

May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
at 10:00 am

# The Booklet

Fourth Sunday of Easter  
A Celebration of Holy Eucharist



ALL ARE WELCOME. ALL ARE LOVED. ALL BELONG.

**ST ALBANS**

[stalbanschurch.ca](http://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, Rev. Cathy our interim priest, 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 service. You're invited 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**

**Be Thou My Vision.**/.Trad., Mary Elizabeth Byrne, Eleanor H. Hull

Be thou my vision, O God of my heart;  
Nothing surpasses the love you impart,  
You my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;  
Ever within me, my soul is assured;  
Mother and Father, you are both to me,  
Now and forever your child I will be.

Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

## **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.*

Eternal God, from whose gentle hands none can snatch us away: give us faith to believe that we are known and loved with a passion strong enough to bring the whole world back to you; through Jesus Christ, who is one with you, the Source of life. **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 9:36-43**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**You make me lie down in green pastures and lead me beside still waters.**

You revive my soul and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

**The Second Reading:** Revelation 7:9-17

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Now The Green Blade Rises** / John M. C. Crum, medieval French carol

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain;

Wheat that in dark earth for many days has lain;

Love lives again, that with the dead has been:

Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

In the grave they laid their Love whom hate had slain,

Thinking that their Love would never wake again,

Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:

Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

Christ came forth at Easter, like the risen grain,

Jesus, who for three days in the grave had lain,

Quick from the dead the risen One is seen:

Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
Christ's warm touch can call us back to life again,  
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

**The Gospel:** John 10:22-30

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. Cathy**

*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 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/give/>*



**I Come with Joy** / Land of Rest American Folk Melody,  
Annabel Buchanan, Brian Wren

I come with joy to meet my Lord,  
Forgiven, loved, and free,  
In awe and wonder to recall  
His life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near  
To find, as all are fed,  
The new community of love  
In Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,  
Each proud division ends.  
That love that made us makes us one,  
And strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord.  
His presence, always near,  
Is in such friendship better known:  
We see and praise him here.

Together met, together bound,  
We'll go our different ways,  
And as his people in the world  
We'll live and speak his praise.

***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.**

It is indeed right that we should praise you, gracious God,  
for you created all things. You formed us in your own image.

When we turned away from you in sin, you did not cease to care for us,  
but opened a path of salvation for all people.

You made a covenant with Israel, and through your servants Abraham and  
Sarah gave the promise of a blessing to all nations.

Through Moses you led your people from bondage into freedom; through  
the prophets you renewed your promise of salvation.

Therefore, with them, and with all your saints who have served you in every  
age, we give thanks and raise our voices 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**

Holy God, source of life and goodness,  
all creation rightly gives you praise.

In the fullness of time, you sent your Son Jesus Christ,  
to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us,  
to reconcile us to you, the God of all.

He healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners;  
he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed the good news of your  
kingdom to the poor and to those in need.  
In all things he fulfilled your gracious will.

On the night he freely gave himself to death,  
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.”

Gracious God, his perfect sacrifice destroys the power of sin and death;  
by raising him to life you give us life for evermore.  
Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection,  
and looking for his coming again in glory,  
we offer you, this bread and this cup.  
Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts,  
that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body and one holy  
people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory is 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. 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.*

## **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*

## **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***

**Praise to the Living God /** Diademata, George Job Elvey, Curtis Beach

Praise to the living God, the God of love and light,  
Whose word brought forth the myriad suns and set the worlds in flight;  
Whose infinite design, which we but dimly see,  
Pervades all nature, making all a cosmic unity.

Praise to the living God, from whom all things derive,  
Whose Spirit formed upon this sphere the first faint seeds of life;  
Who caused them to evolve, unwitting towards God's goal,  
Till humankind stood on the earth, as living, thinking souls.

Praise to the living God, who knows our joy and pain,  
Who shares with us our common life, the sacred and profane.  
God toils where'er we toil, in home and mart and mill;  
And deep within the human heart God leads us forward still.

Praise to the living God, around, within, above,  
Beyond the grasp of human mind, but whom we know as love.  
In these tumultuous days, so full of hope and strife,  
May we bear witness to the Way, O Source and Goal of life.

#### ***Sending***

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Announcements

### **Newcomers Dinner**

Are you new to St. Albans and have some questions or are just looking for additional ways to connect? Join us in early June for a dinner just for you! You will meet others who are new to the church and members of Parish Council. Please add your name to the sign up list at the back of the church and/or send an email to Jennifer Parr who is coordinating the dinner. Jennifer's email is [jennifer@leadershipthatmatters.com](mailto:jennifer@leadershipthatmatters.com). She will follow up with those that are interested to find a date that works!

### **Spring Cleaning Bee**

Sunday June 8 after worship with pizza lunch. Please consider helping out. For more information contact Mary-Martha at [mmhale65@gmail.com](mailto:mmhale65@gmail.com)

### **St. Albans Staff**

The Rev. Michael Garner - on Sabbath leave until August 12.

The Rev. Cathy Davis - Interim Priest - 613-292-9841

Church Administration [office@stalbanschurch.ca](mailto:office@stalbanschurch.ca)

### **St. Albans Wardens**

Ryan Dening, Warden – [deningart@gmail.com](mailto:deningart@gmail.com)

Mary-Martha Hale, Warden – [mmhale65@gmail.com](mailto:mmhale65@gmail.com)

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

Moira Alie, Deputy Warden

### **St. Albans Church**

454 King Edward Ave at Daly

Ottawa, ON K1N 7M8

[www.stalbanschurch.ca](http://www.stalbanschurch.ca)



ALL ARE WELCOME. ALL ARE LOVED. ALL BELONG.

**ST ALBANS**



[stalbanschurch.ca](http://stalbanschurch.ca)