

December 11, 2022  
at 10:00 a.m.

# The Booklet

The 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 to St Albans Church!**

*We welcome all people, no matter their age, ability, gender, cultural background, sexual orientation, income level or faith tradition to join us as we seek to deepen our relationship with God and each other. Together we're exploring how we are called to serve in the world, right here in downtown Ottawa.*

*During the service, if you are a breastfeeding parent, you are welcome to breastfeed where you are seated or anywhere else in the church, as you feel comfortable.*

*We continue to recommend wearing a mask at all times other than when receiving communion, eating/drinking, or speaking into a microphone.*

*Join us online via livestream at [www.facebook.com/saintalbens](https://www.facebook.com/saintalbens) or [www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA).*

## **About this booklet**

*This booklet is your guide to our worship. You're going to experience and participate in worship through music, prayer, readings, reflections and silence. Every time it's your turn to say or do something, you'll see it here in this booklet (usually in bold). If there are surprises, or you have questions, ask a neighbour.*

## **Participation**

*Our hope is that everyone gathered will feel able participate in our worship this morning. At various points in the service we may suggest certain postures. But please feel free to adopt whatever posture (standing, sitting, kneeling) is appropriate for you at any time. If you would like to do some sketching or writing during the service, you are most welcome – at the back of the church is our Art Cart, stocked with books and art supplies. The books are communal so please date your work, no need to sign it, but the Art Books will become over time an anthology of our collective experience.*

## ***Welcome***

### ***Land Acknowledgement***

St. Albans 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, the love of God and the communion 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.**

### ***Lighting of the Advent Wreath***

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world.

Those who follow me will not walk in darkness,  
but will have the light of life."

**Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly.**

Source of all light,

send your Son Jesus Christ to shine in our dark world.

Help us to prepare our hearts to receive him

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **Nothing Else Matters | Metallica**

So close, no matter how far  
Couldn't be much more from the heart  
Forever trusting who we are  
And nothing else matters

Never opened myself this way  
Life is ours, we live it our way  
All these words, I don't just say  
And nothing else matters

Trust I seek and I find in you  
Every day for us something new  
Open mind for a different view  
And nothing else matters

Never cared for what they do  
Never cared for what they know  
But I know

So close, no matter how far  
It couldn't be much more from the heart  
Forever trusting who we are  
And nothing else matters

Never cared for what they do  
Never cared for what they know  
But I know

I never opened myself this way  
Life is ours, we live it our way  
All these words, I don't just say

And nothing else matters

Trust I seek and I find in you  
Every day for us something new  
Open mind for a different view  
And nothing else matters

Never cared for what they say  
Never cared for games they play  
Never cared for what they do  
Never cared for what they know  
And I know, yeah, yeah

So close, no matter how far  
Couldn't be much more from the heart  
Forever trusting who we are  
No, nothing else matters

***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: Isaiah 35:1-10**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Canticle - Luke 1:47-55**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;  
for God has looked with favour on a lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is God's name.

The Lord has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.  
God has shown strength,  
and has scattered the proud in their conceit.

The Lord has cast down the mighty from their thrones,  
and has lifted up the lowly.

God has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich have been sent away empty.

The Lord has come to the help of Israel,  
for God has remembered the promise of mercy,  
the promise made to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

### **The Second Reading: James 5:7-10**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Behold | Mission House (Natalie Taylor Leonhardt)**

The empty filled, the wounded healed  
The broken back together  
The poor are blessed, the weary rest  
We will dance forever

The blinded see, the chained are free  
The doubtful now believer  
The outcast known, the orphan home  
You are my Redeemer

Behold, behold, behold what love can do  
Behold, behold; He's making all things new

The lost return, the voiceless heard  
The mourner now rejoicing  
The mountains shake, the world awake  
Creation all composing

The sad untrue, the earth renewed  
The song has found its singer  
The darkness light, the dead alive  
You are my Redeemer

Behold, behold, behold what love can do  
Behold, behold; He's making all things new

We've been struck down, we're not destroyed  
We've sown in tears, we'll reap in joy  
We've been struck down, we're not destroyed  
We've sown in tears, we'll reap in joy  
My eyes are open  
Behold, behold, behold what love can do  
Behold, behold; God's making all things new

**The Gospel:** Matthew 11:2-11

Le Seigneur soit avec vous. The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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

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

*The Gospel is read*

The Gospel of Christ

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

**Homily** | Rev. Michael

*We say the Apostles Creed to affirm our faith using words of the ancient church*

**I believe in God,  
the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again  
to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### ***Prayers of the People***

#### ***Confession and Absolution***

*In our time of confession we recognize our need for reconciliation with God and with each other. In response to our need God embraces us and calls us beloved.*

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

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.*

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 in church, 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). If you'd prefer to give in person, please place your offering in the plate as it passes by you. To receive an electronic tax receipt, please provide your postal address and email. Thank you! As well, if you would like to be on our mail or email list, or have any other questions or requests, please feel free to place a written note on the offering plate when it is circulated, speak to a fellow congregation member, or send an email to [office@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto:office@stalbanschurch.ca)*

**The Love of God** | Frederick Lehman

The love of God is greater far

Than tongue or pen can ever tell

It goes beyond the highest star  
And reaches to the lowest hell  
The guilty pair bowed down with care  
God gave His Son to win  
His erring child He reconciled  
And pardoned from their sin

O love of God, how rich and pure  
How measureless and strong  
It shall forevermore endure  
The saints' and angels' song

Could we with ink the ocean fill  
And were the skies of parchment made  
Were every tree on earth a quill  
And everyone a scribe by trade  
To write the love of God above  
Would drain the ocean dry  
Nor could the scroll contain the whole  
Though stretched from sky to sky

O love of God, how rich and pure  
How measureless and strong  
It shall forevermore endure  
The saints' and angels' song

***Prayer over the Gifts***

God of abundance,  
we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation,  
and with them our very lives.  
Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need  
until the coming of your Son, our Saviour and Lord.

**Amen.**

## ***Eucharistic Prayer***

May God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, gracious God,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
we give you thanks and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh,  
and opened to us the way of salvation.

Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing.

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.

**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. X2**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth of your glory are full.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. X2**

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love

you have made known to us in creation;  
in calling Israel to be your people;  
in your Word spoken through the prophets;  
and above all in the Word made flesh,  
Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him  
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.  
In him, you have delivered us from evil,  
and made us worthy to stand before you.  
In him, you have brought us  
out of error into truth,  
out of sin into righteousness,  
out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death,  
a death he freely accepted,  
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, God, according to his command,  
**we remember his death,**  
**we proclaim his resurrection,**  
**we await his coming in glory;**  
and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving  
to you, Lord of all;  
presenting to you, from your creation,  
this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God,  
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,  
that they may be the sacrament  
of the body of Christ  
and his blood of the new covenant.  
Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,  
that we, made acceptable in him,  
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time,  
reconcile all things in Christ,  
and make them new,  
and bring us to that city of light  
where you dwell with all your children;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
the firstborn of all creation,  
the head of the Church,  
and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

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

**Our Father (Creator) 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***

*At St Albans, all are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.  
Communion is received in a series of semi-circles at the front of the church.  
Please cross your arms over your chest if you would prefer to receive a  
blessing instead of the bread and/or wine. Please also indicate if you would  
prefer to receive a rice wafer instead of a wheat wafer.*

## **Breathe** | Marie Barnett

This is the air I breathe  
This is the air I breathe  
Your holy presence  
Living in me

And I, I'm desperate for You  
And I, I'm lost without You  
Oh, I'm lost without You  
I'm lost without You

You are my daily bread  
This is my daily bread  
This is my daily bread  
Your very Word  
Spoken to me

This is my daily bread  
Oh, You are  
This is my daily bread  
Your very Word  
Spoken to me

## **We Are Sent**

### ***Prayer after Communion***

Let us pray.

*We pray silently.*

God for whom we wait,  
**in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day  
when the hungry will be fed with good things.  
Send us forth to make known your deeds  
and to proclaim the greatness of your name,  
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. 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** | Charles Wesley

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's 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 reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit,  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

#### ***Sending***

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

## Announcements

**Wednesday Bible Study** - is taking a pause for the month of December and will start again the first Wednesday in January at 8:30 am. For more information on joining this dynamic group please reach out to Rev. Michael.

**Thursdays – Morning Prayer (8am)** - We will continue 30 week journey together praying through the book of Psalms. We will go live on Facebook and YouTube at 8am on Thursdays, but please join us whenever you can (the video will be on both FB and YouTube) to listen to and pray the words of the book of Psalms as we discern the future of our Parish.

**Watch Parties!** – Are you a member of the online St. Albans community? For both the December 18<sup>th</sup> 10am service and the 4pm Christmas eve service we will be holding a watch party on Zoom. So come and join fellow congregation members on Zoom. For more information please contact Rev Michael.

***Zoom link for Watch Party:***

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84338482913?pwd=ZFlvNWNhNVJoU0hhMmlvN0hVdzZPQT09>

Meeting ID: 843 3848 2913

Passcode: 400418

**Christmas Eve** – This year we are holding one Christmas Eve service – at 4pm. The Service will be held with our friends at St. Bernard. As such the service will be bilingual, and our Liturgy Club will be presenting a pageant. Please plan to come and join us, in person or online.

**Christmas Day** – We are not holding a Christmas Day service at St. Albans this year, those who are wishing to go to church on Christmas morning are invited to join our diocesan church at Christ Church Cathedral.

**Parish List!** – If you have joined the congregation in the last two or so years, or any of your contact information has changed in that time, please email

[office@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto:office@stalbanschurch.ca) to have your information updated on our list. We would like any of the following: your name, pronouns, email, mailing address, and phone number. This info is kept confidential among Priest and Wardens and is occasionally used by the pastoral care team on an as needed basis. The information is helpful to keep basic statistics on the parish, and is useful so we can keep in contact with you.

### **St. Albans Staff**

The Rev. Michael Garner [revmichael@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto:revmichael@stalbanschurch.ca)

In the event of a **pastoral emergency** please call Rev. Michael 613-797-9802

El Posthuma, Youth and Children's Leader [el@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto:el@stalbanschurch.ca)

Church Administration [office@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto:office@stalbanschurch.ca)

### **St. Albans Wardens**

Michelle Sorenson, Warden [michelle.sorenson@ualberta.ca](mailto:michelle.sorenson@ualberta.ca)

Robyn Sulkko, Warden [robynsulkko@hotmail.com](mailto:robynsulkko@hotmail.com)

### **St. Albans Church**

454 King Edward Ave at Daly

Ottawa, ON K1N 7M8

613-236-0342

[office@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto:office@stalbanschurch.ca)

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



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