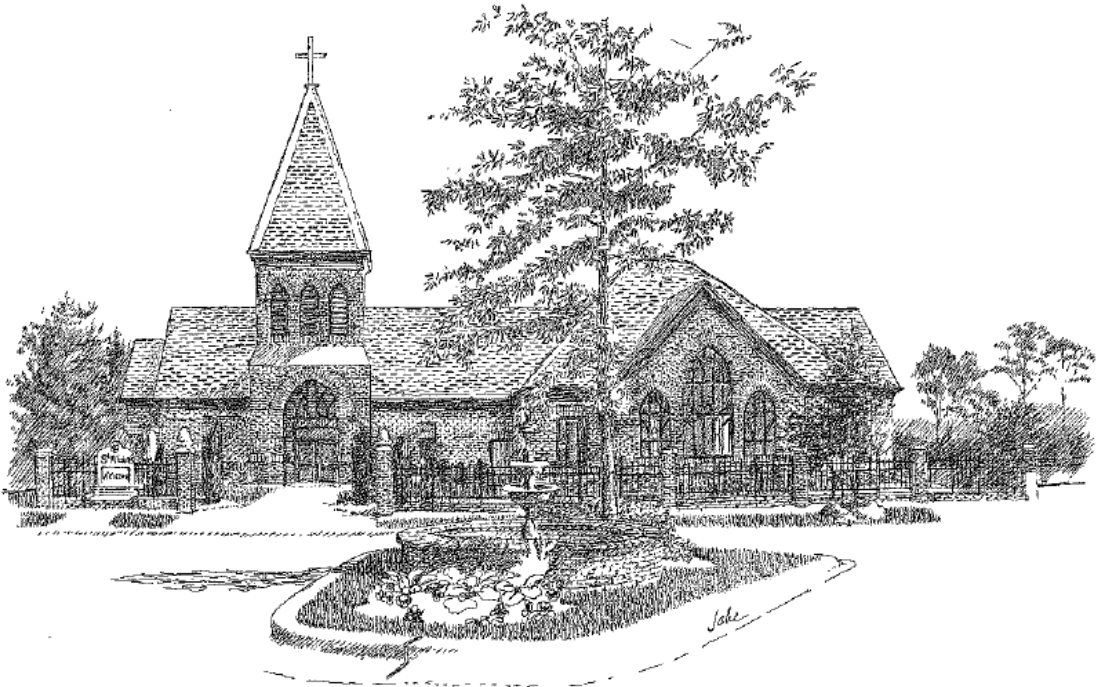


# St. Alban's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*welcomes you*



## **The First Sunday after Christmas**

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

December 29, 2024

10:30 a.m.

# Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

*Welcome to St. Alban's! Thank you for worshiping with us today. In order to allow for private prayer, we ask that you refrain from loud conversation upon entering the nave. Page numbers in the bulletin refer to The Book of Common Prayer (BCP), the book with the cross on the cover. Hymnals and Prayer Books can be found beneath the seats. If you choose to kneel for parts of the service, please use the kneeler beneath your own chair. Children of all ages are always welcome in worship. Crayons and a Bible story coloring page are available on the table just outside the doors to the nave. If desired, our nursery is available for children age three and under, and is located downstairs. Sunday School for ages four-12<sup>th</sup> grade takes place from 10:15-11:00 a.m., with the children returning to the nave at the Exchange of the Peace. \*The congregation is invited to stand as able when indicated by an asterisk.*

## The Word of God

**The Prelude:** Good Christian Friends, Rejoice                      German carol, arr. John Hillebrandt

**\*The Processional Hymn: 93 Angels from the Realms of Glory**                      REGENT SQUARE

**\*The Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

**\*The Opening Acclamation**                      *Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 355*

Celebrant:    Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People:        **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

**\*The Collect for Purity**                      *BCP p. 355*

**\*The Gloria: 96 Angels We Have Heard on High**                      GLORIA

**Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,  
And the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.**

**Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**\*The Collect of the Day**

Celebrant:    The Lord be with you.

People:        **And also with you.**

Celebrant:    Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The First Lesson

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 147:13-21** *Read responsively by half verse.*

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; \*

**praise your God, O Zion;**

For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \*

**he has blessed your children within you.**

He has established peace on your borders; \*

**he satisfies you with the finest wheat.**

He sends out his command to the earth, \*

**and his word runs very swiftly.**

He gives snow like wool; \*

**he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.**

He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \*

**who can stand against his cold?**

He sends forth his word and melts them; \*

**he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.**

He declares his word to Jacob, \*

**his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**

He has not done so to any other nation; \*

**to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah!**

## The Second Lesson

Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*The Sequence Hymn: 82 Of the Father's Love Begotten**

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

*Stanzas 1 & 2 are sung before the Gospel, stanzas 3 & 4 are sung after.*

**\*The Gospel**

**John 1:1-18**

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

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon**

Jerry Landry

**\*The Nicene Creed**

*BCP p. 358*

*Celebrant and People*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and**

**glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **\*The Prayers of the People**

*The congregation is invited to stand or kneel as able.*

*Deacon*

Let us pray for the church and for the world.

*Intervenor*

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for peace in the Holy Land, Ukraine, and everywhere affected by war. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Together we pray for...

Are there others? Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

### **The Confession & Absolution**

*BCP p. 360*

*The congregation is invited to kneel as able.*

*Deacon*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence is kept.*

*Celebrant and People*

**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 neighbors 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.**

**\*The Exchange of the Peace**

BCP p. 360

*The people greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**The Greeting and Announcements**

**The Holy Communion**

**The Offertory Anthem: The Word Became Flesh**

music: Paul Roberts

*Chuck Rice, flute*

*Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord. To utilize our text-to-give option, simply text "ALBANS" to 73256.*

**\*The Presentation of Gifts**

**\*The Offertory Response: In the Bleak Mid-Winter**

CRANHAM

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

**\*The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B**

BCP p. 367

**\*The Sursum Corda**

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are as follows:

- Staff 1:** Celebrant: The Lord be with you. People: And al - so with you.
- Staff 2:** Celebrant: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them to the Lord.
- Staff 3:** Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- Staff 4:** People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*The Celebrant continues.*

**\*The Sanctus: S 125**

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The Celebrant continues. The congregation is invited to stand or kneel as able.*

**Celebrant:** Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**People:** we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

*The Celebrant continues.*

*Celebrant* *People*  
 A - men.

**\*The Lord's Prayer**

*BCP p. 364*

*Celebrant and People*

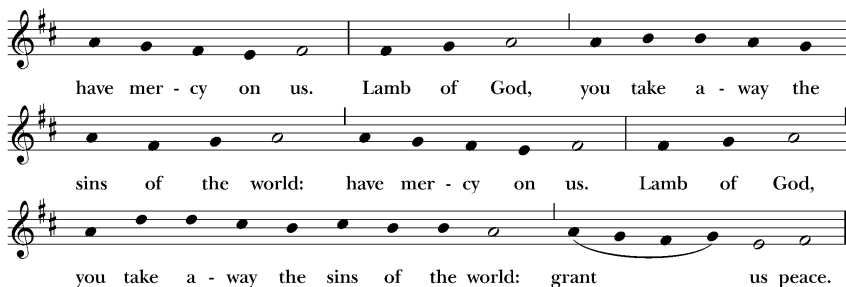
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**\*The Fraction Anthem: S 161**

**Lamb of God**

David Hurd

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:



have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## The Ministration of Communion

BCP p. 365

*All are welcome to gather at the Lord's table. At the appropriate time, you may come forward to the altar rail, filling in from right to left. Kneeling is optional. Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the clergy. Wine is available either by sipping from the common cup (silver chalice) or by intinction (dipping the wafer into the pottery chalice). If you choose to intinct, please hold your wafer visibly to indicate that is your preference. Please take utmost care to keep your fingers from touching the wine as you dip. You may choose to receive only the bread or the wine, as either one alone is a full Communion. Please tell an usher if you need Communion brought to you. In the Episcopal Church, it is customary that those receiving Communion have been baptized in any Christian tradition, and no one who comes to the altar in faith is turned away. If you would like to learn more about Baptism at St. Alban's, please be in touch with the clergy. If you are not receiving Communion, we hope you will come forward and cross your arms over your chest, so that we might share a blessing with you.*

## The Communion Hymns: 84 Love Came Down at Christmas

GARTAN

### 339 Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness

SCHMÜCK DICH

## \*The Post Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

*The congregation is invited to stand or kneel as able.*

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## \*The Blessing

## \*The Recessional Hymn: 107 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

## \*The Dismissal

BCP p. 366

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## The Postlude: Once in Royal David's City

Henry Gauntlett, arr. John Innes



## Welcome to St. Alban's!



St. Alban's is a friendly, inclusive, and growing congregation that seeks to honor the Lord Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship, and outreach. We pray that your worship with us will bring you the grace, peace, and joy of Christ. If you are new to our faith community, we would love to connect with you. Please fill out a purple sheet located on the Welcome Center table in the narthex or scan the QR code to the left with the camera on your smart phone which will direct you to an online newcomer form.

### St. Alban's is a Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina

**The Right Reverend Samuel Sewall Rodman, III**, Bishop of North Carolina

**The Right Reverend Jennifer Brooke-Davidson**, Assistant Bishop

### The Clergy and Staff

**The Reverend Carmen Germino**, Rector

**The Reverend Kevin Lloyd**, Associate Rector

Davidson College Campus Minister

**The Reverend Leslie Nuñez Steffensen**, Priest Associate

**The Reverend Valerie Davis**, Deacon

**John Bailey**, Organist and Choirmaster

**Jessica Ewell**, Parish Administrator and Communications Director

**Courtney Fossett**, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

**Erin Garrett**, Director of Finance

**Matt Presson**, Director of Children's Choir and Stream Team

**Nadia Rahaim**, Preschool Director

### The Vestry of St. Alban's

Connor Fulton, Matthew Goodson, Sarah Hicks, James Kennedy, Annamarie Klemm, Allison Kratt, Mike McDonnell, Cheryl Nealy, Dave Pylipow, Mike Sass, Joseph Torok



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