St. Alban's EPISCOPAL CHURCH

welcomes you



The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Eucharist: Rite II September 7, 2025 10:30 a.m.

The Word of God

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

The Prelude: Arise, My Soul, Arise!

Finnish folk tune, arr. Dale Wood

*The Processional Hymn: 372 Praise to the Living God!

LEONI

*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

*A Song of Praise: S 236

Glory to You

John Rutter





*The Collect of the Day

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

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Moses said to all Israel the words which the Lord commanded him, "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

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

Psalm 1 Read responsively by half verse.

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, * nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

Their delight is in the law of the Lord, *

and they meditate on his law day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; * everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked; *

they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, * nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, * but the way of the wicked is doomed.

The Second Lesson Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love-- and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother-- especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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

*The Sequence Hymn: 675 Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

BOURBON

The Rev. Carmen Germino

Stanas 1 & 2 are sung before the Gospel, stanzas 4 & 5 are sung after.

*The Gospel Luke 14:25-33

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The Nicene Creed BCP p. 358

Celebrant and People

The Sermon

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 and Litany for the Anniversary of September 11, 2001

The congregation is invited to stand or kneel as able.

Deacon

With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord.

Intercessor

We remember, O Lord, all whose lives were lost. Lord, hear our prayer.

For those who resisted terror at the price of their own lives, Lord, hear our prayer.

For the first responders who rushed in to burning buildings as others rushed out, Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who worked valiantly and selflessly to help others, Lord, hear our prayer.

For innocent people who were treated with hatred or suspicion because of their religion or nationality, Lord, hear our prayer.

Govern and direct your Church; fill it will all love and truth; and grant it the unity which is your will. **Lord,** hear our prayer.

Give us boldness to preach the gospel of hope in a broken world. Lord, hear our prayer.

Guide the leaders of this nation and all the nations into the ways of justice and peace. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Keep in safety those who travel. Lord, hear our prayer.

Guard and protect all who risk their lives in service to this country and the world. Lord, hear our prayer.

In our parish family, we lift up those in need of your healing grace. Together we pray for...and all others we name at this time, silently or aloud.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant and People

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. 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

BCP p. 360

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

The Greeting and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem: Lead Me, Lord

music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness, make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

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 and select the appropriate fund from the drop-down menu.

*The Presentation of Gifts

*The Doxology: As Those of Old Their First Fruits Brought

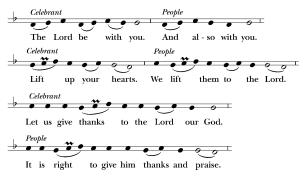
FOREST GREEN

As those of old their first fruits brought of vineyards, flock, and field to God, the giver of all good, the source of bounteous yield; so we today our first fruits bring, the wealth of this good land, of farm and market, shop and home, of mind, and heart, and hand.

*The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A

BCP p. 361

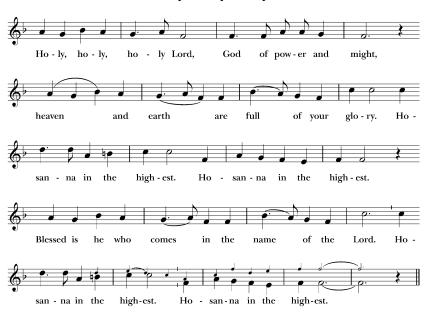
*The Sursum Corda



*The Sanctus: S 125

Holy, Holy, Holy

Richard Proulx



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

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

The Celebrant continues.



*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 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 Hymns: 635 If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee 345 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name

NEUMARK ELLERS

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: 563 Go Forward, Christian Soldier LANCASHIRE

*The Dismissal BCP p. 366

People: Thanks be to God.

The Postlude: Recessional on *LANCASHIRE* Henry Smart, arr. Charles Webb

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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 **John Bailey**, Organist and Choirmaster **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, Connor Fulton, Gordon Garrett, Matthew Goodson, Sarah Hicks, James Kennedy, Mike Kingsley, Annamarie Klemm, Mike McDonnell, Dave Pylipow



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