

Welcome to St Alban's Church 7th Sunday after Trinity

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 *Arthur C. Ainger* (1841-1919)

1 God is working his purpose out, as year succeeds to year; God is working His purpose out, and the time is drawing near; Nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be, when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.

- 2 From utmost East to utmost West, where'er man's foot hath trod, by the mouth of many messengers goes forth the voice of God; give ear to me, ye continents, ye isles, give ear to me, that the earth may be filled with the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.
- 3 March we forth in the strength of God with the banner of Christ unfurled, that the light of the glorious gospel of truth may shine throughout the world:

Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin, to set their captives free, that the earth may be filled with the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.

4 All we can do is nothing worth, unless God blesses the deed; vainly we hope for the harvest-tide till God gives life to the seed; yet nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be, when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.

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.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

My 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.

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

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. Gloria...
- 2 Jesus, Saviour of all, Lord God, Lamb of God: you take away our sins, O Lord, have mercy on us all. *Gloria...*
- 3 At the Father's right hand, Lord, receive our prayer, for you alone are the Holy One, and you alone are Lord. *Gloria...*
- 4 Glory, Father and Son, Glory, Holy Spirit, to you we raise our hands up high, we glorify your name.

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THE COLLECT

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

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

Genesis 28.10–19a Romans 8.12–25

GRADUAL HYMN Edwin Hatch (1835-1889)

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew; that I may love what thou dost love and do what thou wouldst do.

2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure; until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure.

3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine; until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die, but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

THE GOSPEL

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

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

Matthew 13.24-30,36-43

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

After each prayer: 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

Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God. We meet in the name of Christ and 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 W. Chatterton Dix (1837-98)

1 Alleluia, sing to Jesus, his the sceptre, his the throne, alleluia, his the triumph, his the victory alone: hark! the songs of peaceful Sion thunder like a mighty flood; Jesus, out of every nation, hath redeemed us by his blood.

2 Alleluia, not as orphans are we left in sorrow now; alleluia, he is near us, faith believes, nor questions how; though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er, shall our hearts forget his promise, 'I am with you evermore'?

3 Alleluia, Bread of Angels, thou on earth our food, our stay; alleluia, here the sinful flee to thee from day to day; intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, plead for me, where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia, King eternal, thee the Lord of lords we own; alleluia, born of Mary, earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne; thou within the veil hast entered, robed in flesh, our great High Priest; thou on earth both priest and victim in the Eucharistic Feast.

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 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.

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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,
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 sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

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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 Augustus Montague Toplady (1740 - 1778)

1 Rock of ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

2 Not the labour of my hands Can fulfil thy law's demands; Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow, All for sin could not atone: Thou must save, and thou alone.

3 Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to thy cross I cling; Naked, come to thee for dress; Helpless, look to thee for grace; Foul, I to the fountain fly: Wash me, Saviour, or I die.

4 While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eyes shall close in death, When I soar to worlds unknown, See thee on thy judgement throne, Rock of ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee.

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and the source of life, ever giving himself that the world may live: may we so receive within ourselves the power of his death and passion that, in his saving cup, we may share his glory and be made perfect in his love; for 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

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing; and the blessing ...

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

CLOSING HYMN Julia Ward Howe (1819-1910)

1 Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord; he is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored; he hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword; his truth is marching on.

Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

- 2 I have seen him in the watchfires of a hundred circling camps, they have gilded him an altar in the evening dews and damps; I can read his righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps; his day is marching on. Glory, glory...
- 3 He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never sound retreat; he is sifting out the hearts of all before his judgment seat;

O be swift, my soul, to answer him; be jubilant, my feet! Our God is marching on. *Glory, glory...*

4 In the beauty of the lilies
Christ was born across the sea,
with a glory in his bosom
that transfigures you and me;
as he died to make us holy,
let us make all people free
whilst God is marching on. Glory, glory...

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Contacts at St Alban's

Vicar: Rev'd Ann Alexander 01293 277078 ann@stalbansgossopsgreen.co.uk

Parish Office: Jo Browse 01293 344860 office@stalbansgossopsgreen.co.uk

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 Community Morning 10am-12pm

Morning Prayer 9am Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Saturday Prayers 9.30am on the 2nd Saturday of each month