



Welcome to St Alban's Church

18th Sunday after Trinity **A Service for the Persecuted Church**

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 *Marty Haugen*

**1 Here in this place, new light is streaming,
Now is the darkness vanished away,
See, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
Brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
Gather us in, the blind and the lame;
Call to us now and we shall awaken,
We shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**2 We are the young - our lives are a mystery,
We are the old - who yearn for your face,
We have been sung throughout all of history,
Called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
Gather us in, the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
Give us the courage to enter the song.**

**3 Here we will take the wine and the water,
Here we will take the bread of new birth,
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
Call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

**4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away,
But here in this place, the new light is shining,
Now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in, all peoples together,
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

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

We have too often exchanged the worship of the living God for idols of our own imagining.

As we gather to offer our praises to the holy and undivided Trinity, and to worship him in spirit and in truth, let us call to mind our sins.

Father, you come to meet us when we return to you:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus, you died on the cross for our sins:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Spirit, you give us life and peace:
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.**

GLORIA *George Salazar ©1993 OCP Publications*

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...

**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

God, our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation
which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Genesis 32.22–31; 2 Timothy 3.14 – 4.5

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

GRADUAL HYMN *Michael Perry*

**1 Like a mighty river flowing,
like a flower in beauty growing,
far beyond all human knowing
is the perfect peace of God.**

**2 Like the morning sun ascended,
like the scents of evening blended,
like a friendship never ended
is the perfect peace of God.**

**3 Like the azure ocean swelling,
like the jewel all-excelling,
far beyond our human telling
is the perfect peace of God.**

THE GOSPEL

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

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

Luke 18.1–8

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

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

Open Doors Talk

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.**

Prayer for the Persecuted Church

Almighty God,
who has taught us through your Son, Jesus Christ,
that those who follow him may be persecuted:
strengthen, comfort and encourage all those who suffer harassment,
violence, imprisonment and even death for being followers of Jesus.

We pray for those who persecute your people,
may their hearts be turned towards you
through the faithful witness of those they persecute.

Protect members of the families and church communities
of those who are persecuted,
and bless the work and ministry of those
who seek to be a voice of persecuted Christians.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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*

Peace to you from God our heavenly Father.
Peace from his Son Jesus Christ, who is our peace.
Peace from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.

The peace of the triune God be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN *James Montgomery (1771-1854)*

**1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression,
And rule in equity.**

**2 He comes with succour speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong,
To give them songs for sighing.
Their darkness turn to light
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in his sight.**

**3 He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth,
And love, joy, hope, like flowers,
Spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains,
Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.**

4 Kings shall fall down before Him,
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him,
His praise all people sing;
To Him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend,
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.

5 O'er every foe victorious,
He on his throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious,
All blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand for ever;
That Name to us is Love.

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:

We sing **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.**

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.

We sing **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.**

AGNUS DEI

We sing **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.**

God's holy gifts, for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

Any member of the congregation may come to receive a blessing. All baptised Christians who receive communion in their own churches are welcome to receive communion.

COMMUNION HYMN *Terry Coelho ©1972 Maranatha Music*

**1 Father we adore you,
lay our lives before you;
how we love you.**

**2 Jesus, we adore you.
lay our lives before you,
how we love you.**

**3 Spirit, we adore you,
lay our lives before you,
how we love you.**

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast:
for here we receive you,
here the memory of your passion is renewed,
here our minds are filled with grace,
and here a pledge of future glory is given,
when we shall feast at that table where you reign
with all your saints 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

Faithful God,
according to the riches of your glory, strengthen your church,
especially those who are facing persecution today.
We pray that your Spirit would bring power
and perseverance to your people,
as we dwell in your presence,
day by day and moment by moment.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

CLOSING HYMN *Samuel John Stone (1830-1900)*

**1 The Church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word;
from heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride,
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.**

**2 Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation—
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses
with every grace endued.**

**3 'Mid toil, and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace forever more;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blessed,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.**

**4 Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.**

Regular services and events at St Alban's

SUNDAY SERVICE:

Sung Eucharist 9:45am weekly

WEEKDAY SERVICES:

Thursday 9:30am Said Eucharist

followed by Heart of Welcome Café 10am-12pm

Saturday Prayer Breakfast 9.30am next one Saturday 8th November

St Alban's contact details



Priest-in-charge: Rev Dr Greta Sawyer
revgreta@stalbansgossopsgreen.co.uk

Churchwardens:
wardensue@stalbansgossopsgreen.co.uk
wardenkeith@stalbansgossopsgreen.co.uk

Parish Office: Jo Browse 01293 344860
office@stalbansgossopsgreen.co.uk
*Please note the Parish Office is manned only on
Thursdays from 10 till 4. Outside these times
please leave a voicemail or email*

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

New People's Mass, A Gregory Murray ©1975, 1987 McCrimmon

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