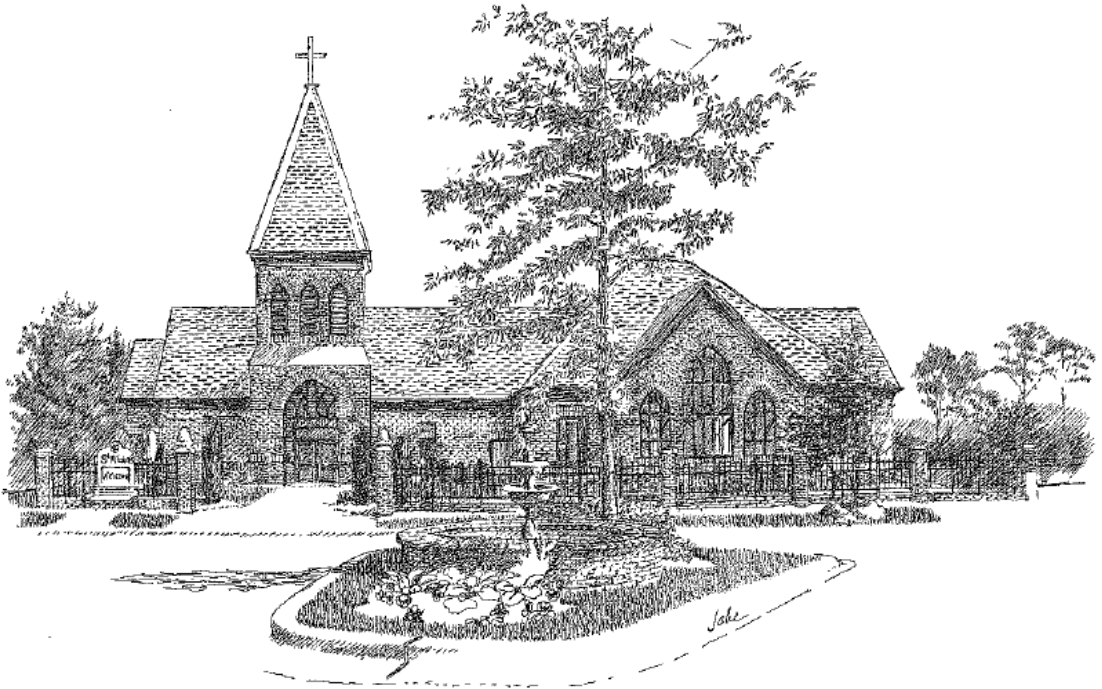


# St. Alban's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*welcomes you*



**The Second Sunday after Christmas**

Holy Eucharist: Rite II

January 5, 2025

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:** Fantasia on "Sing We Now of Christmas" arr. Matthew Corl

**\*The Processional Hymn: 109 The First Nowell**, *stanzas 1, 3, 5, & 6* THE FIRST NOWELL

**\*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 Gloria: 96 Angels We Have Heard on High** GLORIA

**Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,  
And the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**\*The Collect of the Day**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The First Lesson

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 84** *Read responsively by half verse.*

How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! \*

**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*

**by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.**

Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*

**they will always be praising you.**

Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*

**whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.**

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, \*

**for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.**

They will climb from height to height, \*

**and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.**

LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; \*

**hearken, O God of Jacob.**

Behold our defender, O God; \*

**and look upon the face of your Anointed.**

For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, \*

**and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

For the LORD God is both sun and shield; \*

**he will give grace and glory;**

No good thing will the LORD withhold \*  
**from those who walk with integrity.**

O LORD of hosts, \*  
**happy are they who put their trust in you!**

## The Second Lesson

**Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## \*The Sequence Hymn: 128 We Three Kings of Orient Are

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT

*Stanzas 1 & 2 are sung before the Gospel, stanzas 3--5 are sung after.*

## \*The Gospel

**Matthew 2:1-12**

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

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Deacon:           The Gospel of the Lord.  
People:           **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **The Sermon**

The Rev. Carmen Germino

## **\*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.*

*Deacon*

Let us pray for the church and for the world.

*Intervenor*

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Archbishop Justin; Presiding Bishop Sean; Our Bishops Sam and Jennifer; Bishop Metlha of Botswana and Bishop Gomez of Costa Rica; for our Clergy, Carmen, Kevin, Leslie, and Valerie; for this gathering; and for all ministers and lay people.  
Pray for the Church.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. We pray for peace in the Holy Land, Ukraine, and everywhere affected by war.  
Pray for justice and peace.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.  
Pray for those in any need or trouble.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God.  
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

I ask your prayers for the departed.  
Pray for those who have died.

I ask your prayers for all those on our parish prayer list. Together we pray for...

I invite your own thanksgivings and petitions, either silently or aloud.

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

## **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:** The Little Road to Bethlehem

Margaret Rose & Michael Head

As I walked down the road at set of sun the lambs were coming homewards one by one.  
I heard a sheep bell softly calling them along the little road to Bethlehem.

Beside an open door, as I drew nigh, I heard sweet Mary sing a lullaby.  
She sang about the lambs at close of day and rocked her tiny King among the hay.

Across the air the silver sheep bell rang, "The lambs are coming home," sweet Mary sang.  
"Your star of gold is shining in the sky. So sleep, my little King, go lullaby."

As I walked down the road at set of sun the lambs were coming homewards, one by one.  
I heard a sheep bell softly calling them along the little road to Bethlehem.

*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**

**\*The Offertory Response: In the Bleak Mid-Winter**

CRANHAM

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;  
yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

**\*The Great Thanksgiving, Prayer A**

BCP p. 361

**\*The Sursum Corda**

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People*  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

*The Celebrant continues.*

**\*The Sanctus: S 125**

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues.*



## \*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

Four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

## 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 Anthem:** How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place (Psalm 84)

J. L. Macbeth Bain

**The Communion Hymn:** 119 As with Gladness Men of Old

DIX



**\*The Post Communion Prayer**

*BCP p. 365*

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

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*The Blessing**

**\*The Recessional Hymn: 124 What Star Is This, with Beams so Bright**

PUER NOBIS

**\*The Dismissal**

*BCP p. 366*

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**The Postlude: Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts**

C. Saint-Saëns, arr. A. Whitworth

**Altar Flowers**

*The altar arrangement this morning is given to the glory of God by William Andrews and Norman Spencer in honor of their anniversary and vow renewal.*

## 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



301 Caldwell Lane, Davidson, NC 28036

Office: 704-892-0173 | Preschool: 704-892-8955 | [www.saintalbansdavidson.org](http://www.saintalbansdavidson.org)



*The paper in this bulletin is made with recycled post-consumer fiber and from certified sustainably managed forests.*