

April 27th, 2025
at 10:00 am

The Booklet

Second Sunday of Easter
A Celebration of Holy Eucharist



ALL ARE WELCOME. ALL ARE LOVED. ALL BELONG.

ST ALBANS

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.

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 in the black box by the sound board, 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 service. You're invited to participate 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 to 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. If you have a prayer request, please feel free to put it on an index card located at the back and put it into the basket, only indicate person's first name, and we will pray for them (or you) during the Prayers of the People.

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

Day For Singing | Mission House

Mercy, rising with the rising of the sun

Goodness, rushing in and filling up my lungs

Your faithfulness is here and now

The evidence, is all around

I bless your name

I give you praise

Today is a day for singing

Awake my soul

Come on, praise the Lord

Today is a day for singing

Oh my soul, praise the Lord

Oh my soul, Today is a day for singing

A new song is welling up from deep inside of me

There's new life, hallelujah, I have been redeemed

I have been redeemed

I bless your name

I give you praise

Today is a day for singing

Awake my soul

Come on, praise the Lord

Today is a day for singing

Oh my soul, praise the Lord

Oh my soul, Today is a day for singing

From the valley to the mountain
The desert to the fountain
Oh I will praise you
From the morning to the evening
As long as I am breathing
Today is a day for singing

I bless your name
I give you praise
Today is a day for singing
Awake my soul
Come on, praise the Lord
Today is a day for singing

Oh my soul, praise the Lord
Oh my soul, Today is a day for singing

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

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.

O God,
our beginning and our end: accept our doubts, heal our desire for certainty
and, by your Spirit's gentle touch, make us a people forgiven and forgiving;
through Jesus Christ, the Giver of Peace.
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 5:27-32

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118:14-29

I have taken greater delight in the way of your decrees than in all manner
of riches.

I will meditate on your commandments and give attention to your ways.
My delight is in your statutes; I will not forget your word.

Deal bountifully with your servant, that I may live and keep your word.

Open my eyes, that I may see the wonders of your law.

I am a stranger here on earth; do not hide your commandments from me.

My soul is consumed at all times with longing for your judgements.

You have rebuked the insolent; cursed are they who stray from your commandments!

Turn from me shame and rebuke, for I have kept your decrees.

Even though rulers sit and plot against me, I will meditate on your statutes.

For your decrees are my delight, and they are my counsellors.

My soul cleaves to the dust; give me life according to your word.

I have confessed my ways, and you answered me; instruct me in your statutes.

Make me understand the way of your commandments, that I may meditate on your marvellous works.

My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to your word.

Take from me the way of lying; let me find grace through your law.

The Second Reading: 2 Revelation 1:4-8

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

I Know That My Redeemer Lives | Samuel Medley

I know that my Redeemer lives

What comfort this sweet sentence gives

He lives, he lives, who once was dead

He lives, my ever living head

He lives to silence all my fears

He lives to wipe away my tears

He lives to calm my troubled heart

He lives all blessings to impart

He lives to grant me daily breath

He lives, and I shall conquer death
He lives, and while he lives, I'll sing
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King

He lives triumphant from the grave
He lives eternally to save
He lives exalted, throned above
He lives to rule his Church in love

He lives, all glory to his name
He lives, my savior, still the same
What joy this blest assurance gives
I know that my Redeemer lives

The Gospel: John 20:19-21

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/give/>

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 judgement 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 love.

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.

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 the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.

God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

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. If you have a prayer need at most services at the front left there are two skilled prayers who are there to pray for and with you.

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go | George Matheson

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in Thee.
I give Thee back the life I owe,
That in Thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be; May richer, fuller be

O Light that follows all my ways,
I yield my flickering torch to Thee.
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be; May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to Thee.
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be;
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from Thee.
I lay in dust, life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red,
Life that shall endless be
Life that shall endless be.

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

How Great Thou Art | Carol Boberg

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed!

Chorus:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee;

How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee;

How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze,

Chorus

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in –
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin!

Chorus

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art!

Chorus

Sending

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Announcements

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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