



Welcome to St Alban's Church

2nd Sunday before Lent

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 *Isaac Watts (1674-1784)*

**1 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.**

**2 Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.**

**3 A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.**

**4 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.**

**5 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.**

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.**

GLORIA

All sing

***Glory, glory to God, glory to God in the highest heav'ns;
peace, peace, peace on the earth;
peace to God's people, all people on earth. (Repeat)***

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

Glory, glory...

**Lord Jesus Christ, Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy, mercy on us. Have mercy, mercy on us.**

**You are seated at the right hand, at the right hand of the Father,
receive, Lord, receive our prayer. Receive, Lord, receive our prayer.**

Glory, glory...

**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, glory of God, the glory of God the Father.**

Glory, glory...

Amen, amen.

THE COLLECT (The special prayer of the day)

**Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.****

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Genesis 1.1 – 2.3; Romans 8.18–25

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

**1 Seek ye first the Kingdom of God,
and his righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you;
allelu, alleluia.**

***Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
allelu, alleluia.***

**2 Ask and it shall be given unto you,
seek and ye shall find;
knock and it shall be opened unto you;
allelu, alleluia.**

Alleluia...

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 6.25–34

After the reading... This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

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

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

Response: 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*

God has made us one in Christ.
He has set his seal upon us, and, as a pledge of what is to come,
has given us the Spirit to dwell in our hearts.
The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN *John Greenleaf Whittier (1807 -1892)*

**1 Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
reclothe us in our rightful mind;
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise,
in deeper reverence, praise.**

**3 O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love,
interpreted by love.**

**2 In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee,
rise up and follow thee.**

**4 Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace,
the beauty of thy peace.**

**5 Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind and fire,
O still small voice of calm,
O still small voice of calm!**

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:

We sing **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and God of might:
Heaven and earth, heaven and earth
are full of your glory, your power and might.
*Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heavens.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heavens.***

**Blessed, blessed is he who comes,
Blessed, blessed is he who comes,
blessed is he, blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord. *Hosanna...***

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 **Dying you destroyed our death,
Rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus come, Lord Jesus come;
Lord Jesus come in glory.
*Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heav'ns!
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heav'ns!***

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.**

We sing **Jesus, Lamb of God, Bread of Life for us;
Jesus, Lamb of God, Wine of Joy for us;
Jesus, Lamb of God bearing all our sin;
Have mercy on us, give us your peace.**

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.

*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 *Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)*

**1 Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!**

**2 Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.**

**3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!**

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

God our creator, by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your table on earth
be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
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

May God,
who in Christ gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life,
perfect in you the image of his glory;

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 *William Henry Draper (1855-1933)*

**1 All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing
alleluia, alleluia!**

**Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam:
*O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia***

**2 Thou rushing wind that art
so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice:
*O praise him...***

**4 Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, alleluia!
The flow'rs and fruits that in
thee grow,
let them his glory also show.
*O praise him...***

**3 Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
alleluia, alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
that givest us both warmth and light:
*O praise him...***

**5 And all who are of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye, alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on him cast your care:
*O praise him...***

**6 And thou, most kind and gentle death,
waiting to hush our latest breath,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou leadest home the child of God,
and Christ our Lord the way hath trod: *O praise him...***

**7 Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three-in-One: *O praise him...***

Regular services and events at St Alban's

SUNDAY SERVICE:

Sung Eucharist 9:45am weekly

WEEKDAY SERVICE:

Thursday 9:30am Said Eucharist

followed by Heart of Welcome Café 10am-12pm

Saturday Prayer Breakfast 9.30am next one Saturday 14th February

Tiny Toes Toddler Group every Monday in term time, 9.30 – 11am



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

St Alban's contact details

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