



Welcome to St Alban's Church

Trinity 14

OPENING HYMN *Stuart Townend, Keith & Kristyn Getty © 2007 Thankyou Music*

**1. Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away,
slain for us: and we remember
the promise made that all who come in faith
find forgiveness at the cross.**

*So we share in this Bread of life,
and we drink of His sacrifice,
as a sign of our bonds of peace
around the table of the King.*

**2. The body of our Saviour, Jesus Christ,
torn for you: eat and remember
the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life,
paid the price to make us one.**

*So we share in this Bread of life,
and we drink of His sacrifice,
as a sign of our bonds of love
around the table of the King.*

**3. The blood that cleanses every stain of sin,
shed for you: drink and remember.
He drained death's cup that all may enter in
to receive the life of God.**

*So we share in this Bread of life,
and we drink of His sacrifice,
as a sign of our bonds of grace
around the table of the King.*

**4. And so with thankfulness and faith
we rise to respond: and to remember
our call to follow in the steps of Christ
as His body here on earth.**

*As we share in His suffering,
we proclaim: Christ will come again!
And we'll join in the feast of heaven
around the table of the King.*

† 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

Brothers and sisters, as we prepare to celebrate the presence of Christ in word and sacrament, let us call to mind and confess our sins.

God be gracious to us and bless us,
and make your face shine upon us:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May your ways be known on the earth,
your saving power among the nations:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You, Lord, have made known your salvation,
and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:
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.**

THE 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)

Merciful God,
your Son came to save us and bore our sins on the cross:
may we trust in your mercy and know your love,
rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 50.15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 18.21-35

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' ²² Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹ Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

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

THE REFLECTION

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**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...**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. Amen.**

THE PEACE

We meet in the name of Christ and we share his peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

THE EUCHARIST

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.

Father, you made the world and love your creation.
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.
His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.
And so we gladly thank you,
with saints and angels praising you, and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. 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.**

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.**

The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ of which we are members. In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, 'I am the Bread of Life'

An Act of Spiritual Communion

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Holy Sacrament of the altar.
I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul
so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and for ever. Amen.**

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Lord God,
the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 ©1961 Timothy Dudley-Smith

**1. Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice.
Tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.**

**2. Tell out my soul, the greatness of his name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done,
his mercy sure, from age to age the same,
his holy name—the Lord, the Mighty One.**

**3. Tell out my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**

**4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!**

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