

# St. Alban's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*welcomes you*



## **The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

July 12, 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.

Children of all ages are invited to Children's Chapel. Following the Gospel, children will process out for age-appropriate music, prayers, and a brief lesson during the Sermon. They will return during the Passing of the Peace so 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:** *Prière*

Denis Bédard

**\*The Processional Hymn: 392, Come, we that love the Lord**

VINEYARD HAVEN

**\*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 Trisagion: Holy God** (*sung 3 times*)

Carl Haywood

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y, Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One,  
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.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; 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**

**Isaiah 55:10-13**

As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 65:9-14**

*Read responsively by half verse.*

You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; \*

**the river of God is full of water.**

You prepare the grain, \*

**for so you provide for the earth.**

You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; \*

**with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

You crown the year with your goodness, \*

**and your paths overflow with plenty.**

May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, \*

**and the hills be clothed with joy.**

May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; \*

**let them shout for joy and sing.**

### **The Second Lesson**

**Romans 8:1-11**

There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### **\*The Sequence Hymn: 679, Surely it is God who saves me**

THOMAS MERTON

*Stanza 1 is sung before the Gospel, stanza 2 is sung following the Gospel.*

*During the singing of stanza 1, the children are invited to gather around the children's cross for the reading of the Gospel.*

## **\*The Gospel**

**Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

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

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

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!" "Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

**Deacon:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Following the Gospel reading, the children are invited to follow the cross to the narthex for Children's Chapel. They will return during the Passing of the Peace.*

## **The Sermon**

The Rev. Leslie Nuñez Steffensen

## **\*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, the world, and all who are in need.

*Intervenor*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you; **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons; **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed, eternal rest; **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

We pray for peace for everyone affected by war and violence. We also lift up those on our parish prayer list. Together we pray... Are there others?

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

**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: *Praise His Holy Name*

Keith Hampton

*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 Doxology

OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>

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

## \*The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer B

BCP p. 367

## \*The Sursum Corda

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The Celebrant continues, with the congregation responding as indicated.*

## \*The Sanctus

### Holy, holy, holy Lord

LAND OF REST

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might, —  
heaven and earth — are full of your glo - ry. Ho - 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. — 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:** By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

**People:** 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 164

### Jesus, Lamb of God

F. Schubert/R. Proulx

Je - sus, Lamb of God; have mer - cy on us,

Je - su, bear - er of our sins; have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world;

give us your peace, give us your 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.

**\*Communion Anthem: Ave Verum Corpus**

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary,  
Who has truly suffered, was sacrificed on the cross for mortals,  
Whose side was pierced, whence flowed water and blood:  
Be for us a foretaste (of heaven) during our final examining.  
O Jesu sweet, O Jesu pure, O Jesu,  
Son of Mary, have mercy upon me. Amen.

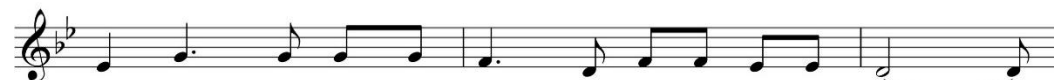
**\*Communion Hymn: How Great Thou Art**



O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er  
When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der And hear the  
And when I think that God, his Son not spa - ring, Sent him to  
When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



all the worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars I hear the roll - ing  
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, When I look down from loft - y moun - tain  
die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly  
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum ble ad - o -



thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse - dis - played.  
gran - deur, And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze.  
bear - ing, He bled and died to take a - way my sin.  
ra - tion, And there pro - claim, my God, how great thou art.



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to Thee; How great Thou art, how great Thou art!



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior, God, to Thee; How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

**\*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: 680, O God, our help in ages past**

ST. ANNE

**\*The Dismissal**

BCP p. 366

**People: Thanks be to God.**

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

arr. Paul Manz

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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

**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 Reverend Doctor Kevin Turner**, Minister of Music

## 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



301 Caldwell Lane, Davidson, NC 28036

Office: 704-892-0173 | Preschool: 704-892-8955 | [www.saintalbansdavidson.org](http://www.saintalbansdavidson.org)



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