



Welcome to St Alban's Advent 2

The second candle of the Advent Wreath is lit and we all pray...

**Lord Jesus, light of the world,
the prophets said you would bring peace
and save your people in trouble.
Give peace in our hearts at Christmas
and show all the world God's love. Amen.**

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 *Graham Kendrick ©1986 Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

**1 Make way, make way, for Christ the King
in splendour arrives.
Fling wide the gates and welcome him
into your lives.**

***Make way! (Make way!)
Make way! (Make way!)
for the King of kings (for the King of kings.)
Make way! (Make way!)
Make way! (Make way!)
and let His kingdom in.***

**2 He comes the broken hearts to heal,
the prisoners to free.
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,
the blind shall see.
*Make way! (Make way!)
Make way! (Make way!)
for the King of kings (for the King of kings.)
Make way! (Make way!)
Make way! (Make way!)
and let His kingdom in.***

**3 And those who mourn with heavy hearts,
who weep and sigh;
with laughter, joy and royal crown
he'll beautify.
*Make way...***

**4 We call you now to worship him
as Lord of all.
To have no gods before him,
their thrones must fall!
*Make way...***

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.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart.

Therefore, in the light of Christ let us confess our sins...

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations
into the peace of your kingdom:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You will come in glory with salvation for your people:
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 COLLECT (The special prayer of the day)

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds,
that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again
as judge and saviour, we may be ready to receive him,
who is our Lord and our God.
Amen.

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Old Testament: Isaiah 40.1–11
New Testament: 2 Peter 3.8–15a

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

GRADUAL HYMN

**1 From heaven you came helpless babe,
entered our world, your glory veiled,
not to be served but to serve,
and give your life that we might live.**

***This is our God, the Servant King,
He calls us now to follow Him,
to bring our lives as a daily offering
of worship to the Servant King.***

**2 There in the garden of tears
my heavy load He chose to bear;
His heart with sorrow was torn,
'Yet not my will but yours,' He said.
*This is our God...***

**3 Come see His hands and His feet,
the scars that speak of sacrifice,
hands that flung stars into space
to cruel nails surrendered.
*This is our God...***

**4 So let us learn how to serve
and in our lives enthrone Him,
each other's needs to prefer,
for it is Christ we're serving.
*This is our God...***

THE GOSPEL

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

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

Mark 1.1–8

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.**

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer.

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*)

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of 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

**1 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!***

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

**3 Wasteplaces 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...***

**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...***

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 to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father, through Jesus Christ your Son.
For when he humbled himself to come among us in human flesh,
he fulfilled the plan you formed before the foundation of the world
to open for us the way of salvation. Confident that your promise will
be fulfilled, we now watch for the day when Christ our Lord will
come again in glory.

And so, we join our voices with angels and archangels and with all
the company of heaven to proclaim your glory for ever 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.**

Gregory Murray OSB @1975, 1987 McCrimmon Publishing Co Ltd

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.**

CARIBBEAN LORD'S PRAYER

**1 Our Father, who art in heaven,
*hallowed be thy name.***

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
hallowed be thy name.
*hallowed be thy name.***

**2 On earth as it is in heaven. *Hallowed be ...*
Give us this day our daily bread. *Hallowed be ... etc***

**3 Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**4 And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from all that is evil.**

**5 For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever, and for ever and ever.**

**6 Amen, amen, it shall be so.
Amen, amen, it shall be so.**

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.

Gregory Murray OSB @1975, 1987 McCrimmon Publishing Co Ltd

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 those baptised into the Christian faith are welcome to come up and receive communion. Alternatively, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN *Graham Kendrick © 1983 Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

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

**1 Truly God is our salvation,
we trust, we shall not fear.
For the Lord is our strength, the Lord is 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.**

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

Post communion prayers

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him in the humility
and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through 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

May God himself, the God of peace, make you perfect and holy,
and keep you safe and blameless, in spirit, soul and body,
for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ;
and the blessing ...

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *S Dauermann, S G Rubin©1975 Lillenas Publishing*

**1 You shall go out with joy
and be led forth with peace,
and the mountains and the hills
shall break forth before you.
There'll be shouts of joy,
and the trees of the field
shall clap, shall clap their hands.**

***And the trees of the field
shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field
shall clap their hands,
and the trees of the field
shall clap their hands,
and you'll go out with joy.***

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Celebrating God's love in the heart of the community

Website: www.stalbansgossopsgreen.co.uk
Facebook: St Alban's Gossops Green and Bewbush

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 2nd Saturday of each month

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