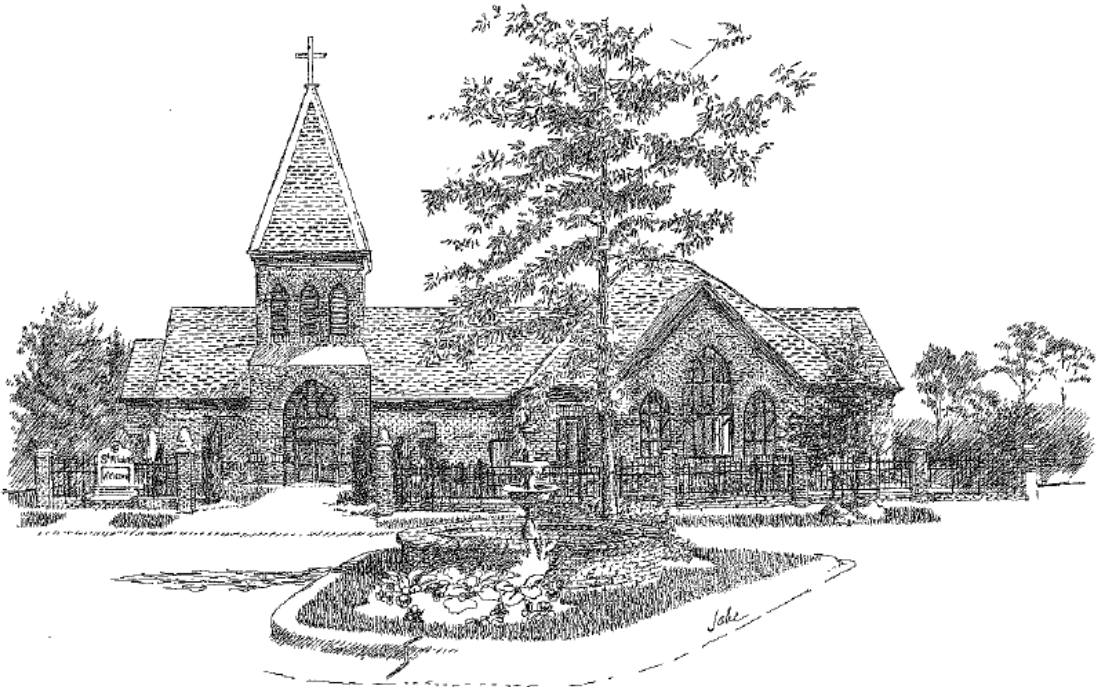


# St. Alban's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*welcomes you*



## **The First Sunday in Lent**

A Penitential Order and Holy Eucharist: Rite II

February 22, 2026

10:30 a.m.

# Welcome to St. Alban's Episcopal Church!

If you are new today, we are very glad you are here. There is a Welcome Desk to the right of the front doors, under the blue and gold banner. Look for a friendly Greeter to answer any questions or point you in the right direction. Please complete a newcomer form at the Welcome Desk so that we can be in touch and send you our newsletter. We would love to get to know you and become your spiritual home.

## Our Building

Our worship area/sanctuary is called the *nave*, which comes from a Latin word for “ship” because the ceiling of a church resembles the upside-down hull of a boat, and the people within are on a journey together with Christ.

The upstairs lobby area is called the *narthex*. Adjacent is the Reflection Room, which is used for meetings and classes. The hallway off the narthex leads to the office and the stairs.

Upstairs restrooms are located just off the narthex. A gender neutral/family restroom with a changing table is available in the Reflection Room.

You can access the lower floor by staircase or elevator. Once downstairs, turn left to find the nursery, Sunday School classrooms for children, and additional restrooms. Turn right to find the choir room, the youth room, and the parlor, which leads to the Parish Hall and another gender neutral/family restroom.

## Worship

Our bulletin will guide you through the service. At times, the congregation will be invited to stand or kneel, but feel free to participate in whatever way is comfortable for you. Responses spoken by the congregation are included in the bulletin, and the full text of any parts not printed in the bulletin can be found in *The Book of Common Prayer* (the book with the cross on the cover) or the hymnal—see your bulletin for the page numbers. Hymnals and prayer books can be found beneath the chairs.

If you are new to Episcopal worship, feel free to simply listen and let the rhythms and cadences of the service wash over you. With time, you will find that many of the words in the service become imprinted on your heart.

## Nametags

God calls us each by name, and we want to be able to call one another by name too. We encourage everyone to wear a nametag each time you come to church. If you need a nametag, a Greeter can help you in the narthex. When not in use, we have magnetic storage boards for nametags both upstairs in the narthex and downstairs in the parlor—feel free to pick the station closest to the entrance you tend to use most often.

## Children

Children of all ages are always welcome in worship. The sounds of children in church are the sounds of a living, thriving church! Sitting close to the front can help little ones be more engaged in the service. Crayons and a coloring page are available just outside the nave. Sometimes kids (and adults!) need a little break, so feel free to visit the narthex or Reflection Room for more wiggle space if that would be helpful.

If desired, our nursery (for ages 3 and under) is open from 10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. It is located downstairs in the Sunday School area. The nursery is staffed by a mix of volunteers and paid attendants, often Davidson College students. All nursery attendants have had background checks and follow safe church procedures.

Sunday School for ages 4 - 12th grade begins at 10:15 a.m. downstairs. Students will return to the nave during the Passing of the Peace, so that families can be together for Communion.

## Refreshments & Fellowship

Following the service, all are invited to the Parish Hall for coffee, snacks, and friendly conversation. Whether you're a newcomer or a longtime member, you are encouraged to find someone you haven't met before and say hello!

# The Word of God

*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. \*The congregation is invited to stand as able when indicated by an asterisk.*

**The Prelude:** Beautiful Savior

Flor Peeters

**\*The Processional Hymn: 149, Eternal Lord of love, behold your Church**

OLD 124TH

**\*The Opening Acclamation**

*Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 351*

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**People: His mercy endures forever.**

**The Decalogue**

*BCP p. 350*

*The congregation is invited to kneel as able.*

Celebrant: Hear the commandments of God to his people:  
I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.  
You shall have no other gods but me.

**People: Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

Honor your father and your mother.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit murder.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not commit adultery.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not steal.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not be a false witness.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

**Amen. Lord have mercy.**

**The Confession & Absolution**

*BCP p. 352*

*The congregation is invited to remain kneeling 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 Kyrie: S 91**

**Lord, have mercy**

Healey Willan

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.  
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

**\*The Collect of the Day**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The First Lesson**

**Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7**

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.” Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the

trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 32** *Read responsively by half verse.*

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \*  
**and whose sin is put away!**

Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, \*  
**and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, \*  
**because of my groaning all day long.**

For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; \*  
**my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, \*  
**and did not conceal my guilt.**

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." \*  
**Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; \*  
**when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; \*  
**you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; \*  
**I will guide you with my eye.**

Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; \*  
**who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."**

Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \*  
**but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; \*  
**shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

**The Second Lesson**

**Romans 5:12-19**

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free

gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*The Sequence Hymn: 448, O love, how deep, how broad, how high** DEUS TUORUM MILITUM

*Stanzas 1-3 are sung before the Gospel, stanzas 4-6 are sung following the Gospel.*

**\*The Gospel**

**Matthew 4:1-11**

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

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

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

Derek Riccelli

**\*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. Please read together the names on our prayer list when prompted.*

*Deacon*

As sinners created from dust and destined for dust, but also as apostles created from love and destined for love, we lift our prayers to God, saying: “O Savior, hear us, help us, send us.”

*Intercessor*

Holy God, in this Lenten season, draw your Church more deeply into the words and ways of Jesus. Teach us to live like him and love like him. Grant to your people devotion as strong as that of the woman who anointed him, and the courage of all the disciples who followed him to Golgotha. O Savior, **hear us, help us, send us.**

Give wisdom and compassion to the leaders of our nation and of all nations, that they might join you in the work of creating the world you intend for all your people. O Savior, **hear us, help us, send us.**

Show your mercy to those who are fearful, grieving, or suffering. May your healing presence abide with those who are in need. Together, we pray for... Are there others? O Savior, **hear us, help us, send us.**

We pray also for all those who have died. O Savior, **hear us, help us, send us.**

*Celebrant*

As your imperfect yet beloved apostles, O God, lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust, from falsehood to truth, from war to peace, from hatred to love, from death to life. Send us forth to proclaim with boldness the truth of your mercy and the depths of your Son’s love. **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 Lord is My Light

Franklin D. Ashdown

*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.*



san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. \_\_\_\_\_

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

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

*The Celebrant continues.*

Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name. **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

**\*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 are choosing the common cup, it will be stationed in front of the altar rail in the center— please make your way there after consuming your wafer at the rail. If you choose to intinct, please remain where you are and 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 Hymn: You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord

Michael Joncas



1. You who dwell in the shel - ter of the Lord, who a -  
2. Snares of the fowl - er will nev - er cap - ture you, and  
3. For to the an - gels God's giv - en a com - mand to

bide in his sha - dow for life, say to the Lord: "My  
fam - ine will bring you no fear; un - der God's wings your  
guard you in all of your ways; up - on their hands they will

ref - uge, my rock in whom I trust!"  
ref - uge with faith - ful - ness your shield.  
bear you up, lest you dash your foot a - gainst a stone.

*Refrain*

"And I will raise you up on ea - gle's wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the  
sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand."

## The Communion Hymn: 328, Draw nigh and take the body of the Lord

SONG 26

**\*The Post Communion Prayer**

BCP p. 366

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

*Celebrant and People*

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

**The Solemn Prayer over the People**

*The congregation is invited to kneel as able.*

Grant, most merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve you with a quiet mind; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**\*The Recessional Hymn: 142, Lord, who throughout these forty days**

ST. FLAVIAN

**\*The Dismissal**

BCP p. 366

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**The Postlude: God of Grace and God of Glory**

Wilbur Held

*Thank you to Lois Buesser, who is serving as our interim organist and choir director during our time of staff transition.*

# Welcome to St. Alban's!

Together We... *Gather to Worship, Scatter to Serve, Love Like Jesus*



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

**Bob Beckham**, Acting Facility Manager

**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

Denise Badgett, Sandy Beetner, Zee Berl, Elaine Carmann, Gordon Garrett, Sarah Hicks, Mike Kingsley, Mike McDonnell, Kaitlin Mollenkopf, Dave Pylipow, Michael Spivey, Jim Turner



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