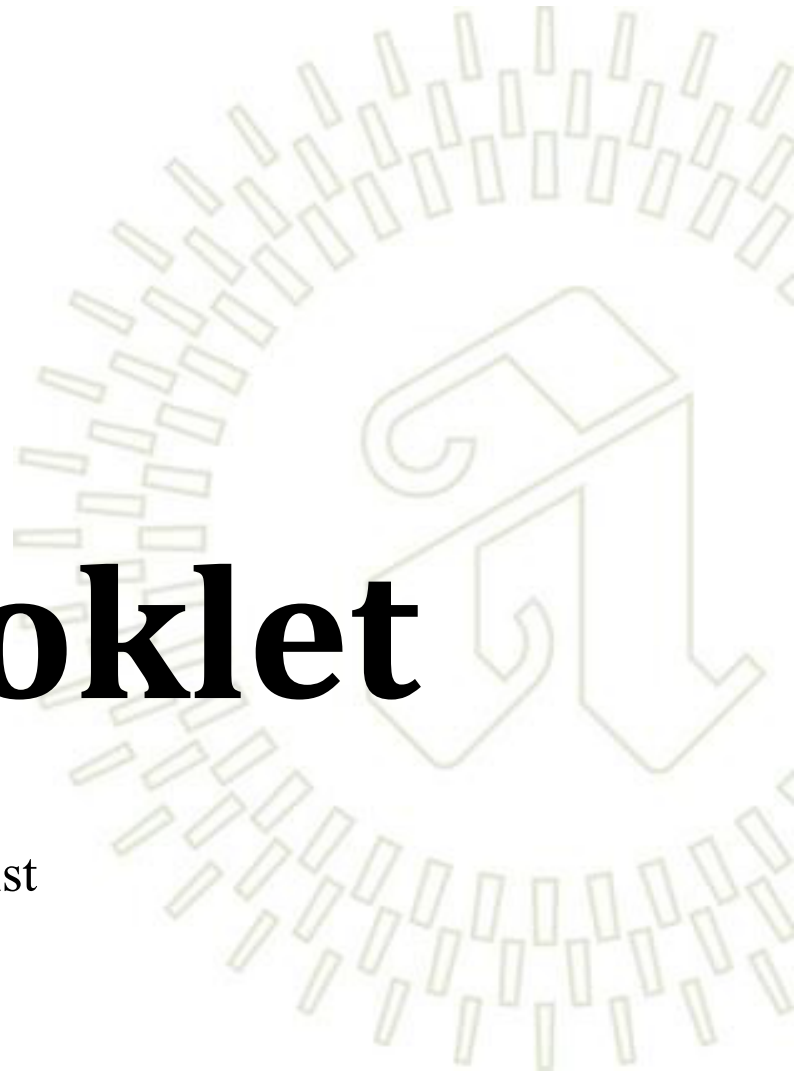


January 8, 2023
at 10:00 a.m.

The Booklet

Baptism of the Lord
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

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.

Night Has Passed | The Brilliance

Night has passed, and the day lies open

Night has passed, and the day lies open before
us

Let us pray with one heart and mind

Let us pray with one heart and mind

As we rejoice, as we rejoice

In the gift of this day, in the gift of this day

Morning comes with the light of Your presence

Morning comes with the light of Your presence
upon us

Let us pray with one heart and mind

Let us pray with one heart and mind

As we rejoice, as we rejoice

In the gift of this day, in the gift of this day

In the gift of this day, in the gift of this day

Morning has broken like the first morning

Blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the word

In the gift of this day, in the gift of this day
In the gift of this day, in the gift of this day

As we rejoice, as we rejoice
As we rejoice, as we rejoice

In the gift of this day, in the gift of this day
In the gift of this day, in the gift of this day

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

We pray silently.

God of glory,
immerse us in your grace,
mark us with your image,
and raise us to live our baptismal promises,
so that, empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we may follow the example of Christ

your beloved in whose name we pray. **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 42:1-9

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due the divine name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendour.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon,

and makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;

the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as sovereign for evermore.

The Lord shall give strength to this people; the Lord shall give this people the blessing of peace.

The Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Come Thou Fount | Robert Robinson

Come thou fount of every blessing

Tune my heart to sing Thy grace

Streams of mercy never ceasing

Call for songs of loudest praise

Teach me some melodious sonnet

Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of God's unchanging love

Here I raise my Ebenezer
Hither by Thy help I've come
And I hope by Thy good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wandering from the fold of God
He to rescue me from danger
Interposed His precious blood

Oh, to grace how great a debt
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy grace now like a fetter
Bind my wandering heart to Thee

Prone to wander, Lord I feel it
Prone to leave Thy God I love
Here's my heart, O take it, seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above

Prone to wander, Lord I feel it
Prone to leave Thy God I love
Here's my heart, O take it, seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above

Come thou fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of God's unchanging love

The Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

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

Crowded Table | The Highway Women

You can hold my hand

When you need to let go

I can be your mountain

When you're feeling valley-low

I can be your streetlight

Showing you the way home

You can hold my hand
When you need to let go

I want a house with a crowded table
And a place by the fire for everyone
Let us take on the world while we're young and able
And bring us back together when the day is done

If we want a garden
We're gonna have to sow the seed
Plant a little happiness
Let the roots run deep
If it's love that we give
Then it's love that we reap
If we want a garden
We're gonna have to sow the seed

Yeah I want a house with a crowded table
And a place by the fire for everyone
Let us take on the world while we're young and able
And bring us back together when the day is done

The door is always open

Your picture's on my wall
Everyone's a little broken
And everyone belongs
Yeah, everyone belongs

I want a house with a crowded table
And a place by the fire for everyone
Let us take on the world while we're young and able
And bring us back together when the day is done
And bring us back together when the day is done

Prayer over the Gifts

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, 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.

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 x 3

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

We'll All Be Free | William Matthews

There's a world at war
Caught in suffering
Silent casualties
Oh God, grant us peace

In these sleepless nights
I can hardly breath
Despite the brutality
I know that we'll be free
I know that we'll be free

Let the light in
Keep it shining
Let it break into the darkness
All the love dares us to see
We'll all be free

In these desperate times
Love will hold us here
Love will join our hands
Teach us to have no fear

So we lay our hate down
To wash their feet
When we see our brother
Oh, we'll all be free
Yes, we'll all be free

Let the light in
Keep it shining
Let it break into the darkness
All the love dares us to see
We'll all be free

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.

Christian Council of the Capital Area is offering an online Bible Study series starting Jan 17. It will be a 5-week series, not necessarily obligatory to follow all 5 sessions but it is meant to build on discussions about racial justice.

The facilitators will be lay and clergy leaders from various Christian traditions (Presbyterian, Baptist, Lutheran, Catholic, Mennonite, United Church). The poster for the study can be found [here](#).

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

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