good  
And can't sustain like one half could  
It's wanting more that's gonna send me to my knees

Whoa, gravity, stay the hell away from me  
Whoa, gravity has taken better ones than me  
Now how can that be?

Just keep us where the light is  
Just keep us where the light is  
Just keep us where the light is

### **The Gospel** | *Luke 3:7-18*

Le Seigneur soit avec vous. The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none;

and whoever has food must do likewise.’ Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, ‘Teacher, what should we do?’ He said to them, ‘Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.’ Soldiers also asked him, ‘And we, what should we do?’ He said to them, ‘Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.’ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, ‘I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of Christ

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

**Homily** | *The Rev. Dr. Caz Ducros*

## **Open Space**

*This is a time for us to respond in our own way to what we have heard and to prepare for the prayers that follow. Please feel free to comment with any reflections, discuss with anyone in your home, or simply rest in what was shared. If you would like to offer prayers as part of our prayers of the people, please use the comments to do so.*

## **The Affirmation of Faith**

**You, O God, are supreme and holy. You create our world and give us life. Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us. You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure. You came to us before we came to you. You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose again. You are with us now. You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit. You empower us to be your gospel in the world. You reconcile and heal; you overcome death. You are our God. We worship you.**

## **Prayers of the People**

### **Confession and Absolution**

Dear friends in Christ,  
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;  
God welcomes sinners  
and invites them to the table.  
Let us confess our sins,  
confident in God's forgiveness.

*Silence is kept.*

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 neighbours 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.**

Almighty God have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **The Peace**

*In the sharing of the Peace we celebrate our reconciliation with God and extend the gift of peace to one another (Matt 5:23-24). We are also reminded that it is in meeting others that we meet Christ.*

*When exchanging the Peace with fellow parishioners (if you are attending in person), please remember that physical contact with those outside your bubble group is sadly not permitted during this Yellow phase. Share a sign of peace with others around you by other means such as bowing or waving. If you are online, share a sign of peace online or in your home.*

La paix du Seigneur soit toujours avec vous  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*Share a sign of peace online or in your home.*

## **We Celebrate the Eucharist**

### **Offering**

*All that we have is a gift from God. Please consider a donation to St. Albans, via e-transfer to [donate@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto:donate@stalbanschurch.ca), or with a secure credit card donation at [www.stalbanschurch.ca/connect/donations](http://www.stalbanschurch.ca/connect/donations) (password StAlbans) If you'd prefer to give in person, please place your offering in the plate located near the pods. To receive an electronic tax receipt, please provide your postal address and email. Thank you!*

### **Revival/People Get Ready** | Robin Mark/Curtis Mayfield

I hear the voice of one calling, prepare ye the way of the Lord.  
And make His paths straight in the wilderness  
And let your light shine in the darkness  
And let your rain fall in the desert.

People get ready  
There's a train a comin'  
You don't need no baggage  
You just get on board  
All you need is faith  
To hear the diesel's hummin'  
You don't need no ticket  
You just thank the lord

So people get ready  
For the train to Jordan  
Picking up passengers  
Coast to coast  
Faith is the key  
Open the doors and board them  
There's hope for all  
Among those who hurt the most

So people get ready  
There's a train a comin'  
You don't need no baggage  
You just get on board  
All you need is faith  
To hear the diesel's hummin'  
You don't need no ticket  
You just thank the Lord

### **The Prayer over the Gifts**

God of hope,  
**renew in us the joy of your salvation  
and make us a living sacrifice to you,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,  
for the gift of a world full of wonder,  
and for our life which comes from you.  
By your power you sustain the universe.  
**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

You created us to love you with all our heart,  
and to love each other as ourselves,  
but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.

In Jesus, your Son,  
you bring healing to our world  
and gather us into one great family.  
Therefore, with all who serve you  
on earth and in heaven,  
we praise your wonderful name, as we sing,

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth of your glory are full  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Holy, holy, holy, Lord ...**

We give you thanks and praise, loving Creator,  
because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us  
you showed us how much you love us.  
He cares for the poor and the hungry.  
He suffers with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back  
but overcame hatred with love.

On the cross  
he defeated the power of sin and death.

By raising him from the dead  
you show us the power of your love  
to bring new life to all your people.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

On the night before he gave up his life for us,  
Jesus, at supper with his friends,  
took bread, gave thanks to you,  
broke it, and gave it to them,  
saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it:  
this is my body which is given for you."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine,  
said the blessing, gave it to his friends,  
and said, "Drink this, all of you:  
this is the cup of my blood,  
the blood of the new and eternal covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many,  
so that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in memory of me."

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Gracious God,  
with this bread and wine  
we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus,  
and we offer ourselves to you in him.

Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts,  
that we may know the presence of Jesus  
in the breaking of bread,  
and share in the life  
of the family of your children.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Creator, you call us to be your servants;  
fill us with the courage and love of Jesus,  
that all the world may gather in joy  
at the table of your kingdom.

We sing your praise, almighty Creator,  
through Jesus, our Lord,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.

**Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

*Please feel free to use the language of your choice*

**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 Breaking of the Bread**

God of promise,  
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

**Happy are those who are called  
to the supper of the Lamb.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Communion**

*During Communion, Rev. Simone & Rev. Caz will come to you with the bread and wine. If you are unable to receive the wheat wafer, a rice wafer is also available; please indicate this. If you prefer not to receive the wine, please cross your arms over your chest.*

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**O Day of Peace** | *Carl P. Daw Jr.*

O day of peace that dimly shines  
through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,  
guide us to justice, truth, and love,  
delivered from our selfish schemes.

May swords of hate fall from our hands,  
our hearts from envy find release,  
till by God's grace our warring world  
shall see Christ's promised land of peace.

Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,  
nor shall the fierce devour the small;  
as beasts and cattle calmly graze,  
a little child shall lead them all.

Then enemies shall learn to love,  
all creatures find their true accord;  
the hope of peace shall be fulfilled,  
for all the earth shall know the Lord

**We Are Sent**

**Closing Prayer**

Let us pray.

*We pray silently.*

Merciful God,  
**may this eucharist free us from our sins,  
fill us with unending joy,**

and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,  
who is Lord now and for ever. Amen.

Glory to God,  
whose power, working in us can do infinitely more  
than we can ask or imagine.  
Glory to God, from generation to generation  
in the Church and in Christ Jesus,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## **Community Announcements**

### **Blessing**

#### **Come Thou Long Expected Jesus** | *Wesley*

Come, thou long expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free  
from our fears and wrongs release us,  
let us find our rest in thee.

Be our strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a King,  
born to help us love each other  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit  
dwell in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient goodness,  
guide us to thy glorious home

### **Sending**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **After the Service**

*When the service ends, please join us for coffee hour to catch up with folks. We know it's tempting to hug and get close, but please continue to wear a mask and maintain distancing when chatting with others.*

## Announcements

### **Christmas Carol Sing-Along, Dec. 19 at 4pm**

Take some comfort and joy in the season of Advent by joining us for our annual Christmas Carol Sing-Along on **Sunday, December 19 at 4 pm**. Lift your voices on Zoom, [Facebook Live](#), or in-person; a freewill offering will benefit Centre 454.

**Zoom:** Email [info@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto:info@stalbanschurch.ca) for a link

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/saintalbans>

**In-Person Registration:** details soon!

### **Monthly Resilience Zoom Check-in**

The Resilience Check-In Group meets next on **Monday, December 13** at 3pm. Connect with Mary-Martha at [mmhale65@gmail.com](mailto:mmhale65@gmail.com) for the Zoom link.

### **St. Albans Advent Study Group**

#### **Wraps up this Thursday**

How is God revealed? What does renewal look like?

Led by the Rev. Dr. Caz Ducros, This St. Albans study group continues to unpack N. T. Wright's *God in the Pandemic: A Christian Reflection on the Coronavirus*, for Advent. Join us for the final session on Zoom, this Thursday, Dec. 16 at 7:30pm.

**Questions?** Want to take part? Email [Rev. Caz at revcaz@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto:Rev.Caz@stalbanschurch.ca)

### **Thursdays: Morning Prayer/Bible Study**

Each Thursday at 9 am, this congenial study group meets on Zoom to pray and to study the readings for the upcoming Sunday. A lovely way to start the day! **Zoom link:** <https://bit.ly/3k7yekT> **Meeting ID:** 821 0277 5595 **Passcode:** 574469

## **St. Albans Year End**

### **End of Year Financial Update**

The end of the calendar year means preparing for Christmas, but it also means taking stock of where we're at financially. St Albans set a goal of \$185,000 in givings in its 2021 budget. Our current givings are at approximately \$130,000. Although a decrease in givings is normal when a change of leadership happens, we really hope to make this gap smaller between now and December 31.

Our major expenses are related to our building and our staff salaries, as well as the purchase and repair of technological equipment which allows us to continue offering hybrid services. Any and every amount helps, so please add St Albans to your Christmas list this year.

To donate, visit [www.stalbanschurch.ca/connect/donations](http://www.stalbanschurch.ca/connect/donations).

### **Eligibility for 2021 Charitable Tax Receipts**

To receive a charitable tax receipt for 2021, your offerings by cash, credit card, or e-transfer must be received before midnight on December 31. Don't miss out!

### **Paper Tax Receipts**

By and large, St. Albans envelope secretary, Brian Herron, issues its charitable tax receipts electronically, which saves clerical time and postage.

That said, if you prefer to receive a paper receipt via Canada Post, Brian will happily provide one! You can contact him at [donations@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto:donations@stalbanschurch.ca).

### **2021 Expense Reimbursements**

Are you owed a reimbursement for a 2021 expense incurred on behalf of the church? If yes, please submit your request for reimbursement as soon as possible, and certainly before December 31. Contact Annie at [office@churchoftheascension.ca](mailto:office@churchoftheascension.ca) if you have questions or need a form.

**St. Albans Annual  
Christmas Carol  
Sing-Along**

**on Zoom and  
Facebook**

**Sunday, Dec. 19  
at 4pm**

**Freewill offering  
benefits Centre 454**



**St. Albans Contacts**

The Rev. Simone Hurkmans, Incumbent  
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The Rev. Dr. Caroline (Caz) Ducros, Assistant Curate  
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Nick Busch, Online Coordinator  
[nick@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto:nick@stalbanschurch.ca)

## **Christmas at St. Albans**

### **Sunday, December 19**

4pm Carol Service and 454 Benefit; Zoom and in-person

### **Christmas Eve**

4pm St-Bernard Veille de Noël, en personne et sur Zoom

7pm Intergenerational Eucharist, Zoom and in-person

9pm Candlelight Eucharist, livestream and in-person

### **Christmas Day**

9am Service of the Word, on Zoom only

### **Christmas 1, December 26**

10:30am Holy Eucharist, livestream or in-person at  
Christ Church Cathedral, 414 Sparks St.

### **Epiphany, January 2**

10am Holy Eucharist

12h00 St-Bernard Eucharistie en français



**ST ALBANS**

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### **Church Administration Hours**

W and F, 10 – 4