

March 30, 2024

At 7:29 pm.

The Booklet

The Great Vigil of Easter

A Celebration of Holy Eucharist



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.

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

We gather outside to light the fire

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.

The Service of Light

Dear friends in Christ,

on this most holy night,

when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life,

the Church invites her children throughout the world

to come together in vigil and prayer.

This is the Passover of the Lord.

We remember his death and resurrection

by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries; we are confident

that we shall share his victory over death

and live with him for ever in God.

This is the night

When Jesus, God's Son

Broke all the chains

And rose from the grave

This is the night

When Christ rose up

And proved to all

The power of love.

God,

Sanctify this new fire, and inflame us with new hope.

Amen.

The Paschal Candle is lit from the fire

Rejoice, round the world

Sing, choirs of angels

Jesus our light

is risen today

This is the night

When Christ our star

Woke up light in us

That burns ever more.

The light of Christ

Thanks be to God

Our candles are lit from the Paschal Candle while we sing and walk into the back of the church (aka Narthex).

This is the night

When Jesus, God's Son

Broke all the chains

And rose from the grave

This is the night

When Christ rose up

And proved to all

The power of love.

We Proclaim the Word

The Story of Creation – A dramatic reading of Genesis 1:1-Genesis 2:4

After the reading we find seats in the front part (aka Nave) of the church

A Fire is burning
The long night draws near
All who need comfort
Are welcome by here
We'll sing 'neath the stars
And toast the past year
For the spirit of solstice
Is still living here

The story of Joseph – A dramatic reading of the story of Joseph

A Fire is burning
The long night draws near
All who need comfort
Are welcome by here
We'll sing 'neath the stars
And toast the past year
For the spirit of solstice
Is still living here

The Story of the Exodus – Exodus 14:10-31, 15:20-21;

Collect of the Day

God of new creation, from the womb of earth
you raised the Lord of life: may we receive the word of women
who braved the soldier's spears and met him in the dawning light; may we
live with morning joy so that love may never die; though Jesus Christ, the
resurrection and the life. **Amen.**

New Testament Reading: Romans 6:3-11

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Canticle of the Turning | Daigle, Rooney, & Donhoo

My soul cries out with a joyful shout
That the God of my heart is great
And my spirit sings of the Wondrous things
That you bring to the ones who wait
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight
And my weakness you did not spurn
So from east to west shall my name be blest
Could the world be about to turn?

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring
Let the fires of your justice burn
Wipe away all tears for the dawn draws near
And the world is about to turn!*

Though I am small, my God, my all, you
Work great things in me
And your mercy will last from the Depths
Of the past to the end of the age to be
Your very name puts the proud to shame
And to those who would for you yearn
You will show your might
Put the strong to flight
For the world is about to turn

Refrain

From the halls of power to the fortress tower
Not a stone will be left on stone
Let the king beware for your

Justice tears ev'ry tyrant from his throne
The hungry poor shall weep no more
For the food they can never eat
There are tables spread, ev'ry
Mouth be fed
For the world is about to turn

Refrain

Though the nations rage from age to age
We remember
Who holds us fast
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp
This saving word that our forebears
Heard is the promise which holds us bound
'Til the spear and rod can be
Crushed by God
Who is turning the world around

Refrain

The Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

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

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Gospel is read

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection | Rev. Michael

Presentation of the Candidate

Candidate and Sponsors gather around the font

The candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented

Parents and Sponsors: We present Reidar to receive the sacrament of baptism.

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is nurtured in the faith and life of the Christian community?

Parents and Sponsors: I will, with God's help.

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Sponsors: I will, with God's help.

Addressing the Parents and Sponsors

Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Parents and Sponsors: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Parents and Sponsors: I renounce them.

Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Parents and Sponsors: I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Saviour?

Parents and Sponsors: I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Parents and Sponsors: I do.

Do you promise to obey him as your Lord?

Parents and Sponsors: I do.

Addressing the whole congregation

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support *Reidar* in his life in Christ?

We will.

Prayers for the Candidate

Let us now pray for *Reidar* who is to receive the sacrament of new birth. Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Open his heart to your grace and truth.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Send him into the world in witness to your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant, O Lord,

that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Creator, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who are here cleansed from sin and born again, may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God,

The Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe 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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

I will, with God's help.

The Baptism

Reidar, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

I sign you with the cross, and mark you as Christ's own for ever.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

Amen.

The Giving of the Light

Receive the light of Christ,
to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

Reidar receives his baptismal candle

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

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

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/>

Beautiful Things | Gungor

All this pain. I wonder if I'll ever find my way
I wonder if my life could really change, at all

All this earth. Could all that is lost ever be found?
Could a garden come out from this ground, at all?

You make beautiful things. You make beautiful things out of the dust
You make beautiful things. You make beautiful things out of us

All around, Hope is springing up from this old ground
Out of chaos life is being found, in you

Refrain (x2)

You make me new, You are making me new
You make me new, You are making me new (Repeat)

Refrain (x2)

Prayer over the Gifts

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.

Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in

Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through 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.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life. Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

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

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, “ Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.” After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said, “Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, Father, according to his command, **we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;** and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and 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.*

You Are Holy, You are Whole | Per Harling

You are holy, you are whole,
You are always ever more
than we ever understand.
You are always at hand.

Blessed are you coming near.
Blessed are you coming here
to your church in wine and bread,
raised from soil, raised from dead.

You are holy,
you are wholeness,
you are present.
Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!

Sing hosanna in the highest!
Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to our God!

We Are Sent

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

We pray silently.

**Life-giving God,
in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness,
water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people.
Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, so that we may show
your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen 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.**

Blessing

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

Refrain

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
And bring us back together when the day is done

Sending

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

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