

August 4th, 2024
at 10:00 a.m.

The Booklet

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
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

King's Weston | Ralph Vaughan Williams, John A. Dalles
Come to tend God's garden, seeds of hope to sow,
Planting fields of justice, watching mercy grow,
In an arid wasteland, spread a verdant health,
In a land of tumult, cultivate God's peace.

As we tend God's garden, from its furrows rise
Stems of fresh beginnings, stretching toward the skies,
Graciousness our meadow, joyfulness our root,
Unity our foliage, righteousness our fruit.

May God's garden flourish, may our toil succeed,
May God bless our actions, every word and deed,
Serving Christ each season, with God's diagram,
Charted by the Spirit, for the task at hand.

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.

God of the lowly and the mighty,
even when we harm and destroy one another, you offer us forgiveness of
our sins if we but open our hearts to your grace and mercy, so that we may
build up one another in love. **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: 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 51:1-13

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness; in your great
compassion blot out my offenses.

**Wash me through and through from my wickedness and cleanse me from
my sin.**

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight.

And so you are justified when you speak and upright in your judgement.

Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth, a sinner from my mother's womb.

For behold, you look for truth deep within me, and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure; wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

Make me hear of joy and gladness, that the body you have broken may rejoice.

Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your holy Spirit from me.

Give me the joy of your saving help again and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

I shall teach your ways to the wicked, and sinners shall return to you.

The Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Spirit, Open My Heart | Traditional Irish Melody, Ruth Duck

Refrain

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,

Spirit, open my heart.

God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender.

All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender.

Refrain

Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.

In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory.

Refrain

May I weep with those who weep, share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another.

Refrain

The Gospel: John 6:24-35

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/>

Julion | David Hurd, Michael Hewlett

Praise the Spirit in creation, breath of God, life's origin,
Spirit moving on the waters, quickening worlds to life within,
Source of breath to all things breathing, life in whom all lives begin.

Praise the Spirit, close companion of our inmost thoughts and ways,
Who, in showing us God's wonders, is himself the power to gaze,
And God's will to those who listen, by a still small voice conveys.

Praise the Spirit, who enlightened priests and prophets with the word,

His the truth behind the wisdoms which as yet know not our Lord,
By whose love and power, in Jesus God himself was seen and heard.

Praise, O praise the Holy Spirit, praise the Father, praise the Word,
Source, and Truth, and Inspiration, Trinity in deep accord,
Through your voice which speaks within us we, your creatures, call you
Lord.

Prayer over the Gifts

God of mercy and grace,
the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing.
Fill us with good things at your table, so that we may come to the help of all
in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer 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

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

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.

O Love of God, how strong and true,
Eternal and yet ever new;
Uncomprehended and unbought,
Beyond all knowledge and all thought.

O wide embracing, wondrous Love,
We read thee in the sky above;
We read thee in the earth below,
In seas that swell and streams that flow.

We read thee best in him who came
To bear for us the cross of shame,
Sent by the Father from on high,
Our life to live, our death to die.

We read thy power to bless and save
E'en in the darkness of the grave;
Still more in resurrection light
We read the fullness of thy might.

We Are Sent

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

We pray silently.

**O God,
we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast,
the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in
need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry,
through 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

May You Find A Light | John Arndt, David Gungor

Lost and weary traveler, searching for the way to go
Stranger, heavy-hearted, longing for someone you know

May you find a light

May you find a light

May you find a light to guide you home

There are weary travelers searching everywhere you go
Strangers who are searching, longing deeply to be known

Sending

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

Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Pride! – Pride Sunday is August 25th. We will be having a joyful service at 10am and then joining the parade after lunch, exact timing and location to meet is pending.

St. Albans Staff

The Rev. Michael Garner revmichael@stalbanschurch.ca

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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