

January 15, 2023
at 10:00 a.m.

The Booklet

Second Sunday after the Epiphany
A Celebration of Holy Eucharist

Livestream the service at

www.facebook.com/saintalbans or

www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f

[01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=01mc4ymXD16YdNUBA)



ST ALBANS

Spirit-Led. Christ-Centred. Contemporary Urban Church

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 or 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

Dear friends, we gather on traditional Anishinaabe Algonquin territory.

May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

In a spirit of reconciliation, may we always seek to respect the history, spirituality, and culture of First Nations, Metis, and Inuit.

May we do all in our power to support all efforts to establish an equal presence on this land.

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.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling | Charles Wesley

Love divine, all loves excelling

Joy of heaven to earth come down

Fix in us thy humble dwelling

All thy faithful mercies crown

Jesus, Thou art all compassion

Pure unbounded love Thou art

Visit us with Thy salvation

Enter every trembling heart

Come, Almighty to deliver
Let us all Thy grace receive
Suddenly return and never
Never more Thy temples leave
Thee we would be always blessing
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing
Glory in Thy perfect love

Finish, then, Thy new creation
Pure and spotless let us be
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee
Changed from glory into glory
Till in heaven we take our place
Till we cast our crowns before Thee
Lost in wonder, love, and praise

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

We pray silently.

Steadfast God,
you have enriched and enlightened us
by the revelation of your eternal Christ.
Strengthen us to walk the path of his teaching,
so that by word and deed and in the power of the Spirit
we may manifest the gracious news of your faithfulness and love.
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 49:1-7

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 40:1-12

I waited patiently upon the Lord who stooped to me and heard my cry.

God lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the mire and clay, and set my feet on a high cliff and made my footing sure.

God put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust in the Lord.

Happy are they who trust in the Lord! they do not resort to evil spirits or turn to false gods.

Great things are they that you have done, O Lord my God! how great your wonders and your plans for us! There is none who can be compared with you. Oh, that I could make them known and tell them, but they are more than I can count.

In sacrifice and offering you take no pleasure (you have given me ears to hear you); burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.

And so I said, "Behold, I come. In the roll of the book it is written concerning me:

'I love to do your will, O my God; your law is deep within my heart.'"

I proclaimed righteousness in the great congregation; behold, I did not restrain my lips; and that, O Lord, you know.

Your righteousness have I not hidden in my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your deliverance; I have not concealed your love and faithfulness from the great congregation.

You are the Lord; do not withhold your compassion from me; let your love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.

For innumerable troubles have crowded upon me; my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see; they are more in number than the hairs of my head, and my heart fails me.

The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For | U2

I have climbed the highest mountains

I have run through the fields

Only to be with you

Only to be with you

I have run, I have crawled

I have scaled these city walls

These city walls

Only to be with you

But I still haven't found

What I'm looking for

But I still haven't found

What I'm looking for

I have kissed honey lips

Felt the healing in her fingertips

It burned like fire

This burning desire

I have spoke with the tongue of angels

I have held the hand of a devil

It was warm in the night

I was cold as a stone

But I still haven't found
What I'm looking for
But I still haven't found
What I'm looking for

I believe in the Kingdom Come
Then all the colours will bleed into one
Bleed into one
But yes, I'm still running

You broke the bonds and you loosed the chains
Carried the cross of my shame
Of my shame
You know I believe it

But I still haven't found what I'm looking for x4

The Gospel: John 1:29-42

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, or with a secure credit card donation at 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

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

Holy God, gracious and merciful,
you bring forth food from the earth
and nourish your whole creation.
Turn our hearts toward those
who hunger in any way,
so that all may know your care;
and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life,
Jesus Christ, 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.

Eternal God, Source of all being, we give you thanks and praise for your faithful love. You call us into friendship with you and one another to be your holy people, a sign of your presence in the world.

When those we trust betray us, unfailingly you remain with us. When we injure others, you confront us in your love and call us to the paths of righteousness. You stand with the weak, and those, broken and alone, whom you have always welcomed home, making the first last, and the last first. Therefore we raise our voices with angels and archangels, forever praising you and singing:

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

Blessed are you, O Holy One: when Hagar was driven into the wilderness you followed her and gave her hope. When Joseph was sold into bondage, you turned malice to your people's good. When you called Israel out of slavery, you brought them through the wilderness into the promised land. When your people were taken into exile you wept with them by the river of Babylon and carried them home.

Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

At the right time you sent your Anointed One to stand with the poor, the outcast, and the oppressed. Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them. He accepted water from a woman of Samaria and offered her the water of new life. Christ knew the desolation of the cross and opened the way for all humanity into the redemption of your reconciling love. On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and 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.”

Loving and Holy One, recalling Christ’s death and resurrection, we offer you these gifts, longing for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come. Therefore we proclaim our hope.

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts that through them you may sustain us in our hunger for your peace. We hold before you all whose lives are marked by suffering. When we are broken and cast aside, embrace us in your love.

Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O Source of all life, 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

We break the bread of life,

and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us, light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

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.

If It Be Your Will | Leonard Cohen

If it be your will that I speak no more
And my voice be still as it was before
I will speak no more; I shall abide until
I am spoken for
If it be your will

If it be your will that a voice be true
From this broken hill I will sing to you
From this broken hill all your praises they shall ring
If it be your will
To let me sing

If it be your will; If there is a choice
Let the rivers fill; let the hills rejoice
Let your mercy spill on these burning hearts in hell
If it be your will
To make us well

And to draw us near, and bind us tight

All your children here in their rags of light
In our rags of light, all dressed to kill
And end this night
If it be your will

We Are Sent

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

We pray silently.

God of abundance,

**with this bread of life and cup of salvation
you have united us with Christ,
making us one with all your people.**

**Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,
so that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue
forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our 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

All The Way Home | Larry Norman

Let this good life be the life I lead

Let my faith grow like a mustard seed

And let your love be all the love I need

To carry me all the way home.

This life is hard and the road is long that leads me
toward the light
Sometimes I trip and stumble in the night.
My mind becomes so weary I just wanna lay down
But I got to keep on going 'til I reach the higher ground.

Let this good life be the life I lead...

I've had my share of trouble as I've tried to walk this path
Sometimes it's been so hard I've had to laugh
I've spent so many years in sorrow, much of my life in pain
But that's just the way it is, you get the sunshine and the rain.

Let this good life be the life I lead...

Hoping to learn, every wrong turn is a step toward the past.
Going astray, losing my way, but I found it at last.

Let this good life be the life I lead...

Sending

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Wednesdays – Bible Study (830am) – Our Wednesday Morning Bible Study restarts next week on Zoom. We gather together to look at the readings for the upcoming Sunday. For more information contact Mary-Martha at mmhale65@gmail.com.

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.

Monthly Parish Meals - Starting in January our Parish will begin to hold monthly meals. The first meal will be held on January 23rd at 630pm at the church. Parishioners (and friends) are invited to come and join in some fellowship and time together. The food will be provided, with gluten free and vegetarian options. The meal may be followed by a time of discussion or another activity to be determined. If you know you are able to attend please drop the office email (office@stalbanschurch.ca) a note; if you don't know currently and the spirit moves you the day of, come, there will be food and friends to welcome you. Children are most welcome.

Quarterly Parties - After what was a successful Liturgical New Years Eve we plan to gather quarterly on a Saturday night. Our first quarterly party will be on February 11th starting at 7pm at the church. Spirit led drinks and snacks. This party we will be playing board games and cards. If you don't like playing games, there will surely be those who want to just hang out and chat.

Naloxone training - On a more serious note, on February 7th on Zoom at 7pm we will be gathering as a parish to do Naloxone training. Mark Barnes will be leading our training. Mark is a noted leader in the response to the opioid crisis and a pharmacist by training (<https://naloxonecare.com>). I want to encourage all parishioners to attend this extremely important training

that will allow all of us to exist more confidently in the reality of our neighbourhood.

Concert – St Albans is hosting [Mike Edel](#) in concert on the evening of February 5th. Doors open at 7, show starts at 8pm with our own Sarah Williams opening. This is a new foray of St. Albans hosting a curated concert as promoter. Come experience the space in a different way! Tickets are \$20 and \$15 for students. They are available at <https://www.showpass.com/me-ottawa-3/>.

St. Albans Staff

The Rev. Michael Garner 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

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