

St. Alban's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

welcomes you



The Third Sunday in Lent

A Penitential Order and Holy Eucharist: Rite II

March 23, 2025

10:30 a.m.

A Penitential Order and Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Welcome to St. Alban's! 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. Page numbers in the bulletin refer to The Book of Common Prayer (BCP), the book with the cross on the cover. Hymnals and Prayer Books can be found beneath the seats. If you choose to kneel for parts of the service, please use the kneeler beneath your own chair. Children of all ages are always welcome in worship. Crayons and a Bible story coloring page are available on the table just outside the doors to the nave. If desired, our nursery is available for children age three and under, and is located downstairs. Sunday School for ages four-12th grade takes place from 10:15-11:00 a.m. downstairs, with the children returning upstairs to the nave at the Exchange of the Peace. *The congregation is invited to stand as able when indicated by an asterisk.

The Word of God

The Prelude: Kind Maker of the World (Hymn 152) French Noël, arr. Charles Callahan
Improvisation-Pastorale Joseph Jongen

***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 Confession *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 Absolution *BCP p. 353*

***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
 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, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson

Exodus 3:1-15

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain." But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I am who I am." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 63:1-8 *Read responsively by half verse.*

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
**my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.**
Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, *
that I might behold your power and your glory.
For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.
So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.
My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,
When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.
For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.
My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.

The Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***The Sequence Hymn: 648 When Israel Was in Egypt's Land**

GO DOWN, MOSES

Stanzas 1 & 2 are sung before the Gospel, stanzas 3 & 4 are sung after.

*The Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

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

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

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them--do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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."

Intersessor: 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: O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

music: Elaine Hagenberg

O Love, that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its
flow may richer, fuller be.

O Joy, that seeks me through the pain, I cannot close my
heart to Thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and
feel the promise is not vain. That morn shall tearless be.

O Love, that will not let me go.

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:** 143 O Father, Son, and Spirit Blest

ERHALT UNS, HERR

O Father, Son, and Spirit Blest,
to Thee be every prayer addressed,
who art in three-fold name adored,
from age to age, the only Lord.

***The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer C**

BCP p. 369

*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.

Celebrant

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home. **By your will they were created and have their being.**

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with the capacity for memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another. **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace. **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

*The Sanctus: S 129

Holy, Holy, Holy

Robert Powell

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, hea - ven 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.

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.** *The Celebrant continues.*

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 choose to intinct, please 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: 685 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me 152 Kind Maker of the World

TOPLADY
A LA VENUE DE NOËL

*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.

Look mercifully on this your family, Almighty God, that by your great goodness they may be governed and preserved evermore; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***The Recessional Hymn: 344 Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing** SICILIAN MARINERS

***The Dismissal**

BCP p. 366

Deacon: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Postlude: Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

J. Klug

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Welcome to St. Alban's!



St. Alban's is a friendly, inclusive, and growing congregation that seeks to honor the Lord Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship, and outreach. 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

The Reverend Valerie Davis, Deacon

John Bailey, Organist and Choirmaster

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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