

April 30, 2023
at 10:00 a.m.

The Booklet

Good Shepherd Sunday - Fourth Sunday of Easter
A Celebration of Holy Eucharist

Livestream the service at

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

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

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.

I Know That My Redeemer Lives | Samuel Medley

I know that my Redeemer lives! What comfort this sweet sentence gives!

He lives, he lives, who once was dead; He lives, my everliving head!

He lives triumphant from the grave; He lives eternally to save;

He lives exalted, throned above He lives to rule his church in love

He lives to silence all my fears; He lives to wipe away my tears;

He lives to calm my troubled heart; He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives, and while I live I'll sing; He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

He lives, all glory to his name! He lives, my Saviour, still the same.
And what joy this blessed assurance gives: I know that my Redeemer lives!

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

We pray silently.

O God,
whose Son is the good shepherd,
send us out as shepherds to seek the lost,
to heal the injured and to nurture all with grace and compassion; through
Jesus, who calls each by name. **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 2:42-47

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

You make me lie down in green pastures and lead me beside still waters.

You revive my soul and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Abide With Me | Henry Francis Lyte

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide

The darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide

When other helpers fail and comforts flee

Help of the helpless abide with me

Thou on my head in early youth did smile

And though rebellious and perverse meanwhile

Thou hast not left me though I oft left Thee

On to the close, Lord, abide with me

I need Thy presence every passing hour

What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?

Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be

Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless

Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness

Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?

I triumph still, abide with me

Hold out Thy cross before my closing eyes

Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies

Thy morning breaks and earthly shadows flee
In life and death, Lord, abide with me

The Gospel: John 10:1-10

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

And also with you.

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

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 office@stalbanschurch.ca

Shepherd | CityAlight

Though I walk through the valley and I can't see the way
When the shadows surround me, I will not be afraid
For I know You are with me; You will always provide
Though the path may be lonely, you will stay by my side
I will rest my soul; I'll trust in You alone

For the Lord my Shepherd leads me, leads me
And He is all I need
In the darkest valley I know, I know
My Shepherd is all I need

Lord I know that You seek me when I'm trying to hide
And Your love it pursues me all the days of my life
I will rest my soul; I'll trust in You alone

For the Lord my Shepherd leads me, leads me
And He is all I need
In the darkest valley I know, I know
My Shepherd is all I need

I rest my soul in You alone
You light my way, You lead me on
I rest my soul in You alone
You light my way, You lead me on

For the Lord my Shepherd leads me, leads me
And He is all I need
In the darkest valley I know, I know
My Shepherd is all I need

Prayer over the Gifts

God of loving care,
you spread before us the table of life,

and give us the cup of salvation to drink.
Keep us always in the fold of your Son Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and our shepherd. **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.

The Lord is My Shepherd | Keith Green

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want,

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside the still waters,

He restoreth my soul,

And guides my path in righteousness

For His name's sake.

Surely goodness and loving kindness

Shall follow me all the days of my life.

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord,

Forever and ever and ever.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will not fear, Thou art with me.
Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me,
Thou preparest a table
Before me in the presence of my enemies.

Thou anointest my head with oil,
My cup's overflowing.

Surely goodness and loving kindness
Shall follow me all the days of my life.
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord,
Forever and ever and ever.

The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want.

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.

Commissioning Prayer

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
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.

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
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.

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
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.

Sending

Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia

Announcements

Thursdays – Morning Prayer (8am) – We finish 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

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