

December 24, 2021  
at 9:00 p.m.

# The Booklet

Christmas Eve  
A Service of the Word

*Livestreaming on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/saintalbans](https://www.facebook.com/saintalbans),  
or on Youtube at  
[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 9 pm Christmas Eve Livestream!  
We're so glad you've joined us.

Our service is livestreamed on [www.facebook.com/saintalbans](https://www.facebook.com/saintalbans)  
and on YouTube at  
[www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA).

We welcome your full participation: Please let us know you are with us by 'liking' the stream or sharing some comments!

## **Sunday Worship**

On Sundays, our services are livestreamed at 10 am on  
[www.facebook.com/saintalbans](https://www.facebook.com/saintalbans) and  
[http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA)

## **Supporting St. Albans**

If you would like to make an offering to support St. Albans financially, you can donate by:

- **e-transfer** to [donate@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto:donate@stalbanschurch.ca) (use 'StAlbans' as the answer to the security question); or
- **credit card**, at [stalbanschurch.ca/connect/donations](https://stalbanschurch.ca/connect/donations) (via CanadaHelps).

To receive a tax receipt, please include your name and address.  
Thank you!

## **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.

**And also with you.**

## **Joy to the World**

*George Frideric Handel, Lowell Mason*

Joy to the world, the Lord has come  
Let earth receive her King  
Let every heart prepare him room  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns  
Let men their songs employ  
While fields and floods  
Rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love  
And wonders of his love  
And wonders of his love

## **The Christ Candle – Christmas**

The waiting is over.

**The dreaming has given birth to a new reality.**

The source of our healing has come near.

**God's promise has been fulfilled.**

The Advent candles are all lit, forming a circle of light that reminds us of God's never-ending love.

**Now we light the Christ candle, remembering that Jesus is in our midst, today and always.**

*the Christ Candle is lit*

**Thank you, God, for coming to be with us in the form of Jesus. We rejoice that he lived as one of us, knew our joys and sorrows, our pains and hopes and dreams. As he came to show your love to us, help us to show your love to others all the year through.**

**Amen.**

Let us pray.

*we pray silently.*

Eternal God,  
**this holy night is radiant  
with the brilliance of your one true light.**

As we have known  
**the revelation of that light on earth,  
bring us to see the splendour of your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.**

**Amen.**

## We Proclaim the Word

### The First Reading | *Isaiah 62:6-12*

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,  
I have posted sentinels;  
all day and all night  
they shall never be silent.

You who remind the Lord,  
take no rest, and give him no rest  
until he establishes Jerusalem  
and makes it renowned throughout the earth.

The Lord has sworn by his right hand  
and by his mighty arm:  
I will not again give your grain  
to be food for your enemies,  
and foreigners shall not drink the wine  
for which you have labored;  
but those who garner it shall eat it  
and praise the Lord,  
and those who gather it shall drink it  
in my holy courts.

Go through, go through the gates,  
prepare the way for the people;  
build up, build up the highway,  
clear it of stones,  
lift up an ensign over the peoples.

The Lord has proclaimed  
to the end of the earth:  
Say to daughter Zion,  
“See, your salvation comes;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.”

They shall be called, “The Holy People,  
The Redeemed of the Lord”;  
and you shall be called, “Sought Out,  
A City Not Forsaken.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 97

The Lord reigns; let the earth rejoice;  
**let the multitude of the isles be glad.**

Clouds and darkness are round about you, O Lord;  
**righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne.**

A fire goes before you  
**and burns up your enemies on every side.**

Your lightnings light up the world;  
**the earth sees it and is afraid.**

The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord,  
**at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.**

The heavens declare your righteousness,  
**and all the peoples see your glory.**

Confounded be all who worship carved images  
and delight in false gods!

**Bow down before the Lord, all you gods.**

Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,  
**because of your judgements, O Lord.**

For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth;  
**you are exalted far above all gods.**

The Lord loves those who hate evil,  
**preserving the lives of the saints**  
**and delivering them from the hand of the wicked.**

Light has sprung up for the righteous,  
**and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.**

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous,  
and give thanks to the holy name of the Lord.

**The Second Reading | Titus 3:4-7**

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Winter Song | Sara Bareilles, Ingrid Michaelson**

This is my winter song to you.

The storm is coming soon,

It rolls in from the sea

My voice; a beacon in the night.

My words will be your light,

To carry you to me.

Is love alive?

Is love alive?

Is love

They say that things just cannot grow

Beneath the winter snow,

Or so I have been told.

They say were buried far,

Just like a distant star

I simply cannot hold.

Is love alive?

Is love alive?

Is love alive?

This is my winter song.

December never felt so wrong,

'Cause you're not where you belong;

Inside my arms.

Bum bum bum bum bum bum bum

Bum bum bum bum bum

Bum bum bum bum bum

I still believe in summer days.

The seasons always change

And life will find a way.

I'll be your harvester of light

And send it out tonight

So we can start again.

Is love alive?

Is love alive?

Is love alive?

This is my winter song.

December never felt so wrong,

'Cause you're not where you belong;

Inside my arms.

This is my winter song to you.

The storm is coming soon

It rolls in from the sea.

My love a beacon in the night.

My words will be your light

To carry you to me.

Is love alive?  
Is love alive?  
Is love alive? (repeat)

### **The Gospel | Luke 2:1-20**

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.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of Christ

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

**Homily** | *The Rev. Simone Hurkmans*

### **The Nicene Creed**

Let us confess our faith, as we say,  
**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.  
With the Father and the Son  
he is worshipped and glorified.  
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.

### **Prayers of the People**

*A musical offering by Nicholas Busch*

### **The Peace**

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.*

## **O Holy Night**

*Translator: John S. Dwight; Author: Placide Cappeau*

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining;  
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope- the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!  
O night, divine, O night, O night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,  
With glowing hearts by his cradle we stand.  
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,  
Here came the Wise Men from a distant land.  
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger,  
In all our trials born to be our Friend.  
He knows our need – to our weakness is no stranger.

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!  
O night, divine, O night, O night divine!

Truly he taught us to love one another;  
His law is love and his gospel is peace.  
Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother,  
And in his name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we;  
Let all within us praise his holy name.

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!  
O night, divine, O night, O night divine!

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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.

## **We Are Sent**

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

## **Blessing**

### **Silent Night | Translator: J. Freeman Young, Joseph Mohr**

Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth

### **Sending**

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

## **St. Albans Worship**

On Sundays, our services are livestreamed at 10 am on  
[www.facebook.com/saintalbans](https://www.facebook.com/saintalbans) and  
[http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA)

We also have a **French-language service** every Sunday at 12h00 at  
[www.facebook.com/CommunauteStBernard](https://www.facebook.com/CommunauteStBernard).

## **St. Albans Contacts**

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## **St. Albans Church**

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*Church Administration Hours  
W and F, 10 - 4*

# CHRISTMAS *at St. Albans Church*

**Sunday, December 19**

4pm      Carol Service and 454 Benefit on Zoom,  
[Facebook Live](#), and [YouTube](#)

**Christmas Eve**

- 16h00    St-Bernard Veille de Noël  
diffusée en direct sur  
[Facebook Live](#) et [YouTube](#)
- 7pm      Intergenerational  
Service on Zoom  
([email](#) for the link)
- 9pm      Traditional Service on  
[Facebook Live](#) and [YouTube](#)
- 10am     **Christmas Day**  
Service of the Word  
on Zoom ([email](#) for the link)

**Christmas I, December 26**

- 10:30am   Holy Eucharist Livestream  
from Christ Church Cathedral,  
on [Youtube](#) and [Facebook](#)

**Epiphany, January 2**

- 10am     Worship Service on [Facebook Live](#) and [YouTube](#)
- 12h00    St-Bernard Eucharistie en français sur Zoom  
et [Facebook Live](#)

