

November 12th, 2023
at 10:00 a.m.

The Booklet

Twenty-Fourth 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

Praise to the Lord the Almighty | J Neander, C Winkworth

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation

O my soul praise Him for He is your help and salvation

All you who hear, now to His temple draw near

Sing now in glad adoration

Praise to the Lord who has fearfully, wonderfully made you

Who from the heavens the streams of His mercy does send you

Ponder anew what the Almighty can do

Who with His love does befriend you

Praise to the Lord, oh, let all that is in me adore Him

All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him

Let the Amen sound from His people again

Gladly forever adore Him

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.

Brighten your Church, O God, with the promise of your kingdom,
and waken our hearts to its light. Bid us hasten with faith undimmed
to greet the bridegroom's return and join the wedding feast. We ask this
through our Lord Jesus Christ. **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: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 78:1-7

Hear my teaching, O my people; incline your ears to the words of my
mouth.

**I will open my mouth in a parable; I will declare the mysteries of ancient
times.**

That which we have heard and known, and what our ancestors have told
us, we will not hide from their children.

We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, who has done wonderful works.

The Lord gave a decree to Jacob and established a law for Israel, commanding them to teach their children;

that the generations to come might know, and the children yet unborn; that they in their turn might tell it to their children;

so that they might put their trust in God, and not forget those mighty deeds, but keep the commandments;

The Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

All Shall Be Well | John Van Neusen

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

Chorus

And all shall be well, all shall be well

All manner of things shall be well

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 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

Chorus

The Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

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 donation box at the by the soundboard – envelopes can be found there as well. You can also donate electronically by e-transfer to donate@stalbanschurch.ca, or through Canada Helps or Paypal through the St. Albans Website - <https://stalbanschurch.ca/donate/>

All Belong Here | Hannah and Lenora Rand

When you're not sure who you really are
When all you feel is the shape of your scars
And you have more wounds than you can count
Open your eyes, look all around
You aren't alone, this is your home

Come and remember who you are here
Do this to remember who I am
Come and remember you belong here
All belong here

When you don't know how to forgive
When locked doors seem like the only way to live
And you've got more questions than you can count
Open your eyes, look all around
You aren't alone, this is your home

Come and remember who you are here
Come and remember who you are here
Do this to remember who I am
Come and remember you belong here
All belong here

At this table come as you are; broken and bleeding's ok
At this table eat and be filled; come and drink in this grace.

Come and remember who you are here
Do this to remember who I am
Come and remember you belong here
All belong here

Prayer over the Gifts

Gracious God,
your word to us is food indeed. Receive all we offer you this day, and let
your loving-kindness be our comfort, for the sake of Jesus Christ, your living
Word. **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

Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat,
whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread.
**So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your
kingdom.**

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.

All My Favorite People | Over the Rhine

All my favorite people are broken
Believe me, my heart should know
Some prayers are better left unspoken
I just want to hold you and let the rest go

All my friends are part saint and part sinner
We lean on each other, try to rise above
We are not afraid to admit we are all still beginners
We are all late bloomers when it comes to love

All my favorite people are broken
Believe me, my heart should know
Awful believers, skeptical dreamers, step forward
You can stay right here, you don't have to go

Is each wound you've received just a burdensome gift
It gets so hard to lift yourself up off the ground
But the poet says we must praise a mutilated world
We're all working the graveyard shift
You might as well sing along

Cause all my favorite people are broken
Believe me, my heart should know
As for your tender heart, this world's going to rip it wide open,
It ain't gonna be pretty, but you're not alone

All my favorite people are broken
Believe me, my heart should know
Awful believers, skeptical dreamers, you're welcome
Yeah, you're safe right here, you don't have to go

Cause all my favorite people are broken
Believe me, I should know
Some prayers are better left unspoken
I just want to hold you and let the rest go

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

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 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

Newcomers Event - Are you new to St. Albans? Do you want to learn more about the history, mission, and how the parish functions? If you say yes to any of those questions please plan to stay after church on November 19th, for some food and some conversation about St. Albans, and a space to ask

any questions you might have of the church leadership.

St. Albans Carol Service – It is back! Nothing says Advent like singing Christmas Carols. On December 2nd at 7pm we will gather, hopefully before students are inundated with exams, and the rest of us with the stress of the season, and enjoy an evening of singing together. We will be raising funds for Centre 454. If you would like to participate in the Choir – Practice will be Friday December 1st in the evening, and right before the service on the 2nd.

Advent/Christmas Services – St. Albans has three special services over the Advent/Christmas season:

Blue Christmas – On December 17th at 730pm we will be holding a Blue Christmas service. Blue Christmas is a service that opens space for the shadow side of Christmas and gives space to our grief, loneliness, or other emotions that are not part of “typical” Christmas, but embedded and present in the Christmas story nonetheless.

Christmas Eve – Our annual Christmas eve service will be lead by Liturgy Club and be at 4pm. Regular Sunday service will also take place at 10am.

Christmas Day – We will gather on Christmas Day to sing carols and celebrate the birth of Jesus at 10am.

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 – On Leave

Robyn Sulkko, Warden - robynsulkko@hotmail.com

Leah Seabrook, Deputy Warden - leah.seabrook@gmail.com

Moira Alie, Deputy Warden

St. Albans Church

454 King Edward Ave at Daly

Ottawa, ON K1N 7M8

613-236-0342

office@stalbanschurch.ca

www.stalbanschurch.ca



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