



Welcome to St Alban's

2nd Sunday after Trinity

OPENING HYMN *Margaret V Old © 1971 Scripture Union*

*Spirit of God, unseen as the wind,
gentle as is the dove:
Give us your joy and give us your peace,
show to us Jesus' love.*

1 You inspired men, long, long ago,
they then proclaimed your word;
we see their lives serving mankind:
through them your voice is heard.

Spirit of God, unseen as the wind...

2 Without your help, we fail our Lord,
we cannot live His way.
We need your power, we need your strength,
following Christ each day.

Spirit of God, unseen as the wind...

† 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.

Father, you come to meet us when we return to you:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus, you died on the cross for our sins:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit, you give us life and peace:
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

**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

Faithful creator,
whose mercy never fails:
deepen our faithfulness to you
and to your living Word,
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING 2 Corinthians 5.6-10, 14-17

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— ⁷ for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸ Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹ So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰ For all of us must appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹⁴ For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if

anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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

THE GOSPEL
Mark 4.26-34

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

He also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸ The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

³⁰ He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.'

³³ With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴ he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

RESPONSE: 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 PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made, it will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.
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.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

Loving Father,
we thank you for feeding us at the supper of your Son:
sustain us with your Spirit,
that we may serve you here on earth
until our joy is complete in heaven,
and we share in the eternal banquet
with 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 *Anon*

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

The light that shines is the light of love -
lights the darkness from above.
It shines on me and it shines on you,
and shows what the power of love can do.
Shine my light both far and near,
Shine my light both bright and clear.
Every dark corner in this land
I'm gonna let my little light shine.

This little light of mine...

On Monday, he gave me the gift of love;
Tuesday, peace came from above.
Wednesday told me to have more faith;
Thursday gave me a little more grace.
Friday, told me to watch and pray
Saturday, told me just what to say,
on Sunday gave me the power divine
to let my little light shine.

This little light of mine...

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