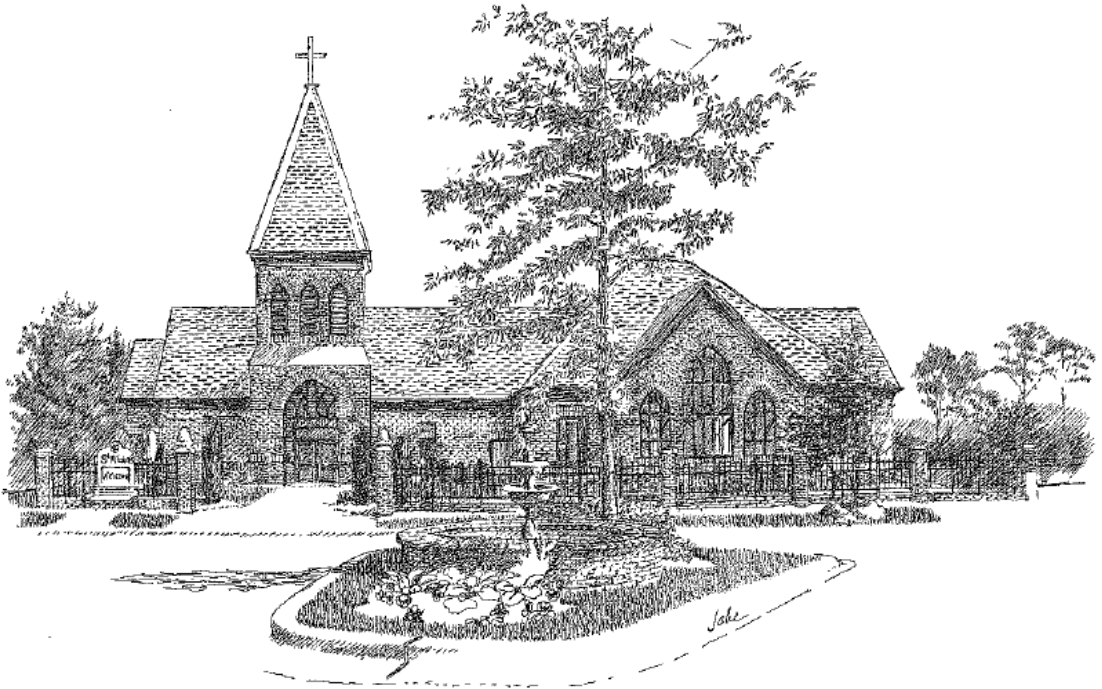


# St. Alban's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*welcomes you*



## **The Second Sunday of Advent**

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

December 8, 2024

10:30 a.m.

# Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Welcome to St. Alban's! Thank you for worshiping with us today. In order to allow for private prayer, we ask that you refrain from loud conversation upon entering the nave. Page numbers in the bulletin refer to The Book of Common Prayer (BCP), the book with the cross on the cover. Hymnals and Prayer Books can be found beneath the seats. If you choose to kneel for parts of the service, please use the kneeler beneath your own chair. Children of all ages are always welcome in worship. Crayons and a Bible story coloring page are available on the table just outside the doors to the nave. If desired, our nursery is available for children age three and under, and is located downstairs. Sunday School for ages four-12<sup>th</sup> grade takes place from 10:15-11:00 a.m., with the children returning to the nave at the Exchange of the Peace. \*The congregation is invited to stand as able when indicated by an asterisk.

## The Word of God

**The Prelude:** Blessed Be the God of Israel (Hymn 444)

arr. Charles Callahan

**\*The Processional Hymn: 56 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, stanzas 3 & 4 VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL**

**\*The Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

**\*The Opening Acclamation**

*Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 355*

**Celebrant:** Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**People:** And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

**\*The Collect for Purity**

*BCP p. 355*

**\*The Kyrie: S 96**

**Lord, Have Mercy**

Schubert/Proulx

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

## \*The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The First Lesson

**Malachi 3:1-4**

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Canticle 16: The Song of Zechariah

**Luke 1:68-79**

*Read responsively by half verse.*

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; \*  
**he has come to his people and set them free.**

He has raised up for us a mighty savior, \*  
**born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, \*  
**from the hands of all who hate us.**

He promised to show mercy to our fathers \*  
**and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, \*  
**to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**

Free to worship him without fear, \*  
**holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life.**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, \*  
**for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,**

To give his people knowledge of salvation \*  
**by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God \*  
**the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**  
To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, \*  
**and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

## The Second Lesson

**Philippians 1:3-11**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## \*The Sequence Hymn: 444 Blessed Be the God of Israel

THORNBURY

*Stanzas 1 & 2 are sung before the Gospel, stanza 3 is sung after.*

## \*The Gospel

**Luke 3:1-6**

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## The Sermon

The Rev. Kevin Lloyd

## \*The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

*Celebrant and People*

**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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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 the People

*The congregation is invited to stand or kneel as able. Please read together the names on our prayer list, when prompted.*

*Deacon*

In this Advent season, as we await the coming of Christ, let our expectant souls join with Mary, rejoicing in God our Savior, for the Almighty One has done great things for us, and holy is God's name.

*Intervenor*

God of hope, magnify the faith of your Church so that all flesh shall see your salvation in us and through us. Empower us to reach out to a world in desperate need of your goodness. We thank you for sending your Son to be with us, for you have done great things for us, **and holy is your name.**

God of peace, magnify the wisdom of the leaders of our nation and world. Protect all your children who face the perils of war, violence, or persecution. We thank you for the witness of your Son and his commitment to justice, for you have done great things for us, **and holy is your name.**

God of joy, magnify our gratitude for all our blessings. Help us take holy pauses in this busy season. We thank you for the gift of this community, for you have done great things for us, **and holy is your name.**

God of love, magnify our compassion for ourselves and our neighbors. You have lifted up the lowly, filled those who are hungry, and comforted all who are in need of healing. We pray especially for...Be with us as we mourn for those who dwell with you in eternity. We thank you for the mercy you bestow upon us all, for you have done great things for us, **and holy is your name.**

*Celebrant*

Almighty One, hear these prayers of your people. Hasten the coming of your kingdom, and grant that we your servants may rejoice to behold your Son at his birth and his return. **Amen.**

## The Confession & Absolution

BCP p. 360

*The congregation is invited to kneel as able.*

*Deacon*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence is kept.*

*Celebrant and People*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

## \*The Exchange of the Peace

BCP p. 360

*The people greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## The Greeting and Announcements

### The Holy Communion

#### The Offertory Anthem: Antiphonal for Advent

Joel Raney

*Children's choir & Parish choir*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, good news and joyful tidings tell.  
All heaven and nature sing, let earth receive her King.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Let the bells ring out, let the whole world shout,  
"O come, Emmanuel, come!"

Come and fill the earth with light. Come and reign in our hearts forever.  
Chase away the gloom of night. Come, Emmanuel, rejoice!

Make war and strife and quarrels cease, fill all the world with heavenly peace.  
All heaven and nature sing. Let earth receive her King!  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Let the bells ring out, let the whole world shout,  
"O come, Emmanuel, come!" Rejoice!

*Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord. To utilize our text-to-give option, simply text "ALBANS" to 73256.*

## \*The Presentation of Gifts

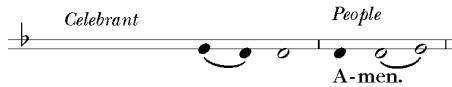
### \*Doxology:

Hymn 324, *Stanza 2*

PICARDY

**King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords in human vesture, in the body and the blood  
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.**





**\*The Lord's Prayer**

BCP p. 364

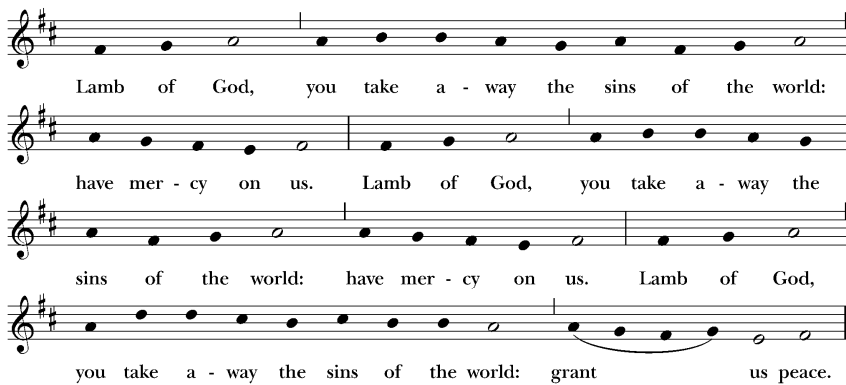
*Celebrant and People*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**\*The Fraction Anthem: S 161**

**Lamb of God**

David Hurd



**The Ministration of Communion**

BCP p. 365

*All are welcome to gather at the Lord's table. At the appropriate time, you may come forward to the altar rail, filling in from right to left. Kneeling is optional. Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the clergy. Wine is available either by sipping from the common cup (silver chalice) or by intinction (dipping the wafer into the pottery chalice). If you choose to intinct, please hold your wafer visibly to indicate that is your preference. Please take utmost care to keep your fingers from touching the wine as you dip. You may choose to receive only the bread or the wine, as either one alone is a full Communion. Please tell an usher if you need Communion brought to you. In the Episcopal Church, it is customary that those receiving Communion have been baptized in any Christian tradition, and no one who comes to the altar in faith is turned away. If you would like to learn more about Baptism at St. Alban's, please be in touch with the clergy. If you are not receiving Communion, we hope you will come forward and cross your arms over your chest, so that we might share a blessing with you.*

**The Communion Hymns: 75 There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying  
55 Redeemer of the Nations, Come**

ASCENSION  
VENI REDEMPTOR



**\*The Post Communion Prayer**

*BCP p. 366*

*The congregation is invited to stand or kneel as able.*

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

**\*The Blessing**

**\*The Recessional Hymn: 657 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

HYFRYDOL

**\*The Dismissal**

*BCP p. 366*

People:        Thanks be to God.

**The Postlude:** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus    W. Walker, from *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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## December 24 | Christmas Eve

### **3:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Pageant**

*This service will feature our Children's Pageant and will be livestreamed. All children are welcome to join the Pageant. All are invited to bring a new teddy bear to this service. The bears will be placed at the Christ Child's crèche during the service and then distributed to local nonprofit Bridge of Hearts for children experiencing homelessness.*

### **5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist**

*This service will feature a sermon, music led by the Choir, and will be livestreamed.*

### **11:00 p.m. Candlelight Holy Eucharist**

*This service will feature a sermon, congregational carol singing, and the lighting of candles.*

## December 25 | Christmas Day

### **10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist**

## Welcome to St. Alban's!



St. Alban's is a friendly, inclusive, and growing congregation that seeks to honor the Lord Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship, and outreach. We pray that your worship with us will bring you the grace, peace, and joy of Christ. If you are new to our faith community, we would love to connect with you. Please fill out a purple sheet located on the Welcome Center table in the narthex or scan the QR code to the left with the camera on your smart phone which will direct you to an online newcomer form.

### St. Alban's is a Parish in the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina

**The Right Reverend Samuel Sewall Rodman, III**, Bishop of North Carolina

**The Right Reverend Jennifer Brooke-Davidson**, Assistant Bishop

### The Clergy and Staff

**The Reverend Carmen Germino**, Rector

**The Reverend Kevin Lloyd**, Associate Rector

Davidson College Campus Minister

**The Reverend Leslie Nuñez Steffensen**, Priest Associate

**The Reverend Valerie Davis**, Deacon

**John Bailey**, Organist and Choirmaster

**Jessica Ewell**, Parish Administrator and Communications Director

**Courtney Fossett**, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

**Erin Garrett**, Director of Finance

**Matt Presson**, Director of Children's Choir and Stream Team

**Nadia Rahaim**, Preschool Director

### The Vestry of St. Alban's

Connor Fulton, Matthew Goodson, Sarah Hicks, James Kennedy, Annamarie Klemm, Allison Kratt, Mike McDonnell, Cheryl Nealy, Dave Pylipow, Mike Sass, Joseph Torok



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