



Welcome to St Alban's Church Harvest Festival

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.**

OPENING HYMN *Matthias Claudius (1740-1815) Tr. Jane M. Campbell*

**1. We plough the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand;
he sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.**

***All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord,
O thank the Lord, for all his love.***

**2. He only is the maker
of all things near and far;
he paints the wayside flower,
he lights the evening star.
The winds and waves obey him,
by him the birds are fed;
much more to us, his children,
he gives our daily bread.**

**3. We thank thee, then, O Father,
for all things bright and good;
the seedtime and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food.
No gifts have we to offer
for all thy love imparts,
but that which thou desirest,
our humble, thankful hearts.**

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.**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our forgetfulness of the needs of the poor, and repent of the ways in which we waste the resources of the world.

God has blessed us, but still God's children go hungry.

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

God has blessed us but still the poor cry out for justice

Christ have mercy

Christ have mercy

God has blessed us, but still we see inequality and oppression in the earth.

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy.

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 *Mike Anderson © 1983 Kevin Mayhew Ltd*

Gloria, (clap) gloria, (clap) in excelsis Deo.

Gloria, (clap) gloria, (clap) in excelsis Deo.

- 1. Lord God, heavenly King, peace you bring to us;
we worship you, we give you thanks we sing our song of praise.**
- 2. Jesus, Saviour of all, Lord God, Lamb of God
you take away our sins, Oh Lord, have mercy on us all.**
- 3. At the Father's right hand, Lord receive our prayer,
for you alone are the Holy One, and you alone are Lord.**
- 4. Glory Father and Son, Glory Holy Spirit,
to you we raise our hands up high, we glorify your name.**

THE COLLECT (The special prayer of the day)

Creator God, you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Philippians 4.4-9

GRADUAL HYMN

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)***

**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**

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

THE GOSPEL – John 6.25-35

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

THE SERMON

THE APOSTLES CREED *Please stand if you are able*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy...(response **-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*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN: *Henry Alford (1810 - 1871)*

**1. Come, ye thankful people, come,
raise the song of harvest home!
All is safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide for our needs to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest-home.**

**2. We ourselves are God's own field,
fruit unto his praise to yield;
wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown;
first the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear:
grant, O harvest Lord, that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.**

**3. For the Lord our God shall come
and shall take his harvest home,
from his field shall purge away all that doth offend, that day;
give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store
in his garner evermore.**

**4. Then, thou Church triumphant, come,
raise the song of harvest home
all be safely gathered in, free from sorrow, free from sin;
there, forever purified, in God's garner to abide;
come, ten thousand angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest-home!**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer over the gifts

Blessed are you....

(Response) **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

The president prays the preface then invites us to join with the whole company of heaven to sing....

**Holy, holy, holy God of power and might
Holy, holy, holy God of power and might
Lord we lift up your name, with hearts full of praise
Be exalted O Lord my God Holy God of power and might.**

Carl Tuttle ©1995 Mercy Publishing

The president recalls the last supper

Great is the mystery of faith

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

The president continues to praise God for his mighty acts. At the end we say...Amen.

We sing...THE LORD'S PRAYER. Traditional Caribbean

**1 Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.**

***Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
hallowed be thy name.
hallowed be thy name.***

**2 On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.**

**3 Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**4 And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from all that is evil.**

**5 For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever, and for ever and ever.**

**6 Amen, amen, it shall be so.
Amen, amen, it shall be so.**

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.**

We say together...

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins 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: *Suzanne Toolan©1972 GIA Publications Inc.*

**1. I am the Bread of life,
You who come to me shall not hunger,
And you who believe in me shall not thirst.
No one can come to me unless the Father draw him.**

***CHORUS: And I will raise you up,
And I will raise you up,
And I will raise you up on the last day.***

**2. The bread that I will give
Is my flesh for the life of the world,
And if you eat of this bread,
you shall live for ever, you shall live for ever.**

**3. Unless you eat
Of the flesh of the Son of Man
And drink of His blood,
And drink of His blood, You shall not have life within you.**

**4. I am the Resurrection,
I am the Life,
If you believe in Me
Even though you die, you shall live for ever.**

**5. Yes, Lord, I believe
That You are the Christ,
The Son of God
Who has come into the world.**

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**God of truth, we have seen with our eyes
and touched with our hands the bread of life:
Strengthen our faith that we may grow in love for you and for each
other; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

God the Father, who created the world, give you grace to be wise stewards of his creation. **Amen.**

God the Son, who redeemed the world, inspire you to go out as labourers into his harvest. **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit, whose breath fills the whole of creation, help you to bear his fruits of love, joy and peace. **Amen.**

and the blessing

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord

In the name of Christ. Amen

CLOSING HYMN Martin Rinkart (1586-1649). Tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

**1. Now thank we all our God,
with hearts and hands and voices;
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.**

**2. O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.**

**3. All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be ever more.**

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FOR OUR PRAYERS:

The Parish: *Callisto Close, Capricorn Close, Chailey Close and Chetwood Road, Craigans and Cuckmere Crescent*

Prayers for: *Alistair and Marcia, Eslin, Douglas, Linda Ballard, Peter Hill, Kerry, Rose, Julie, Liam, Cruse, Jayne, Freddie, John, Robert, Seamus, Stan and Ruth, David, Bridgette, Margaret Hanson, Stephen Rich, Michael, John Romaine, George and Marian Wright, Geoff, Sue and Mark Woly and Frank Williams*

The Departed: *Ruth Ganz*

Giving by credit/debit card. St Alban's has a card read for donations and giving. If you would prefer to use your credit/debit card rather than use cash to give to the church please feel free to make use of this after the service or during the collections. It will be available every week at the end of Sunday services and at all fund raising events.

Link to Hope. For our shoeboxes, Brenda from Community Morning has made some lovely hats, gloves and both her and Madeleine have made some scarves to go into our boxes. As it is so cold in E Europe in the winter we are all asked to include those items. You will find them at the back of church. Enjoy packing your boxes. Do ask your children or grandchildren about suitable gifts for your box. Any questions please do ask me. Thank you Merle

Children's Society. Just a couple of boxes still to come. Then I can let you know how much we can send to help children especially teenagers who have been let down by their parents and can no longer live at home. That means life can be disastrous for them but schools and the police often get in touch with the Children's Society and ask for their help. A trained worker will meet with someone in that position and help them through their crisis. Thank you Merle.

Alpha at St Alban's will take place on Monday evenings beginning on 7th October. There will be more information and sign-up sheets

