

October 8th, 2023
at 10:00 a.m.

The Booklet

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
A Celebration of Holy Eucharist

Livestream the service at

www.facebook.com/saintalbans or

www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD6YdNUBA



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.

If this is your first time at St. Albans welcome! 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, Michael our priest

revmichael@stalbanschurch.ca or send an email to our office office@stalbanschurch.ca

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.

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

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee | Traditional

Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You,
Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

All Your works with joy surround You,
Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays,
Stars and angels sing around You,
Center of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Praising You eternally!

Always giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Loving Father, Christ our Mother,
Let Your light upon us shine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

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, and the love of God, and the fellowship 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.

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

We pray silently.

God, our beloved,

you have set before us the goal of new life in Christ.

May we live in the power of his resurrection and bring forth the fruit of your gentle and loving rule. **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: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows the handiwork of the Lord.

One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.

Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard, **their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world.**

In the deep has God set a pavilion for the sun; it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent.

The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often they offend? Cleanse me from my secret faults.

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in your sight; O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

The Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Constellations | Ellie Holcomb

Once was a season of infinite light
When the distance from heaven was not far behind
I was close to You I was close to You

Carry me back to that moment in time
When the colors and fragments were beautifully bright
How I long for You How I long for You

'Cause out here in the dark
Underneath a canopy of stars
Constellations falling from Your heart
They tell me that I'm not alone
'Cause honestly, I'm so alone
Promise me I'm not alone

How many miles does my soul have to drive
Before love can collide with the mess in my life?
That's not hard for You That's not hard for You

'Cause You see through spectrums of darkness and light
But I'm losing my way, and I'm losing my mind
I can't see the truth Help me see the truth

'Cause out here in the dark
Underneath a canopy of stars
Constellations falling from Your heart
They tell me that I'm not alone

'Cause honestly, I'm so alone
But promise me I'm not alone, oh Promise me I'm not alone

When I felt the light of the moon on my face
The memory of sun that been shining for days
You've already been in this desolate place
You've already been here, and You've made a way
Pinpricks of glory strung out across the sky
Memories of darkness undone by the light
Reminding me You are right here by my side
You're here by my side You're here by my side

Out here in the dark
Underneath a canopy of stars
Constellations falling from Your heart
They tell me that I'm not alone
I know that I'm never alone
'Cause You find me and bring me back home
And I'm never alone, never alone
Never alone, never alone Never alone out here in the dark

The Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

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.

Liturgy Club Interview

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;
God welcomes humanity and invites them to this 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



Thank you for donating to the ministry of St. Albans! You may also make an offering via the collection plate, by e-transfer to donate@stalbanschurch.ca, or through Canada Helps or Paypal through the St. Albans Website - <https://stalbanschurch.ca/donate/>

I Need Thee Every Hour | Fernando Ortega

I need Thee every hour Most gracious Lord;
No tender voice like Thine Can peace afford
I need Thee, O I need Thee Every hour I need Thee!
O bless me now, Savior I come to Thee

I need Thee every hour Stay Thou near by;
Temptations lose their power When Thou art nigh
I need Thee, O I need Thee; Every hour I need Thee!
O bless me now, my Savior I come to Thee

I need Thee every hour In joy or pain;
Come quickly and abide Or life is vain
I need Thee, O I need Thee; Every hour I need Thee!
O bless me now, my Savior I come to Thee

Prayer over the Gifts

God of mercy and grace,
the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing.
Fill us with good things at your table, so that we may come to the help of all
in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer 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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

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.*

Crowded Table | The Highwomen

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

We Are Sent

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

We pray silently.

**We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life.
In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in trust toward you and in
fervent love toward one another; for the sake 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

May You Find a Light | Josh Garrels

Lost and weary traveler
Searchin' for the way to go
Stranger, heavy-hearted
Longin' for someone to know

May you find a light May you find a light
May you find a light to guide you home

There are weary travelers
Searchin' everywhere you go
Strangers who are searchin'
Longin' deeply to be known

May you find a light May you find a light
May you find a light to guide you home

May you find a light May you find a light
May you find a light to guide you home

Sending

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

Thanks be to God.

Thank you for coming to church today – if you have any questions or concerns or comments about the service, we want to hear from you
office@stalbanschurch.ca.

Announcements

Education Event - Our neighbourhood, Sandy Hill, faces all sorts of challenges that require us to work with partners and learn about some of these complexities. Wendy Stewart, the director of OASIS, will be joining us to speak about the reality of drug use in Sandy Hill, and the impact of Harm Reduction activities. Join us on Zoom on October 10th at 7pm. Please make time to join us for this important event.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84935208157?pwd=r5wg4mIMHXR9q2U5uJaj1h0ALrvd3I.1>

Meeting ID: 849 3520 8157 Passcode: 487220

Join us for our Fall retreat - Overnight retreat at the Galilee Centre, November 10th and 11th in Arnprior. If you are interested we would ask you

to speak to Michael or Jennifer Parr (jennifer@leadershipthatmatters.com).

St. Albans Staff

The Rev. Michael Garner revmichael@stalbanschurch.ca

Office Hours - on campus Déjà Vu 232B - 11am-1pm; open for connecting Wednesdays 9am-12noon. Available at other times by appointment.

In the event of a pastoral emergency please call Rev. Michael 613-797-9802
Church Administration office@stalbanschurch.ca

St. Albans Wardens

Michelle Sorenson, Warden - michelle.rg.sorenson@gmail.com

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