



Welcome to St Alban's

3rd Sunday before Lent

Dedication Service

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 *Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877)*

**1 O praise ye the Lord! Praise him in the height;
rejoice in his word, ye angels of light;
ye heavens, adore him, by whom ye were made,
and worship before him, in brightness arrayed**

**2 O praise ye the Lord! Praise him upon earth,
in tuneful accord, ye sons of new birth.
Praise him who hath brought you his grace from above,
praise him who hath taught you to sing of his love.**

**3 O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound;
each jubilant chord re-echo around;
loud organs, his glory forth tell in deep tone,
and sweet harp, the story of what he hath done.**

**4 O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song
to him be outpoured all ages along
for love in creation, for heaven restored,
for grace and salvation, O praise ye the Lord!**

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

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.**

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,
to whose glory we celebrate the dedication of this house of prayer:
we praise you for the many blessings you have given
to those who worship you here:
and we pray that all who seek you in this place may find you,
and, being filled with the Holy Spirit,
may become a living temple acceptable to you;
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

1 Chronicles 29.6-19; Ephesians 2.19-22

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

GRADUAL 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, unhasting, 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.**

THE GOSPEL

We sing: Alleluia, alleluia; alleluia, alleluia.

Lord, we love the house of your habitation
and the place where your glory abides.

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

John 2.13-22

After the reading... 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

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*

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.

**1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.***

**2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.
*All are welcome...***

**3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us.
*All are welcome...***

**4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.**

Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger.
All are welcome...

5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.
All are welcome...

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;
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 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 Copyright 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 *Fred Kann © 1968 Stainer & Bell Ltd*

**1 For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord,
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.**

**2 Lead us, Father, into freedom,
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
men may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.**

**3 All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race or schooling,
dogmas keeping man from man.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.**

**4 You, creator-God, have written
your great name on all mankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.**

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

Father in heaven,
whose Church on earth is a sign of your heavenly peace,
an image of the new and eternal Jerusalem:
grant to us in the days of our pilgrimage
that, fed with the living bread of heaven,

and united in the body of your Son,
we may be the temple of your presence,
that place of your glory on earth,
and a sign of your peace in the world;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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, whose glory is in the heavens,
fill this house and illuminate your hearts;
and the blessing ...

Like living stones, precious in his sight,
go in peace, to proclaim the mighty acts of God.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *Damian Lundy ©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, walk in the light, walk in the light,
Walk in the light of the Lord.***

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

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

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

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

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

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

Saturday Prayer Breakfast 9.30am on 2nd Saturday of each month



**Celebrating God's Love
in the Heart of our
Community**

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