



Welcome to St Alban's Church 3rd Sunday before Lent

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 Walter Chalmers Smith (1825-1908)

**1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.**

**2 Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**3 To all life Thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish; but naught changeth Thee.**

**4 Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render: O help us to see
'Tis only the splendour of light hideth Thee.**

† 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

By the mercies of God, let us confess our sins and present our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to him, which is our spiritual worship.

**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 *Copyright 2012 David Thorne Music*

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)

Eternal God, whose Son went among the crowds
and brought healing with his touch:
help us to show his love,
in your Church as we gather together,
and by our lives as they are transformed
into the image of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Jeremiah 17.5-10

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Corinthians 15.12-20

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

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

THE GOSPEL

Luke 6.17-26

*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*

Blessed are the peacemakers, 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.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN: *Luke Connaughton (1919-79) © McCrimmon Publishing*

**1 Love is His word, Love is His way,
Feasting with all, fasting alone,
Living and dying, rising again
Love only love is His way.**

*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord.
Better than splendour and wealth.*

**2 Love is His way, love is His mark,
Sharing His last Passover feast.
Christ at the table, host to the twelve Love,
only love, is His mark.**

**3 Love is his mark, love is His sign,
Bread for our strength, wine for our joy,
This is my body, this is my blood
Love, only love is His sign.**

**4 Love is His sign, love is His news,
Do this He said Lest you forget
All my deep sorrow, all my dear blood,
Love, only love, is His news.**

**5 Love is His news, Love is His name,
We are His own, chosen and called,
Family, brethren, cousins and kin.
Love, only love is His name.**

**6 Love is His name, love is His law,
Hear His command, all who are His,
Love one another, I have loved you
Love, only love, is His law.**

**7 Love is His law, Love is His word,
Love of the Lord, Father, and Word,
Love of the Spirit, God ever one,
Love, only love, is His word.**

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, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

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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, y
our 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.**

Thorne, Mass of St Thomas ©2012 David Thorne Music

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 *Estelle White ©McCrimmon Publishing*

**1 Oh, the love of my Lord is the essence
Of all that I love here on earth.
All the beauty I see, He has given to me,
And his giving is gentle as silence.**

**2 Every day, every hour, every moment,
Have been blessed by the strength of His love.
At the turn of each tide, He is there at my side,
And his touch is as gentle as silence.**

**3 There've been times when I've turned from his presence,
And I've walked other paths, other ways,
But I've called on his name, in the dark of my shame
And his mercy was gentle as silence.**

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Merciful Father,
who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life,
that those who come to him should never hunger:
draw us to the Lord in faith and love,
that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom,
where he 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 *Damian Lundy 1944 - 1997 © 1978, 1993 Kevin Mayhew Ltd*

**1 The Spirit lives to set us free,
walk, walk in the light.
He binds us all in unity,
walk, walk in the light.**

***Walk in the light x3
Walk in the light of the Lord.***

**2 Jesus promised life to all,
walk, walk in the light.
The dead were wakened by his call,
walk, walk in the light.**

**3 He died in pain on Calvary,
walk, walk in the light.
To save the lost like you and me,
walk, walk in the light.**

**4 We know his death was not the end,
walk, walk in the light.
He gave his Spirit to be our friend,
walk, walk in the light.**

**5 By Jesus' love our wounds are healed,
walk, walk in the light.
The Father's kindness is revealed,
walk, walk in the light.**

**6 The Spirit lives in you and me,
walk, walk in the light.
His light will shine for all to see,
walk, walk in the light.**

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