

April 28th, 2024
at 10:00 a.m.

The Booklet

The Fifth Sunday 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.

Welcome

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.

Raise Up | Semler

Bring me your weak and weary
Bring me your strange and cold
I come for hope and healing
That you won't feel alone

So, raise up, raise up, raise up
So, raise up, raise up
So, raise up, raise up, raise up
I have told you that

I am the way and the truth and the life
I'm justice, I'm all that is right
Carry on now, carry on
Carry on now

And there's a galaxy behind your eyelids
And there's a war in your house
And there's a meaning that is far beyond us
And there is courage in doubt

So, raise up, raise up, raise up
So, raise up, raise up
So, raise up, raise up, raise up

I have told you that

I am the way and the truth and the life
I'm justice, I'm all that is right
Carry on now, carry on
Carry on now

So, raise up, raise up, raise up (I'm justice, I'm all that is right)
So, raise up, raise up (carry on now, carry on)
So, raise up, raise up, raise up
I have told you that (carry on now)

I am the way and the truth and the life
I'm justice, I'm all that is right
Carry on now, carry on
Carry on now

And I am the way and the truth and the life
I am mystery, the day, and the night
Carry on now, carry on
Carry on now

So, raise up, raise up, raise up
So, raise up, raise up
So, raise up, raise up, raise up
So, raise up, raise up

Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

May his grace and peace be with you.

May he fill our hearts with joy.

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 of deep soil and luxurious growth,
you call us from our shallow selves to find our depth in you:
may we abide in him alone who can teach us who we are,
Jesus Christ, the true vine. **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: Acts 8:26-40

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:24-30

For God does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither turns away from them; when they cry to the Lord, they are heard.

My praise is of God in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship the Lord.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied and those who seek the Lord shall give praise: "May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before God.

For sovereignty belongs to the Lord, who rules over the nations.

To God alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before God.

My soul shall live for God; my descendants shall serve God; they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.

The Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

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 up 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

You make beautiful things

You make beautiful things out of the dust

You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of us (x2)

You make me new, You are making me new
You make me new, You are making me new

You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of the dust
You make beautiful things
You make beautiful things out of us (x2)

The Gospel: John 15:1-8

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

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.

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/>

Peace | Paula Best

Broken Conversations, broken people, we're broken, Lord.
Terrified illusions, seeking comfort, we're seeking more.
We need each other more than we need to agree.
Father, Son, Spirit bless us with your love; with your grace and peace.

Peace. Let there be peace
Let there be peace.

Let there be peace.

Let us see and not destroy. Let us listen. Let us listen.

Let us suspend judgment for the sake of love; for the sake of love.

We need each other more than we need to agree.

Father, Son, Spirit bless us with your love; with your grace and peace.

Love. Let there be love.

Let there be love.

Let there be peace.

Prayer over the Gifts

God of loving care,

you spread before us the table of life, and give us the cup of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of your Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour and our shepherd. **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

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.*

These Bodies | The Many

Chorus: You gave us these bodies
And you called them good
You gave us these bodies
And you called them good

We are easily damaged
have you seen the scars?
That's just scratching the surface
More beneath where those are.

Chorus

May we love them as you do
Let us love them as you do
Inside outside, through and through
Let us love them as you do

But we do so much damage.
Have you seen the scars?
We keep hurting each other
Sometimes that's just how we are

Chorus

These bodies, these bodies,
They are fearfully, wonderfully made.
Don't believe the lies

some will say.

No, our flesh and bones, our hearts and hands
are loved in every way.

Our flesh and bones, our hearts and hands
are loved in every way.

Chorus

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.

Community Announcements

Blessing

Rainbow | Kasey Musgraves

When it rains, it pours

But you didn't even notice it ain't rainin' anymore

It's hard to breathe when all you know is
The struggle of stayin' above the risin' water line

Well, the sky has finally opened
The rain and wind stopped blowin'
But you're stuck out in the same ol' storm again
You hold tight to your umbrella
Well, darlin', I'm just tryin' to tell ya
That there's always been a rainbow hangin' over your head

If you could see what I see, you'd be blinded by the colors
Yellow, red, and orange, and green, and at least a million others
So tie up the bow, take off your coat, and take a look around

'Cause the sky has finally opened
The rain and wind stopped blowin'
But you're stuck out in the same ol' storm again
You hold tight to your umbrella
Well, darlin', I'm just tryin' to tell ya
That there's always been a rainbow hangin' over your head

Oh, tie up the bow, take off your coat, and take a look around
Everything is alright now

'Cause the sky has finally opened
The rain and wind stopped blowin'
But you're stuck out in the same ol' storm again
Let go of your umbrella
'Cause, darlin', I'm just trying to tell ya
That there's always been a rainbow hangin' over your head

Yeah, there's always been a rainbow hangin' over your head
Mm, mm, mm
It'll all be alright

Sending

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

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Announcements

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

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