



# Welcome to St Alban's Church

## Last Sunday after Trinity

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OPENING HYMN *Jan Struther © 1931, 1982 Oxford University Press*

- 1. Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
whose trust, ever child-like,  
no cares could destroy;  
be there at our waking,  
and give us, we pray,  
your bliss in our hearts, Lord,  
at the break of the day.**
  
- 2. Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
whose strong hands were skilled  
at the plane and the lathe;  
be there at our labours,  
and give us, we pray,  
your strength in our hearts, Lord,  
at the noon of the day.**
  
- 3. Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
your hands swift to welcome,  
your arms to embrace;  
be there at our homing,  
and give us, we pray,  
your love in our hearts, Lord,  
at the eve of the day.**
  
- 4. Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
whose voice is contentment,  
whose presence is balm;  
be there at our sleeping,  
and give us, we pray,  
your peace in our hearts, Lord,  
at the end of the day.**

† 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 CONFESION

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

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

## THE COLLECT (The special prayer of the day)

Merciful God,  
teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty,  
that, trusting in your word  
and obeying your will  
we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
**Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING  
Leviticus 19.1-2, 15-18

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

<sup>2</sup> Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

<sup>15</sup> You shall not render an unjust judgement; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbour. <sup>16</sup> You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbour: I am the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbour, or you will incur guilt yourself. <sup>18</sup> You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbour as yourself: I am the Lord.

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

THE GOSPEL  
Matthew 22.34-end

**Alleluia, Alleluia; Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, <sup>35</sup> and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.

<sup>36</sup> ‘Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?’ <sup>37</sup> He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” <sup>38</sup> This is the greatest and first commandment. <sup>39</sup> And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself.” <sup>40</sup> On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.’

<sup>41</sup> Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: <sup>42</sup> ‘What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?’ They said to him, ‘The son of David.’ <sup>43</sup> He said to them, ‘How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

<sup>44</sup> “The Lord said to my Lord,  
‘Sit at my right hand,  
until I put your enemies under your feet’”?

<sup>45</sup> If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?’

<sup>46</sup> No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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

## THE SERMON

### 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

In the power of the Spirit, and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

*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

Blessed are the peace makers, for they shall be called children of God.  
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.**

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Be present, be present, Lord Jesus Christ, our risen high priest;  
make yourself known in the breaking of bread. **Amen.**

## 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.**

It is indeed right and good that we should give you thanks,  
praise and glory, almighty and everlasting God,  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

For after his resurrection he sent out his apostles and evangelists  
to preach the gospel to all nations and lead us in the way of truth.

Himself the chief cornerstone, he founded his Church upon the apostles firmly to stand for ever  
as a sign of your holiness upon earth and a living witness to all of the way that leads to heaven.

And so with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven  
we lift our voices and join in their unending hymn of praise:

**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, St Luke 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

God of all grace,  
your Son Jesus Christ fed the hungry  
with the bread of his life  
and the word of his kingdom:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your true and living bread;  
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 *Charitie Lees Bancroft (1841-1892) and Vikki Cook  
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**1. Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong and perfect plea:  
A great High Priest whose name is love  
who ever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on his hands,  
my name is written on his heart.  
I know that while in heav'n he stands  
no tongue can bid me thence depart,  
no tongue can bid me thence depart.**

**2. When Satan tempts me to despair  
and tells me of the guilt within,  
upward I look and see Him there  
who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Saviour died  
my sinful soul is counted free -  
for God the Just is satisfied  
to look on Him and pardon me,  
to look on Him and pardon me.**

**3. Behold Him there, the risen Lamb!  
My perfect, spotless righteousness!  
The great unchangeable I AM,  
the King of glory and of grace.  
One with himself I cannot die,  
my soul is purchased by his blood;  
my life is hid with Christ on high,  
with Christ, my saviour and my God,  
with Christ my saviour and my God.**

**4. I bow before the cross of Christ,  
and marvel at this love divine;  
God's perfect Son was sacrificed  
to make me righteous in God's eyes.  
This river's depths I cannot know  
but I can glory in its flood,  
the Lord Most High has bowed down low  
and poured on me his glorious love,  
and poured on me his glorious love.**

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