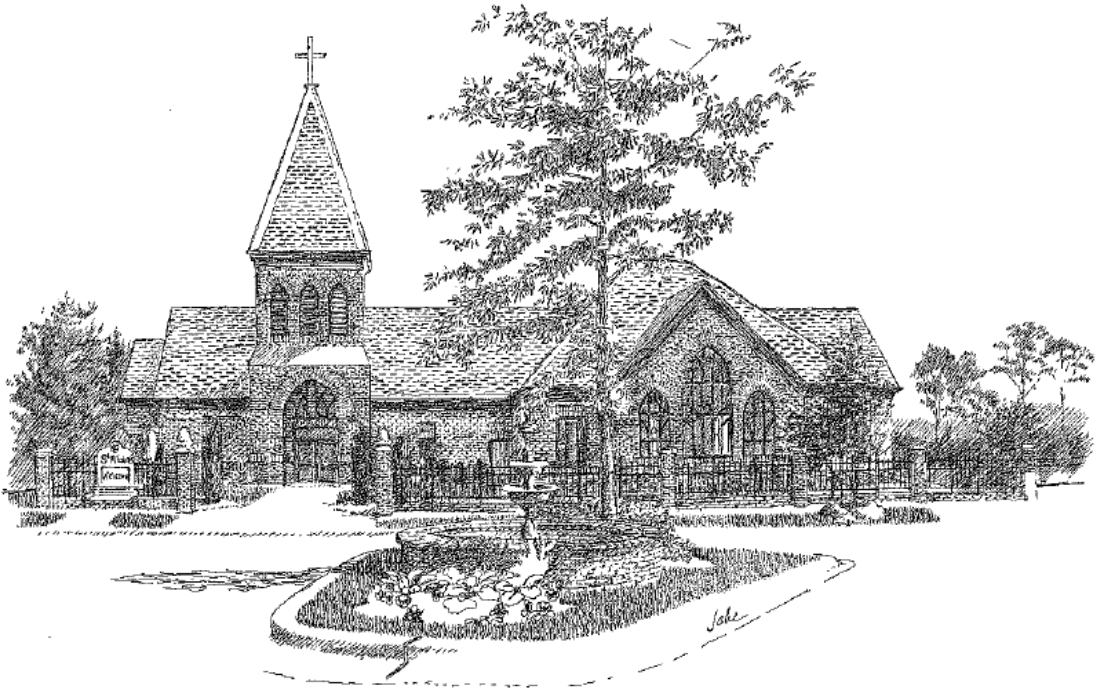


# St. Alban's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*welcomes you*



## **The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

May 3, 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:** The Church's One Foundation

Arr. Don Hustad

**\*The Processional Hymn: 525, The Church's one foundation**

AURELIA

**\*The Opening Acclamation**

*Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 355*

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

**\*The Collect for Purity**

*BCP p. 355*

**\*The Gloria: S 278**

**Glory to God in the highest**

William Mathias



1. Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and  
peace to his peo-ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven-ly King, al-  
might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo-ry. 3. Lord Je-sus Christ,  
on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you  
take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;  
5. you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re -

ceive our prayer. 6. For  
 you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,  
 7. you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the  
 Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of  
 God the Fa-ther. A-men.

**\*The Collect of the Day**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**  
 Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**The First Lesson**

**Acts 7:55-60**

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

*Read responsively by half verse.*

In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; \*  
**deliver me in your righteousness.**

Incline your ear to me; \*  
**make haste to deliver me.**

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; \*  
**for the sake of your Name, lead me and guide me.**

Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me, \*  
**for you are my tower of strength.**

Into your hands I commend my spirit, \*  
**for you have redeemed me, O LORD, O God of truth.**

My times are in your hand; \*  
**rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

Make your face to shine upon your servant, \*  
**and in your loving-kindness save me.**

## The Second Lesson

## 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner”, and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## \*The Sequence Hymn: 487, Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

THE CALL

*Stanzas 1-2 are sung before the Gospel, stanza 3 is sung following the Gospel.*

## \*The Gospel

John 14:1-14

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

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

Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it."

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## The Sermon

Mike Billioni

## \*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.*

*Intercessor*

Heavenly King, for us you endured the cross and the grave. When we were yet sinners, you redeemed and saved us. May we sing your eternal praises everywhere we go, saying Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In this Easter season, may we commit ourselves to work for the unity of the church, that Christ's body may be one, for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

We pray for our nation, and our world, and for its leaders and members of the armed forces, that your spirit of peace and renewal may overcome our differences, for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Comfort all who suffer, and surround them with your grace. Together, we pray for: **April, BJ, Bill, Bob, Cheryl, Christine, Christopher, Cynthia, David, Eric, Gary, Gina, Jackson, Jen, Joan, Joan, Joe, Joyce, Linda, Linda, Linda, Marge, Mark, Matt, Mayli, Noah, Pam, Pat, Shirley, Sujata, Susan, Susie, Wayne.** Are there others? May they know your healing love, for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Give rest to all who have died, especially Jonelle Robinson, and help us to trust that their pain is no more, for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

May we have the persistent faith of Mary Magdalene and the women at the tomb. Make us your sign of new life in our world, for Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Celebrant*

God of life, we thank you for the mystery planted in us, the paradox of life from death and community from scattered disciples. We praise you for the dying which saves us from death and for the rising which brings us life. We pray, as we live, through Jesus the risen one, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **The Confession & Absolution**

*BCP p. 360*

*The congregation is invited to kneel as able.*

*Celebrant*

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

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

BCP p. 360

## The Greeting and Announcements

# The Holy Communion

## The Offertory Anthem: Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Dale Wood

*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 Festival Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

## \*The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A

BCP p. 361

## \*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 written below the notes. The first staff is for the Celebrant and the second for the People. The third staff is for the Celebrant and the fourth for the People. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." "It is right to give him thanks and praise."

*The Celebrant continues.*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
 Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
 there - fore let us keep the feast.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**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 Anthem: Jesus, Sun of Life, My Splendor**

G. F. Handel

**\*The Communion Hymn: On Christ the solid rock**

Edward Mote (1797-1874)

1. My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus' blood and  
 2. When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on His un -  
 3. His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood, Sup - port me in the  
 4. When He shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in

1. right - eous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, But  
 2. chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale, My  
 3. whelm - ing flood; When all a - round my soul gives way, he  
 4. Him be found; Dressed in His right - eous - ness a - lone, Fault -

1. whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 2. an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the so - lid Rock, I stand, All  
 3. then is all my hope and stay.  
 4. less to stand be - fore the throne.

oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

**\*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: 420, When in our music God is glorified**

ENGELBERG

**\*The Dismissal**

*BCP p. 366*

**People:**       **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**The Postlude:** Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing

Arr. Healey Willan

Thank you to Mike Billioni for preaching the sermon today. Mike is currently taking seminary classes as he discerns how God is calling him to serve in ministry.

Thank you to Lois Buesser, who completes her tenure as our interim organist and choir director today. Please join us in expressing our gratitude during a festive coffee hour in the Parish Hall following the service, courtesy of the Ministry of Fun.

# 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**, 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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