

November 19th, 2023
at 10:00 a.m.

The Booklet

Twenty-Fifth 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

I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For | U2

I have climbed the highest mountains I have run through the fields
Only to be with you, only to be with you

I have run, I have crawled I have scaled these city walls
These city walls only to be with you

But I still haven't found what I'm looking for
But I still haven't found what I'm looking for

I have kissed honey lips, felt the healing in her fingertips
It burned like fire, this burning desire

I have spoken with the tongue of angels I have held the hand of a devil
It was warm in the night I was cold as a stone

But I still haven't found what I'm looking for
But I still haven't found what I'm looking for

I believe in the Kingdom Come then all the colours will bleed into one
Bleed into one, but yes, I'm still running

You broke the bonds and you loosed the chains
Carried the cross of my shame, of my shame
You know I believe it

But I still haven't found what I'm looking for
But I still haven't found what I'm looking for

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.

O God,

from whose abundance all gifts and skills are lavishly bestowed:

give us courage to use our talents as generously as you have given them,

so that, being faithful to your purpose, we may share in your glory;

through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **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: Judges 4:1-7

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 123

To you I lift up my eyes, to you enthroned in the heavens.

As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, O Lord our God, until you show us your mercy.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy, for we have had more than enough of contempt,

too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, and of the derision of the proud.

The Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Dreams | Fleetwood Mac

Now here you go again you say you want your freedom

Well, who am I to keep you down? It's only right that you should

Play the way you feel it

But listen carefully to the sound of your loneliness

Like a heartbeat... drives you mad

In the stillness of remembering what you had

And what you lost...And what you had...And what you lost

Thunder only happens when it's raining

Players only love you when they're playing

Say... people... they will come and they will go
When the rain washes you clean... you'll know, you'll know

Now here I go again, I see the crystal visions, I keep my visions to myself
It's only me who wants to wrap around your dreams and...
Have you any dreams you'd like to sell? Dreams of loneliness...

Like a heartbeat... drives you mad...
In the stillness of remembering what you had...
And what you lost...And what you had...And what you lost

Thunder only happens when it's raining
Players only love you when they're playing
People they will come and they will go
When the rain washes you clean, you'll know

Oh, thunder only happens when it's raining
Players only love you when they're playing
Say people they will come and they will go
When the rain washes you clean, you'll know, you'll know
You will know, you'll know

The Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

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 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/>

Shallow | Andrew Wyatt, Lady Gaga, and Mark Ronson

Tell me somethin', girl. Are you happy in this modern world?

Or do you need more? Is there somethin' else you're searchin' for?

I'm falling. In all the good times I find myself longin' for change

And, in the bad times, I fear myself

Tell me something, boy. Aren't you tired tryna fill that void?

Or do you need more? Ain't it hard keeping it so hardcore?

I'm falling. In all the good times I find myself longin' for change

And, in the bad times, I fear myself

I'm off the deep end, watch as I dive in

I'll never meet the ground

Crash through the surface where they can't hurt us

We're far from the shallow now

In the sha-ha-sha-ha-low

In the sha-ha-sha-la-la-la-low

In the sha-ha-sha-ha-ha-low

We're far from the shallow now

Oh, ha, ah, ha

Oh-ah, ha

Oh, ha, ah, ha

I'm off the deep end, watch as I dive in, I'll never meet the ground
Crash through the surface where they can't hurt us
We're far from the shallow now

In the sha-ha-sha-ha-low
In the sha-ha-sha-la-la-la-low
In the sha-ha-sha-ha-ha-low
We're far from the shallow now

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.*

What Was I Made For? | Billie Eilish

I used to float, now I just fall down
I used to know, but I'm not sure now

What I was made for What was I made for?
Takin' a drive, I was an ideal Looked so alive, turns out, I'm not real
Just something you paid for What was I made for?

'Cause I, I
I don't know how to feel But I wanna try
I don't know how to feel But someday I might
Someday I might

When did it end? All the enjoyment
I'm sad again, don't tell my boyfriend
It's not what he's made for
What was I made for?

'Cause I, 'cause I
I don't know how to feel
But I wanna try
I don't know how to feel
But someday I might
Someday I might

Think I forgot, how to be happy
Something I'm not, but something I can be
Something I wait for
Something I'm made for
Something I'm made for

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

Feeling Good | Anthony Newley and Leslie Bricusse
Birds flying high, You know how I feel
Sun in the sky, You know how I feel
Breeze driftin' on by, You know how I feel

It's a new dawn. It's a new day. It's a new life for me
And I'm feeling good, I'm feeling good

Fish in the sea, you know how I feel
River running free, you know how I feel
Blossom on a tree, you know how I feel

It's a new dawn. It's a new day. It's a new life for me
And I'm feeling good, I'm feeling good

Dragonfly out in the sun, you know what I mean,
Don't you know? Butterflies all havin' fun
You know what I mean, sleep in peace when day is done

That's what I mean

And this old world, is a new world
And a bold world. For me. For me

Stars when you shine, you know how I feel
Scent of the pine, you know how I feel
Oh freedom is mine, and I know how I feel

It's a new dawn. It's a new day. It's a new life for me
And I'm feeling good, I'm feeling good

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

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 7:30pm 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 (Advent 4) 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

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