

# St. Alban's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*welcomes you*



## **The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

April 26, 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 Processional Hymn: 383, Fairest Lord Jesus**

ST. ELIZABETH

**\*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.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### The First Lesson

**Acts 2:42-47**

Those who had been baptized devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 23** *Read responsively by half verse.*

The LORD is my shepherd; \*  
**I shall not be in want.**

He makes me lie down in green pastures \*

**and leads me beside still waters.**

He revives my soul \*

**and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.**

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; \*

**for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*

**you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.**

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*

**and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**

## The Second Lesson

**1 Peter 2:19-25**

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## \*The Sequence Hymn: 664, My shepherd will supply my need

RESIGNATION

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

## \*The Gospel

**John 10:1-10**

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

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

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

Gospeler: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**\*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... 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, 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**

*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 Shepherd

Howard Goodall

*Children's Choir & Parish Choir*

*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 Celebrant continues.



## \*The Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

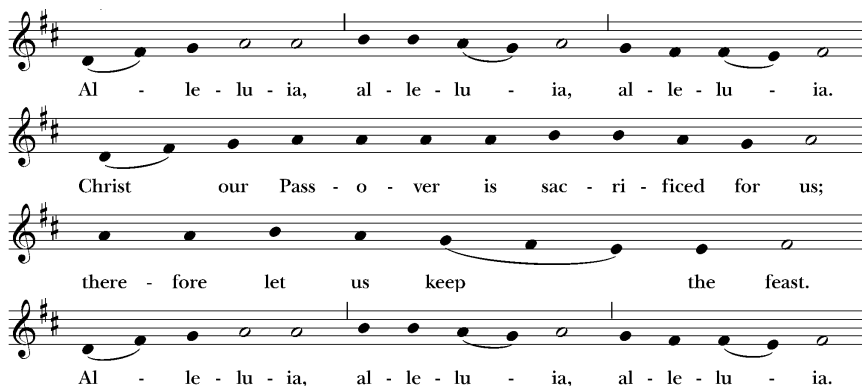
*Celebrant and People*

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 Fraction Anthem: S-154

## Christ our Passover

David Hurd



## 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: Agnus Dei

M.W. Presson

*Children's Choir & Parish Choir*

**\*The Communion Hymn: Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling**

Will L. Thompson

1. Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing,  
 2. Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing,  
 3. Time is now fleet - ing, the mo - ments are pass - ing,  
 4. Oh! For the won - der - ful love He has prom - ised,

1. Call - ing for you and for me; — See, on the por - tals He's  
 2. Plead - ing for you and for me? — Why should we lin - ger and  
 3. Pass - ing for you and for me; — Shad - ows are gath - er - ing,  
 4. Prom - ised for you and for me; — Though we have sinned, He has

1. wait - ing and watch - ing, Watch - ing for you and for me. —  
 2. heed not His mer - cies, Mer - cies for you and for me? —  
 3. death beds are com - ing, Com - ing for you and for me. —  
 4. mer - cy and par - don, Par - don for you and for me. —

Come home, Come home, come home, come home,

Ye who are wea - ry, come home! — Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, Call - ing, O sin - ner, come home! —

## **\*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: 473 Lift high the Cross**

CRUCIFER

### **\*The Dismissal**

*BCP p. 366*

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

## **The Postlude**

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**, 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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