

December 18, 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/UCdwV9f](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f0lmc4ymXD16YdNUBA)*

*[0lmc4ymXD16YdNUBA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f0lmc4ymXD16YdNUBA)*



**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/saintalbans](https://www.facebook.com/saintalbans) 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.**

## **Rainbow | Kasey Musgraves**

When it rains, it pours

But you didn't even notice it ain't rainin'  
anymore

It's hard to breathe when all you know is

The struggle of stayin' above the risin' water  
line

Well, the sky has finally opened

The rain and wind stopped blowin'

But you're stuck out in the same ol' storm  
again

You hold tight to your umbrella  
Well, darlin', I'm just tryin' to tell ya  
That there's always been a rainbow hangin'  
over your head

If you could see what I see, you'd be blinded  
by the colors

Yellow, red, and orange, and green, and at  
least a million others

So tie up the bow, take off your coat, and  
take a look around

'Cause the sky has finally opened  
The rain and wind stopped blowin'  
But you're stuck out in the same ol' storm  
again

You hold tight to your umbrella  
Well, darlin', I'm just tryin' to tell ya  
That there's always been a rainbow hangin'  
over your head

Oh, tie up the bow, take off your coat, and  
take a look around  
Everything is alright now

'Cause the sky has finally opened  
The rain and wind stopped blowin'  
But you're stuck out in the same ol' storm  
again  
Let go of your umbrella  
'Cause, darlin', I'm just trying to tell ya  
That there's always been a rainbow hangin'  
over your head

Yeah, there's always been a rainbow  
hangin' over your head  
Mm, mm, mm  
It'll all be alright

### ***Collect of the Day***

Let us pray.

*We pray silently.*



God of grace,  
give us the faith of Joseph to see the Spirit's work  
where the world sees only shame; to listen to the  
promise  
and to awaken to the cry of life renewed and love  
reborn;  
through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. **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 7:10-16**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalms 80:1-7,16-18**

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;

shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and  
Manasseh,**

**stir up your strength and come to help us.**

Restore us, O God of hosts;

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be  
saved.

**O Lord God of hosts,**

**how long will you be angered despite the prayers  
of your people?**

You have fed them with the bread of tears;

you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

**You have made us the derision of our neighbours,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

Restore us, O God of hosts;

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be  
saved.

**They burn it with fire like rubbish;**

**at the rebuke of your countenance let them perish.**

Let your hand be upon the one at your side in  
honour, the one you have made so strong for  
yourself.

**And so will we never turn away from you;**

**give us life, that we may call upon your name.**

## **The Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Behold|** Mission House

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 (behold), behold (behold)  
Behold what love can do  
Behold (behold), behold (behold)

He's making all things new

**The Gospel:** Matthew 1:18-25

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)

## **House of God Forever | Jon Foreman**

God is my shepherd

I won't be wanting, I won't be wanting

He makes me rest

In fields of green, with quiet streams

Even though I walk

Through the valley, of death and dying

I will not fear

'Cause You are with me, You are with me

Your shepherd's staff comforts me

You are my feast in the presence of enemies

Surely goodness will follow me, follow me

In the house of God forever

God is my shepherd

I won't be wanting, I won't be wanting

He makes me rest

In fields of green, by quiet streams

Even while I'm walking

Through the valley, of death and dying  
I will not fear  
'Cause You are with me, You're always with me

Your shepherd's staff comforts me  
You are my feast in the presence of enemies  
Surely goodness will follow me, follow me  
In the house of God forever  
In the house of God forever  
In the house of God forever

### ***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.*

**It is Well** | Horatio G. Spafford

When peace like a river, attendeth my way  
When sorrows like sea billows roll  
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say  
It is well, it is well, with my soul

It is well  
With my soul  
It is well, it is well with my soul

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should  
come  
Let this blest assurance control  
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate  
And hath shed His own blood for my soul

It is well (it is well)  
With my soul (with my soul)  
It is well, it is well with my soul

My sin, oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!  
My sin, not in part but the whole  
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, o my soul!

It is well (it is well)  
With my soul (with my soul)  
It is well, it is well with my soul

**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***

**Raise Up | Semler**

Bring me your weak and weary  
Bring me your strange and cold  
I come for hope and healing  
That you won't feel alone

So, raise up, raise up, raise up  
So, raise up, raise up  
So, raise up, raise up, raise up  
I have told you that

I am the way and the truth and the life

I'm justice, I'm all that is right  
Carry on now, carry on  
Carry on now

And there's a galaxy behind your eyelids  
And there's a war in your house  
And there's a meaning that is far beyond us  
And there is courage in doubt

So, raise up, raise up, raise up  
So, raise up, raise up  
So, raise up, raise up, raise up  
I have told you that

I am the way and the truth and the life  
I'm justice, I'm all that is right  
Carry on now, carry on  
Carry on now

So, raise up, raise up, raise up (I'm justice,  
I'm all that is right)  
So, raise up, raise up (carry on now, carry  
on)

So, raise up, raise up, raise up  
I have told you that (carry on now)

I am the way and the truth and the life  
I'm justice, I'm all that is right  
Carry on now, carry on  
Carry on now

And I am the way and the truth and the life  
I am mystery, the day, and the night  
Carry on now, carry on  
Carry on now

So, raise up, raise up, raise up  
So, raise up, raise up  
So, raise up, raise up, raise up  
So, raise up, raise up

### ***Sending***

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

### **Announcements**

**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=ZFlvNWVhNVJoU0hhMmlvN0hVdzZPQT09>

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.



## **St. Albans Staff**

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