

March 1, 2026

THE BOOKLET

Second Sunday of Lent
A Celebration of Eucharist

ALL ARE WELCOME. ALL ARE LOVED. ALL BELONG.

ST ALBANS



stalbanschurch.ca

YOU'RE WELCOME HERE. WE MEAN IT.

At St. Albans, we welcome everyone, all ages, abilities, genders, cultural backgrounds, sexual orientations, income levels and faith traditions to join us as we seek to deepen our relationship with God and each other.

If you are a breastfeeding parent, you are welcome to breastfeed in your seat or anywhere else in the church, as you feel comfortable.

If you'd like to stay informed about what's happening in our community, please fill out a contact card located at the back of the church and drop it in the donation box. If you'd like to connect with Rev. Michael, his email is: revmichael@stalbanschurch.ca

ABOUT THIS BOOKLET

This booklet is your companion during the service. In it you will find song lyrics, prayers, scripture readings, reflections, and more. If you have any questions, don't be afraid to ask someone. We're all in this together.

PARTICIPATION

Our hope is that everyone gathered will feel able to participate in singing, prayers, reading scripture, reflections, and silence. Every time it's your turn to say or do something, you'll usually see it **highlighted in bold**.

At times we may suggest certain postures (standing, sitting, kneeling). You are welcome to adopt whatever posture is appropriate for you at any time.

If you have a prayer request, you can write it on a card located at the back of the church and put it in the basket (first names only please), and we will pray for them (or you) during the service.

For the creatives, we have a communal art cart located at the back of the church stocked with supplies. These art books become an anthology of our collective experience. No need to sign your creation (unless you want to), but please date your work.

WELCOME

DUST WE ARE AND SHALL RETURN

The Brilliance

From dust we've come and dust we are and shall return,
Be still my soul and let it go, just let it go

Glory to God
Glory to God in the highest (2x)

Naked we came and shall return into the grave,
Be still my soul and let it go, just let it go

Glory to God
Glory to God in the highest (2x)

Be still my soul, Lord make me whole, Lord make me whole,
Be still my soul, Lord make me whole, Lord make me whole, Lord
make me whole,
Be still my soul, Lord make me whole, Lord make me whole

Glory to God (4x)

Responsive prayers are back-and-forth between the leader and the congregation: Unbolded text is read aloud by the leader. Bolded text is read aloud by the congregation.

Land Acknowledgement

All: We respectfully acknowledge the First Nation, Metis and Inuit people who are the original inhabitants and caretakers of this land, Turtle Island. The city of Ottawa, where we live, play, pray, work, and be, is on the unceded traditional territory of Anishinaabe Algonquin people who have lived here for millennia. Their culture and presence have nurtured and continue to nurture this land. We commit ourselves to walk alongside First Nation, Metis and Inuit in a continued journey towards reconciliation.

GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

All: And also with you

THE OPENING PRAYER

One: O God,

All: 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.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy upon us. 3x

Christ, have mercy upon us. 3x

Lord, have mercy upon us. 3x

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.

One: Dear Friends in Christ,
as we prepare for the Paschal Feast, continuing in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers, let us make ready our hearts to renew the covenant of our baptism.
Let us pause before our Creator and Redeemer.

Silence

One: Let us ask God to bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and to disclose to us the secret purposes of our hearts. And most especially, let us remember the covenant of our baptism and test our hearts and conscience to know how faithfully we have persevered in resisting evil, and whenever we fell into sin, have repented and returned to the Lord.

Silence

One: Holy and immortal God,

All: you formed us from the dust in your image and redeemed us from sin and death by the cross of our Saviour. Through the washing of baptism, you raised us up with him to share in the new covenant with all your holy people. But we have squandered the inheritance of your saints and have wandered far in a land that is waste. Therefore, we turn to you in penitence and humility. In your great mercy, forgive us and restore us, that we may rejoice in your presence, and walk in your ways to the glory of your name. Amen.

One: 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.

All: Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

One: Let us pray.

(We pray silently)

One: Holy God,
whose Spirit's breath prompts our seeking:
transform the night-time of our fear
into a welcoming space for us and all the world;
through Jesus Christ, in whom we are born anew.

All: 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: GENESIS 12:1-4A

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

The Lord will not let your foot be moved and the One who watches over you will not fall asleep.

Behold, the One who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord, the Lord, watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your side,

so that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil and shall keep you safe.

The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore.

THE SECOND READING: ROMANS 4:1-5, 13-17

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

DUNEDIN

Vernon Griffiths, Horatius Bonar

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.

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 17:1-9

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew.

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(The Gospel is read)

One: The Gospel of Christ

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

SERMON – REV. MICHAEL

THE APOSTLES CREED

One: We say the Apostles Creed to affirm our faith using words of
the ancient church:

**All: 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

THE PEACE

In the sharing of the Peace we celebrate our reconciliation with God, and extend the gift of peace to one another (Matthew 5:23-24). We are also reminded that it is in meeting others that we meet Christ. Some may smile, wave, offer to shake hands or even hug during this time. Please express yourself however you feel comfortable and remember to ask for consent before touching others.

One: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

(We share a sign of peace with others in church, online, or in your home.)

WE CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST

THE OFFERING

Thank you for supporting the ministry of St. Albans!
You may make an offering via the donation box at the back of the church. Envelopes can be found there as well. If you wish to donate by e-transfer, Canada Helps, or Paypal, scan this QR code or visit: stalbanschurch.ca/give



HAVE MERCY

Sandra McCracken

Have mercy on me

Have mercy on me

O Lord, have mercy

O Lord, have mercy

Oh, help my unbelief

Oh, help my unbelief

O Lord, have mercy

O Lord, have mercy

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

One: God our provider,
you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace
and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from
your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

One: May God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: 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:

THE SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who
Comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

One: 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:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

One: 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.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please feel free to use the language of your choice.

All: 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

One: We break this bread,

All: Communion in Christ's body once broken.

One: Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying

All: If we have died with him, we shall live with him; if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.

One: The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive communion or a blessing. Communion is received in a series of semi-circles at the front of the church. Indicate to the server if you would prefer to receive a rice wafer instead of wheat. To receive a blessing instead of the communion elements, please cross your arms over your chest. Additionally, to receive, during most services at the front left there will be two individuals who can pray for/with you.

THE TRANSFIGURATION

Sufjan Stevens

When he took the three

Disciples to the mountainside to pray

His countenance was modified

His clothing was aflame

Two men appeared, Moses and Elijah came

They were at his side

The prophecy, the legislation
Spoke of whenever he would die

Then there came a word
Of what he should accomplish on the day
Then Peter spoke, to make of them
A tabernacle place
A cloud appeared in glory as an accolade
They fell on the ground
A voice arrived, the voice of God
The face of God, covered in a cloud

What he said to them
The voice of God: the most beloved son
Consider what he says to you
Consider what's to come
The prophecy was put to death
Was put to death, and so will the Son
And keep your word
Disguise the vision till the time has come

Lost in the cloud, a voice: Have no fear! We draw near!
Lost in the cloud, a sign: Son of man! Turn your ear!
Lost in the cloud, a voice: Lamb of God! We draw near!
Lost in the cloud, a sign: Son of man! Son of God!

WE ARE SENT

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

One: Let us pray.

(We pray silently)

**All: Compassionate God,
you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in
our Lenten pilgrimage; may our fasting be hunger for
justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the
song of grateful hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour
and Lord. Amen.**

One: Glory to God,

All: 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

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.

SENDING

One: Go in the Peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

Today after our 10am service we will hold our annual vestry, to reflect on the past year and make important decisions for the year ahead. Please plan to stay. Lunch will be served. Please see the weekly email for links to the report. If you have any questions or topics you wish to bring to the meeting, please contact Rev. Michael.

NEW FLOORS!

The Property Committee and Corporation are happy to announce that we will be refinishing the entrance and nave floors the first week of March 2026. **As a result we will not be able to meet at St. Albans on March 8th.** We will be going as a congregation to join St. Thomas Alta Vista church on 2345 Alta Vista Dr for their 10am service. Please plan to come and join us at our sister church in Ottawa South. It is on bus routes, and has a parking lot.

MUSIC PARTICIPATION

We're hoping to expand the vision of music at St. Alban's. If you are interested in participating on the music team in any capacity, please let Charlie Edholm (charlieedholm@gmail.com) know.

DONATION SECRETARY'S REPORT VESTRY 2026

Greetings members of St. Alban's,

First, let me thank you all for your generous support of St. Alban's. 2025 was a good year, with \$165,697.45 raised through donations. In 2025, there were 77 identifiable givers with 12 new donors joining our rolls. The average annual gift from identified givers was \$2,139.86.

If you don't currently donate through the monthly Pre-Authorized Remittance program (PAR), you are encouraged to consider it as it continues to be our most reliable and recommended vehicle for regular donations. Over 50% of our 2025 donation income came through the PAR program. Details on PAR and other financial contribution methods can be found here: <https://stalbanschurch.ca/give/>

This year's tax receipts were issued on the evening of February 8th. If you have not received yours, please email envelopes@stalbanschurch.ca, and I will look into the issue. Please note: Canada Helps issues tax receipts for donations sent through that medium.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Brian Herron

Donation Secretary

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

Ryan Dening, Warden: deningart@gmail.com

Mary-Martha Hale, Warden: mmhale65@gmail.com

Leah Seabrook, Deputy Warden: leah.seabrook@gmail.com

Moira Alie, Deputy Warden

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