April 23, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

The Booklet

Third Sunday of Easter A Celebration of Holy Eucharist

Livestream the service at www.facebook.com/saintalbans or

www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f
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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 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

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!** May his grace and peace be with you. **May he fill our hearts with joy.**

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.

With Every Breath | Christine Glass & Marc Byrd

Hallelujah from the heavens Hallelujah in the heights above the earth Hallelujah all the angels Hallelujah for the last will be first Let everything that has breath praise the Lord x2 Hallelujah in the morning Hallelujah for the beauty of God's scars Hallelujah in the twilight Hallelujah sun and moon and shining stars Let everything that has breath praise the Lord x2

When the night seems so long You can sing a new song When you're weak, God is strong They can heal your wounded soul And calm the storm inside

For all your times of laughter In every hopeful prayer When the world weighs on your shoulders Through sorrow and your despair With everything, with every breath, praise the Lord Let everything, let every breath praise the Lord x3

When the night is so long You can sing a new song When you're weak He is strong He can heal your wounded soul And calm the storm inside

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

We pray silently.

Lord of the gathering feast, you walk with us on the shadowed road: burn our hearts with Scripture's open flame; unveil our darkened eyes as bread is torn and shared, and from the broken fragments bless a people for yourself; through Jesus Christ, the host of the world. **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: Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Thanks be to God.

Ps 116:1-3, 10-17

I love the Lord who has heard the voice of my supplication,

who has listened to me whenever I called.

The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me; I came to grief and sorrow.

I believed, even when I said, "I have been brought very low."

In my distress I said, "No one can be trusted."

How shall I repay you, O Lord, for all the good things you have done for me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call upon your name.

I will fulfil my vows to the Lord in the presence of all the people.

Precious in your sight, O Lord is the death of your servants.

O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the Lord.

The Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

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 x3

The Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

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.

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 trust in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I trust 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 trust 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 <u>office@stalbanschurch.ca</u>

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, ruler of heaven and earth.

Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through 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.**

Holy God, Lover of creation,

we give you thanks and praise for in the ocean of your steadfast love you bear us and place the song of your Spirit in our hearts.

When we turn from your love and defile the earth, you do not abandon us. Your Spirit speaks through Huldah and Micah, through prophets, sages, and saints in every age, to confront our sin and reveal the vision of your new creation. Joining in the song of the universe we proclaim your glory 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

Gracious God, in the fullness of time you sent Jesus the Christ to share our fragile humanity. Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection you open the path from brokenness to health, from fear to trust, from pride and conceit to reverence for you.

Rejected by a world that could not bear the Gospel of life, Jesus knew death was near. His head anointed for burial by an unknown woman, Jesus gathered together those who loved him. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave you thanks, and said "Drink this all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

And now we gather at this table in response to his commandment, to share the bread and cup of Christ's undying love, and to proclaim our faith. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Breathe your Holy Spirit, the wisdom of the universe, upon these gifts that we bring to you: this bread, this cup, ourselves, our souls and bodies, that we may be signs of your love for all the world and ministers of your transforming purpose.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, Creator of all, and we bless your holy name for ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Please feel free to use the language of your choice. Our Creator (Father/Mother) 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
Lord, we died with you on the cross.
Now we are raised to new life.
We were buried in your tomb.
Now we share in your resurrection.
Live in us, that we may live in you.

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.

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

We Are Sent *Prayer after Communion* Let us pray.

We pray silently.

Author of life divine, in the breaking of bread we know the risen Lord. Feed us always in these mysteries, that we may show your glory to all the world. We ask this in the name 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 Shall Be Well | John Van Dusen thank you for the sun thank you for the moon thank you for the stars at night and the darkness too

bless you for your peace bless you for your grace bless you for your perfect love and your perfect ways

and all shall be well, all shall be well all manner of things shall be well

use me as you will remove my selfish pride create in me a servant's heart to bless your holy bride

and when my work is done and the seeds are sown please receive my spirit Lord and welcome me home and all shall be well, all shall be well all manner of things shall be well

Sending

Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Thanks be to God. Alleluia

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.

St. Albans Staff

The Rev. Michael Garner revmichael@stalbanschurch.ca Office Hours: Mondays 10am-1pm, Wednesday 9am-12noon In the event of a pastoral emergency please call Rev. Michael 613-797-9802 Church Administration <u>office@stalbanschurch.ca</u>

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