

January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
at 10:00 a.m.

# The Booklet

The Epiphany of the Lord  
A Celebration of Holy Eucharist

*Livestream the service at*

*[www.facebook.com/saintalbans](https://www.facebook.com/saintalbans) or*

*[www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD6YdNUBA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwV9f01mc4ymXD6YdNUBA)*



**ST ALBANS**

*Spirit-Led. Christ-Centred. Contemporary Urban Church*

**[www.stalbanschurch.ca](http://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](mailto:revmichael@stalbanschurch.ca) or send an email to our office [office@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto: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.*

*Liturgical Note: In the context of Christian Liturgy, Israel does not refer to the current political state, but either to the historic Hebrews of the ancient Near East or, in Christian theology, to all people who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ.*

## **Welcome**

**Praise to the Lord the Almighty** | Joachim Neander, Catherine 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

Let the Amen sound from His people again. Amen, amen, amen

## **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.*

Almighty and everliving God,

you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star.

Shine the light of your justice in our hearts and over all lands,

and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **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: Isaiah 60:1-6**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14**

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;  
**that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;**  
that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the little hills  
bring righteousness.

**He shall defend the needy among the people, rescuing the poor and  
crushing the oppressor.**

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to  
another.

**He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that  
water the earth.**

In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace  
till the moon shall be no more.

**The rulers of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, and the rulers of  
Arabia and Saba offer gifts.**

All rulers shall bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

**For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress and the oppressed  
who has no helper.**

He shall have pity on the lowly and poor and shall preserve the lives of the  
needy.

**He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, and dear shall  
their blood be in his sight.**

**The Second Reading:** Ephesians 3:1-12

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Behold|** Natalie Taylor Leonhardt

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

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

**The Gospel:** Matthew 2:1-12

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](mailto: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***

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, 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***

God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.  
**Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

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.*

### **You Cannot Lose My Love | Sara Groves**

You will lose your baby teeth.  
At times, you'll lose your faith in me.  
You will lose a lot of things,  
But you cannot lose my love.

You may lose your appetite,  
Your guiding sense of wrong and right.  
You may lose your will to fight,

But you cannot lose my love.

You will lose your confidence.

In times of trial, your common sense.

You may lose your innocence,

But you cannot lose my love.

Many things can be misplaced;

Your very memories be erased.

No matter what the time or space,

You cannot lose my love.

You cannot lose,

You cannot lose,

You cannot lose my love.

## **We Are Sent**

### ***Prayer after Communion***

Let us pray.

*We pray silently.*

**O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, so that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and 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***

**Holy, holy, holy |** Reginald Heber

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,

Casting down their golden crown around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee

Which wert and art and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee

Though our sinful human gaze Thy glory may not see

Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee

Perfect in power, in love and purity

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty

All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

### ***Sending***

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**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](mailto:office@stalbanschurch.ca).

## Announcements

**After Church Potluck** – In the spirit of trying new things, and afforded the opportunity to gather after service, on January 21<sup>st</sup> we will gather after the service for a simple potluck lunch. Bring some food to share if you have some to share. Our conversations will focus on the congregational domain of action, how do we continue to build connections across our parish?

**Campus Meal** – January 25 is our first campus meal. Interested parties are invited to participate in a short Zoom meeting on January 11<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested and didn't receive the meeting invitation, please reach out to Rev. Michael to get you connected!

### St. Albans Staff

The Rev. Michael Garner [revmichael@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto: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](mailto:office@stalbanschurch.ca)

### St. Albans Wardens

Michelle Sorenson, Warden – On Leave

Robyn Sulkko, Warden - [robysulkko@hotmail.com](mailto:robysulkko@hotmail.com)

Leah Seabrook, Deputy Warden - [leah.seabrook@gmail.com](mailto:leah.seabrook@gmail.com)

Maira Alie, Deputy Warden

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