



Welcome to St Alban's

3rd 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 *Robert Bridges (1844-1930)*

**1 All my hope on God is founded
he doth still my trust renew.
Me through change and chance he guideth,
only good and only true.
God unknown,
he alone
calls my heart to be his own.**

**2 Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray his trust;
what with care and toil he buildeth,
tow'r and temple fall to dust.
But God's pow'r,
hour by hour,
is my temple and my tow'r.**

**3 God's great goodness aye endureth,
deep his wisdom, passing thought;
splendour, light and life attend him,
beauty springeth out of naught.
Evermore,
from his store,
new-born worlds rise and adore.**

**4 Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call
one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.**

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

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 confess our sins.

Lord Jesus, illuminate the darkness in our hearts:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living word:
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.

Glory, glory, glory to God. Glory, glory, glory to God!
Glory to God in the heights of the heavens,
peace to God's people, all people on earth.
Glory, glory, glory to God. Glory, glory, glory to God.

Son of the Father, all glory and worship;
praise and thanksgiving to you. Lamb of God, *Glory, glory...*

You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us, receive our prayer. *Glory, glory...*

Seated in pow'r at the right of the Father,
Jesus alone is the Lord, the Most High. *Glory, glory...*

And with the Spirit of love everlasting,
reigning in glory for ever. Amen.
Glory, glory, glory to God. Glory, glory, glory to God!

THE COLLECT (The special prayer of the day)

God of all mercy,
your Son proclaimed good news to the poor,
release to the captives,
and freedom to the oppressed:
anoint us with your Holy Spirit
and set all your people free
to praise you in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Old Testament: Genesis 14.17–20

New Testament: Revelation 19.6–10

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

GRADUAL HYMN *Henry Smith ©1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music
administered by Kingsway's Thankyou Music*

**Give thanks with a grateful heart.
Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because he's given
Jesus Christ, his Son. *(Repeat)***

***And now let the weak say, "I am strong",
let the poor say, "I am rich",
because of what the Lord has done for us. (Repeat)***

Give thanks with a grateful heart... *(Repeat)*

***And now let the weak say, "I am strong",
let the poor say, "I am rich",
because of what the Lord has done for us. (Repeat)***

Give thanks!

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 2.1–11

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.**

To conclude, 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*

Christ is our peace. If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.
The old has passed away: behold, everything has become new.

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

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 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, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

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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 baptised Christians who receive communion in their own churches are welcome to receive communion.

Any member of the congregation may come forward to receive a blessing.

***Walk with me, oh my Lord,
Through the darkest night and brightest day.
Be at my side, oh Lord,
Hold my hand and guide me on my way.***

**1 Sometimes the road seems long,
My energy is spent.
Then, Lord, I think of you
And I am given strength. *Walk with me...***

**2 Stones often bar my path
And there are times I fall,
But you are always there
To help me when I call. *Walk with me...***

**3 Just as you calmed the wind
And walked upon the sea,
Conquer, my living Lord,
The storms that threaten me. *Walk with me...***

**4 Help me to pierce the mists
That cloud my heart and mind,
So that I shall not fear
The steepest mountain-side. *Walk with me...***

**5 As once you helped the lame
And gave sight to the blind,
Help me when I'm downcast
To hold my head high. *Walk with me...***

Prayers after Communion

Almighty Father,
whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world:
may your people,
illumined by your word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,

that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed
to the ends of the earth;
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

Christ our Lord,
to whom kings bowed down in worship and offered gifts,
reveal to you his glory, and pour upon you the riches of his grace;
and the blessing ...

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

CLOSING HYMN *Frances J. van Alstyne (1820-1915)*

**1 To God be the glory! Great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

***Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son;
And give him the glory, great things he has done!***

**2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.**

Praise the Lord...

**3 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son:
But purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our worship, when Jesus we see!**

Praise the Lord...



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

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