

# St. Alban's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*welcomes you*



## **The Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

May 10, 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:** *Prelude in G*

Felix Mendelssohn

**\*The Processional Hymn: 500, Creator Spirit, by whose aid**

SURREY

**\*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, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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**

**Acts 17:22-31**

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’ Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

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

**Psalm 66:7-18** *Read responsively by half verse.*

Bless our God, you peoples; \*

**make the voice of his praise to be heard;**

Who holds our souls in life, \*

**and will not allow our feet to slip.**

For you, O God, have proved us; \*

**you have tried us just as silver is tried.**

You brought us into the snare; \*

**you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; \*

**but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.**

I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, \*

**which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.**

I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; \*

**I will give you oxen and goats.**

Come and listen, all you who fear God, \*

**and I will tell you what he has done for me.**

I called out to him with my mouth, \*

**and his praise was on my tongue.**

If I had found evil in my heart, \*

**the Lord would not have heard me;**

But in truth God has heard me; \*

**he has attended to the voice of my prayer.**

Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, \*

**nor withheld his love from me.**

**The Second Lesson**

**1 Peter 3:13-22**

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**\*The Sequence Hymn: 516, Come down, O Love divine**

DOWN AMPNEY

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

**\*The Gospel**

**John 14:15-21**

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

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

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you." "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Kevin Lloyd

**\*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 worshipped 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*

On this Mother's Day, we give you thanks for the divine gift of motherhood in all its diverse forms and we ask for your grace to enfold all who grieve on this day. We honor those who have mothered us along our journey, and we ask your blessing upon the ministry of Thompson Child and Family Focus as they support families and children in our community. 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 Love of God**

Austin C. Lovelace

*Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord. The loose plate offering this morning will benefit Thompson Child & Family Focus. Checks can be made out to St. Alban's with Thompson in the memo line. To utilize our text-to-give option, simply text "ALBANS" to 73256 and select Thompson from the pull-down menu.*



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.*

**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* *People*  
A-men.

**\*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

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 Hymn: Sweet hour of prayer

SWEET HOUR

1. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, That calls me from — a  
2. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, Thy wings shall my — pe -  
3. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, May I thy con - so -

1. world of care, And bids me at my Fa - ther's throne Make  
2. ti - tion bear To Him whose truth and faith - ful - ness En -  
3. la - tion share, Till from Mount Pis - gah's loft - y height I

1. all my wants — and wish - es known. In sea - sons of dis -  
2. gage the wait - ing soul to bless; And since He bids me  
3. view my home — and take my flight: This robe of flesh I'll

1. tress and grief My soul has of - ten found re - lief.  
2. seek His face, Be - lieve His word and trust His grace.  
3. drop, and rise To seize the ev - er - last - ing prize.

1. And oft escaped the tempter's snare By  
 2. I'll cast on Him my ev'ry care, And  
 3. And shout, while passing through the air, "Fare -

1. thy re - turn, sweet hour of prayer.  
 2. wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.  
 3. well, fare - well, sweet hour of prayer!"

**\*The Communion Hymn: 306, Come, risen Lord, and deign to be our guest** SURSUM CORDA

**\*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: 492, Sing, ye faithful, sing with gladness**

FINNIAN

**\*The Dismissal**

*BCP p. 366*

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

**The Postlude: *Postlude in D***

Denis Bédard

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## The Joy and Pain of Mother's Day

Mother's Day was first celebrated in the U.S. in 1908 at St. Andrew's Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother, who had been a peace activist caring for wounded soldiers on both sides of the Civil War. Jarvis lobbied her legislators to make Mother's Day a national holiday. Hallmark soon caught on and Mother's Day greeting cards became popular. Jarvis eventually became so disenchanted with the commercialization of Mother's Day that she organized boycotts of the very holiday she founded. Mother's Day is still a complicated holiday. Of course, it is important to celebrate and give thanks for the women who give us life. For many families, it is a joyful day. And yet, for others, Mother's Day is a day of grief. Some of us are missing our mothers today. Some of us are missing our children today. Some of us are lamenting strained relationships with our mothers or our children. And some of us long for motherhood but have not had that longing fulfilled. Mother's Day is also one of the busiest days of the year for those who work in the food service industry and must give up time with their own families to serve others. Today at St. Alban's, we give thanks for all in our community who nurture and care for others. We give thanks for the witness of Mary, the mother of Jesus, who knew the joy of raising a child and the pain of losing a child. Most of all, we give thanks to our God, who loves each of us like a mother hen gathering her chicks (Luke 13:34). In this spirit, we invite *everyone* to take a flower as you depart today. Keep it as a reminder of your belovedness or share it with someone special to you.

## Annual Thompson Collection

Today we are accepting donations for Thompson Child & Family Focus. Thompson is the premier provider of clinical and prevention services for children and families across the Carolinas. Thompson is transforming lives through prevention, mental health services, and foster care. The Charlotte-based nationally accredited nonprofit agency changes the lives of at-risk children and families through therapy, education and care. Annually, Thompson impacts more than 12,000 children and families from its 4 locations specializing in clinical and behavioral treatment, developmental education and proactive care. Checks should be made out to St. Alban's with Thompson in the memo line. To donate online, visit our online giving page by texting "ALBANS" to 73256 and then select Thompson from the pulldown menu.

# 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



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