



Welcome to St Alban's Church

Easter 6

This church is fitted with an induction loop system. Please switch your hearing aid to 'Two beeps' (T)

Mass Setting today — Mass of St Thomas Copyright 2012 David Thorne Music

OPENING HYMN *John Newton (1725 - 1807)*

**1. Glorious things of thee are
spoken,
Zion, city of our God!
He whose word cannot be
broken
formed thee for his own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure
repose?
With salvation's walls
surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy
foes.**

**2. See! The streams of living
waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and
daughters,**

**and all fear of want remove;
who can faint, whilst such a
river
ever flows their thirst to
assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the
Giver,
never fails from age to age.**

**3. Saviour, if of Zion's city
I, through grace, a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name.
Fading is the worldling's
pleasure,
all his boasted pomp and show,
solid joys and lasting treasure
none but Zion's children know.**

We are gathered together as one body

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Before the children leave for Junior Church we pray together....

Dear God, this church is a family.

**Help us to learn together, to worship together,
to share together and to pray together.**

In Jesus name. Amen

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Lord God, our maker and our redeemer,
this is your world and we are your people: come among us and save us.

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought, in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.**

We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us.

We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins.

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light. Amen**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you † pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in life eternal. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

GLORIA

**Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Glory to God, glory to God, Glory to God in the highest.**

THE COLLECT (The special prayer of the day)

God our redeemer,
you have delivered us from the power of darkness
and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:
grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life,
so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

*After each reading ...*This is the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God**

FIRST READING: Acts 16.9-15

SECOND READING: Revelation 21.10, 22-22.5

Stand to sing the Gradual *Hymn Henry Smith © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music
administered by Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

Give thanks with a grateful heart.

Give thanks to the Holy One.

Give thanks because he's given

Jesus Christ, his Son. (Repeat)

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong",
let the poor say, "I am rich",
because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong",
let the poor say, "I am rich",
because of what the Lord has done for us.**

***Give thanks with a grateful heart.....
(Repeat)***

THE GOSPEL – John 5.1-9

We sing....**Alleluia, alleluia; alleluia, alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you O God

*After the reading...*This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED *Please stand if you are able*

**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;
he was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who 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 INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy...**hear our prayer.**

*At the end of the prayers we say together: Merciful Father, accept
these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.*

THE PEACE. *Please stand if you are able*

To crown all things there must be love, to bind all together and complete the whole. Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**
Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN: *Charles Wesley (1707 - 1788)*

**O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
my great Redeemer's praise!
The glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace,
the triumphs of his grace,
the triumphs of his grace!**

**Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace,
'tis life, and health, and peace,
'tis life, and health, and peace.**

**He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
he sets the prisoner free,
he sets the prisoner free;
His blood can make the foulest clean,
his blood availed for me,
his blood availed for me,
his blood availed for me.**

**He speaks and, listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
new life the dead receive;**

The mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe,
the humble poor believe,
the humble poor believe.

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
your loosened tongues employ,
your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Saviour come;
and leap, ye lame, for joy,
and leap, ye lame, for joy,
and leap, ye lame, for joy!

My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of thy name,
the honours of thy name,
the honours of thy name.

THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Blessed are you,

Blessed be God forever

The Lord be with you. **And also with you**

Lift up your hearts **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give thanks and praise

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; Do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith

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

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day

when your kingdom comes

and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms

and bring us with the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Alban, and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours,

O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, as our Saviour taught us so we pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name;

Your kingdom come, your will be done

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,

now and for ever. AMEN

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace**

God's holy gifts, for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

All baptised Christians who receive communion in their own churches are welcome to receive communion. Any member of the congregation may come to receive a blessing

COMMUNION HYMN: *Edwin Hatch (1835-1889).*

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew;
that I may love what thou dost love
and do what thou wouldst do.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure;
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine;
until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.**

**Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.**

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

God our Father,
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life:
may we thirst for you,
the spring of life and source of goodness,
through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Through Him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life, perfect in you the image of his glory;
and the blessing ...

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen

CLOSING HYMN *Traditional*

**Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising,
give me joy in my heart I pray.
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising.
Keep me praising till the end of day.**

***Sing hosanna! Sing Hosanna!
Sing hosanna to the King of Kings!
Sing hosanna! Sing Hosanna!
Sing hosanna to the King!***

**Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting,
give me peace in my heart I pray.
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting.
Keep me resting till the end of day.**

**Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
give me love in my heart, I pray.
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving,
keep me serving 'till the end of day.**

**Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
give me oil in my lamp, I pray.
Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning,
keep me burning 'till the end of day.**

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FOR OUR PRAYERS:

The Parish: *Soane Close, Staplecross Court and Stevenage Road,
Silchester Drive and The Croft*

Prayers for: *Alistair and Marcia, Sophie Baker, Judith Aldridge,
Emma Perry, Eslin, Douglas, Fran, Linda Ballard, John Romaine,
Peter Hill, Kerry, Gordon, June, Keith Ford, Rose, Julie, Liam, Cruse,
Jayne, Freddie, Mark Parsons, John, Bev, Robert, Janette, Sheila
and family, Barbara Britt, Neal and Seamus*

The Departed: *John Pilkington – Priest, Pearl and John Lee*

Year's Mind: *Walter Sharpe and Stanley Mansfield*

Flowers donated today by, Betty Phillips, in celebration of her 90th birthday on May 28th.

Church Flowers Donation List. Any person who would like to donate towards the cost of church flowers in memory of a loved one or to celebrate an anniversary or birthday, please put the relevant details on the list provided at the back of the church. Please give your donation to Sue Richardson (Treasurer) or Revd. Ann in a Flower Donation envelope.

Computer Group. Why not come along to our friendly computer group in the Church Hall - Tuesdays from 10 am, Wednesdays from 10.30 am. **We need more helpers** with this group. You don't need to be an expert, just prepared to be a friendly support. Could you help by sharing your computer skills? Please speak to Ann.

House Group. This friendly group now meets at St Alban's on Friday mornings at 10 am for a time of sharing, prayer and study. New members are welcome: more details from Madeleine.

Thy Kingdom Come: Ascension (30th May) is the day when we remember Jesus' return to heaven after his resurrection, and Pentecost is when we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Jesus' disciples. The nine days between these two key celebrations offer us an opportunity for prayer and reflection as we long for that gift of the Holy Spirit for ourselves and our communities. In this in-between time, we invite you to pray that the Holy Spirit would come and bless and challenge us to witness to God's life-changing work. Join with us as we pray together "Come Holy Spirit: Thy Kingdom Come" - and may our waiting and praying open our hearts afresh to God's possibilities. **Novena Booklets** are available at the back of church to aid you in your daily prayers during this time.

Ascension Day service Thursday 30th May at 8 pm. This is a very special date in the church calendar so please do come to celebrate.

Appeal for help with our Church Summer fair

Our Summer fair is fast approaching on **Saturday 15th June 11 – 3**. It is one of our 2 major fundraising events of the year, and we as a church rely on it to help pay for the many expenses that arise over the year. This is before we even start thinking about repairs to the tower or re-building our church hall!

We need lots of help both on the day and in all the preparations for stalls and items for these. Please be generous both with giving items and giving of your time!

You will find lists to sign up for at the back of the church, and some of us may approach you and ask you how you can help.

Instead of a Grand Draw our Great Big Hamper raffle will involve a selection of special hampers which we need help in filling. Themes are: Bakers World; Master Gardener; The Great British Play off; Fantastic Fruit Basket; Various Vegetables Basket; Chocoholics Basket; Smellies & Pampering Basket. Please help us to make these really spectacular prizes so we can sell lots of tickets! This needs to be a big money spinner. There is a list of items you can choose to donate, please sign up.

We will need to borrow some gazebos, tents/marquees etc, and cool boxes and if possible a small freezer so we can sell ice-creams – does anyone have any of these we can use or know where we might borrow them from? We need help collecting tables from The Barn Church, and many other jobs before and on the day itself.

For a change, this year, we'd like to have Beer & Pimms tent, so if anyone would volunteer to help with this that would be great!

Other items we will need include:

Cakes Plants Books Good as New items
Toys Jazzy jars Bottles for Bottle Tombola Tombola items

And if you have any other suggestions or ideas to help make this a really successful event, do let us know!

Please support the Fundraising Committee who are **all** working hard to support our church!

The Parish office will be closed from the 6th to the 16th of June.

SERVICES AT ST ALBAN'S

Where everyone is welcome

SUNDAY SERVICES:

Sung Eucharist 9:30am weekly

'Out of the Box' family worship on 2nd Sunday of each month 11.15 to 12 noon

WEEKDAY SERVICES:

Said Eucharist (Thursday 9:30am) Followed by Community Morning 10am-12pm

Morning Prayer 9am Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Saturday Prayers 9am on the 2nd Saturday of every month

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