



# Welcome to St Alban's

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

*Before the children leave for Children's 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 *Leonard E. Smith Jnr. © 1974, 1978 Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

**How lovely on the mountains are the feet of Him  
who brings good news, good news;  
announcing peace, proclaiming news of happiness:  
Our God reigns, our God reigns.**

***Our God reigns, our God reigns, our God reigns, our God reigns!***

**You watchmen lift your voices joyfully as one,  
shout for your King, your King!  
See eye to eye the Lord restoring Zion:  
our God reigns, our God reigns.**

***Our God reigns x 4***

**Waste places of Jerusalem, break forth with joy!  
We are redeemed, redeemed.  
The Lord has saved and comforted His people:  
our God reigns, our God reigns.**

***Our God reigns x 4***

**Ends of the earth, see the salvation of our God!  
Jesus is Lord, is Lord!  
Before the nations, he has bared his holy arm:  
our God reigns, our God reigns.**

***Our God reigns x 4***

*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.**

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. Let us therefore confess our sins.

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned in thought, word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
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)

Almighty God,  
in Christ you make all things new:  
Transform the poverty of our nature  
by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives  
make known your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

#### READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

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

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 49.1-7

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Corinthians 1.1-9

## THE GOSPEL

*We sing...Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

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

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 1.29-42

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.**

## 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 *Please stand if you are able*

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,  
since as members of one body you are called to peace.  
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.  
*We share a sign of peace with those standing near us.*

OFFERTORY HYMN *C Coffin (1676-1749), tr. J Chandler (1808-1876)*

**1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Come then and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings from the King of kings.**

**2 Then cleansed be every breast from sin;  
Make straight the way for God within;  
Prepare we in our hearts a home,  
Where such a mighty Guest may come.**

**3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
Our refuge, and our great reward;  
Without thy grace we waste away,  
Like flowers that wither and decay.**

**4 Stretch forth thine hand, to heal our sore,  
And make us rise to fall no more;  
Once more upon thy people shine,  
And fill the world with love divine.**

**5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee  
Whose advent sets thy people free,  
Whom with the Father we adore,  
And Holy Ghost, for evermore.**

## THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Lord, accept your people's gifts, not gold, frankincense or myrrh,  
but hearts and voices raised in praise of Jesus Christ, our light and  
our salvation. **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.**

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God,  
through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord:  
for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst.  
In the coming of the magi the King of all the world  
was revealed to the nations.  
In the waters of baptism Jesus was revealed as the Christ,  
the Saviour sent to redeem us.  
In the water made wine the new creation was revealed  
at the wedding feast. Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices  
to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**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.**

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.  
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.**

*Invitation to communion*

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*All those baptised into the Christian faith are welcome to come forward for  
communion. Everybody is welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

COMMUNION HYMN © Paul Inwood 1986.

***We shall draw water joyfully, singing joyfully, singing joyfully;  
We shall draw water joyfully from the well springs of salvation.***

**1 Truly God is our salvation,  
We trust, we shall not fear.  
For the Lord is our strength, our song;  
He became our Saviour. *We shall draw water...***



**2 Give thanks, O give thanks to the Lord;  
Give praise to his holy name!  
Make his mighty deeds known to all of the nations;  
Proclaim his greatness. *We shall draw water...***

**3 Sing a psalm, sing a psalm to the Lord  
For he has done glorious deeds.  
Make known his works to all of the earth;  
People of Zion, sing for joy; for great in your midst,  
Great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

*Prayer after Communion*

God of glory,  
You nourish us with your Word who is the bread of life:  
Fill us with your Holy Spirit that through us  
the light of your glory may shine in all the world.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love,  
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world.  
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ shine in your hearts  
and fill your lives with his joy and peace. And the blessing....  
**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
In the name of Christ. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *Daniel L. Schutte © 1991 Daniel L. Schutte*

**1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry;  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
My hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send?**

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me;  
I will hold your people in my heart.*

**2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain;  
I have wept for love of them –  
They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
Give them hearts for love alone;  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send? *Here I am, Lord...***

**3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them –  
My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
Till their hearts are satisfied;  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send? *Here I am, Lord...***



*Celebrating God's love in the heart of the community*

Website: [www.stalbansgossopsgreen.co.uk](http://www.stalbansgossopsgreen.co.uk)

Facebook: St Alban's Gossops Green and Bewbush

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**REGULAR SERVICES AT ST ALBAN'S - *everyone is very welcome***

**SUNDAY SERVICES:**

Sung Eucharist 9:45am weekly

**WEEKDAY SERVICES:**

**Thursday 9:30am** Said Eucharist

*followed by Heart of Welcome Café 10am-12pm*

**Morning Prayer 9am** Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

**Saturday Prayers 9.30am** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month

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## **Our Prayer for Vision and Leadership**

Lord, we come before you with grateful hearts  
for the tremendous talent within our church.

We are a body filled with gifts yet  
we sometimes lose sight of why  
we were so richly blessed in the first place.

Forgive us when we fail to heed Your calling in our lives,  
or as a community.

Despite our forgetful nature, we know you love us dearly  
and want us to partner with you:  
not as servants, but as your children.

Bring us a renewed vision of ourselves from your perspective.  
Help us to embrace your love  
so that we may share it with others.

Guide us as we look to the future  
of this Parish of Gossops Green and Bewbush.

Grant us a renewed vision as we seek you in your word.

Give us dreams that make us come alive because  
we are doing what you created us to do.

Let our joy overflow from the vision of the future you give us.  
Let us honour you with our work,  
with our families and with our lives.

**Amen**