

ST ALBANS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
EASTER 5



SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

9:30AM

THE REVEREND DR. WILLY CRESPO
TRANSITIONAL PRIEST

JUSTIN HANSEN, ORGANIST

Welcome Newcomers!

We are blessed to have you with us today. Please sign our newcomer's book at the back of the church, introduce yourself to the priest, and join us for coffee hour in the Parish Hall immediately after the service, just across the courtyard.

Our hope is that you find a home among us, in a place where the love of God is shared, the mystery of grace is experienced and the joy and laughter of the Christian life is taught.

To learn more about St. Alban's call the office at (619) 444-8212 or email us at: generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info. Also, check out our website at www.st-albans-church.org.



Children are welcome in our worship! Sunday School is available in the building across the courtyard at 9:30am. The children return to their parents at the church for the Communion service.



Flowers are given today to the glory of God

Have you ever wondered how we get such beautiful flowers at St. Alban's on Sundays? They are paid for by parishioners who dedicate flowers to commemorate a special occasion such as an anniversary, a baptism, a birthday, a graduation, or in memory of departed loved ones. If you would like to dedicate flowers for a special occasion or memorial, you can do so by filling out a flower donation envelope found in the narthex (the main church entrance), place your check or cash in the envelope and put it in the offering plate or in one of the wooden boxes at the front or back of the church. Please remember to mark on your envelope who you are and who you are commemorating with your gift.

To maintain a peaceful worship environment, please silence your cell phone. Thank you!



ACCESSIBLE RESTROOMS ARE LOCATED IN THE PARISH HALL ACROSS THE COURTYARD

The Entrance Rite

Prelude

Please stand as you are able.

Opening Hymn – Hymnal 334, “Praise the Lord,, rise up rejoicing”

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
People The Lord is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

Celebrant There is one Body and one Spirit;
People There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
People One God and Father of all.

Gloria S280

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - mighty God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most
High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY –

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

A period of silence is kept.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The First Lesson – Acts 8:26-40

Lector: A reading from the book of Acts.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:24-30

BCP Page 612

<p>24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; * I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.</p> <p>25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: * "May your heart live forever!"</p> <p>26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, * and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.</p> <p>27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; * he rules over the nations.</p>	<p>28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; * all who go down to the dust fall before him.</p> <p>29 My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; * they shall be known as the LORD's forever.</p> <p>30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn * the saving deeds that he has done.</p>
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The Epistle – I John 4:7-21

Lector: A reading from the first book of John.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Music

THE GOSPEL – John 15:1-8

Celebrant: The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the words that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon – The Reverend Dr Willy Crespo

Celebrant: Let us stand together and say the Nicene Creed.

The Nicene Creed

All say together:

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - *(Please stand or kneel if you are able)*

Intercessor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you**

Intercessor: Let us pray.

Intercessor: We pray for those around us as they live their lives.

People: **For those close, for those far away, and for those who have no one else to pray for them.**

Intercessor: For our communities, especially El Cajon.

People: **For friends, strangers, and the ties that keep them together.**

Intercessor: For our nation – we pray for wisdom for its leaders, particularly our President, and for the health and safety for those serving in the military. Especially Riley, Lindzy, Denny, Cris, Ben, Bryan, Matt, Clarence, David Nye, Kristyn, Donovan, Christopher and Joshua Ibanez, Brandon, Travis Warner, and for all our veterans.

People: **May it shine forth as a beacon of nobility and compassion.**

Intercessor: We pray for this earth, your creation;

People: **That we may be faithful stewards of its bounty.**

Intercessor: We pray for unity in the Church, and peace for all its members;

People: **For those who spread your Gospel by word or by action.**

People: **We pray for the leaders of our church; for Michael our presiding bishop, Susan our bishop, Willy our interim priest, and for all bishops, priests and deacons.**

Intercessor: We pray for people in our world. Most especially for our Christian brothers and sisters in Ukraine, Myanmar (known as Burma), Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Egypt, Pakistan, Tunisia, Eritrea, Yemen, Nigeria, Somalia, Israel and Palestine, and all places on the earth where people are in danger and treated unfairly.

People: **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Intercessor: We lift up to you our concerns, praying especially for: all who are refugees, Hilda Ro & family, Christine P, Judith Taylor, Victoria, Mike & Penny, Ralph McMillen, Georgina & Phil, Bonnie, Almas I, George Elia, Ibtisam, Dyvid, Lee Todd, James M, Jonathan S & family, Terri, Jordan, Samir M, Kent C, Alice P, Corley B, Cindy H, Ahlam W, Steve V, the family of Essa, Zena, and Bill Smith.

(Please take a few moments to express thanks to God either vocally or silently.)

Intercessor: We pray for those who have died.

People: **Grant rest to their souls and comfort to those they have left behind.**

Intercessor: Almighty God, we pray for the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we seek a new priest for our church. You know our special needs and the task that lies to our hand. Direct us in our search and give us insight to perceive the leader you would choose for us. And we further pray, O Lord, that in this time of waiting we may all devote ourselves afresh to your service, so that nothing be lost of the faithful work of the past, but rather that it may be brought to a rich harvest in the years to come. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Celebrant: Lord hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A period of silence is kept.

All say together:

**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.**

Absolution

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you † in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Please remember that Passing the Peace is part of our liturgy. It is a time to welcome each other and to share a phrase like, "The peace of the Lord be with you", and to hear a response in kind like "And also with you". It is not intended to be a time for discussion. It is better to keep discussions for before or after church, at Coffee Hour is a great place for fellowship. At this time, you are invited to greet others with a handshake, a wave or hug in peace as you are comfortable.

Announcements – Sunday School students join their families.

Special Prayers for Birthdays, Anniversaries, and Travelers: If you had a birthday, anniversary last week or this week, or if you are going to travel soon, please stand / come forward and we will pray for you.

Birthday: O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant(s) _____ as *he/she/they* begin another year. Grant that *he/she/they* may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen *his/her/their* trust in your goodness all the days of *his/her/their* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Many happy returns on the day of your birth. May seasons of joy be given. May God in his mercy prepare you on earth for a beautiful birthday in heaven. Amen.

Anniversaries: Lord, we thank you for this couple _____ and for all of the years that they have had together. Today, as we celebrate their anniversary, our prayer is that you will continue to bless them. Lord, we pray that you will honor their commitment to each other and to You by granting them many more years of happiness together. Amen.

Travelers: O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel _____; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

Celebrant: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalms 50:14*

OFFERTORY – “Sonata in D Major, Second Movement” by Franz Schubert - Justin Hansen - Piano Solo

Doxology – Hymnal 380 (*all sing*)
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Sursum Corda (*Please stand, as you are able*)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: **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.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. But chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus – Hymnal S-124

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.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said,

"Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Officiant: And now let us pray as our Lord has taught us:

(To be read in unison)

<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
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THE HOLY COMMUNION

A moment of reverence is kept.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Invitation - *Celebrant*

This is the table, not of the church but of Jesus Christ.

It is made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;

you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time;

you who have tried to follow and you who have failed;

come, not because the church invites you;

it is Christ, and he invites you to meet him here.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymn – *LEV 152, "Let us break bread together"*

Please stand as you are able.

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant and People:

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.

Blessing

Recessional Hymn – *LEV 43, "God sent his son, they called him Jesus"*

Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude



PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers, praying especially for: all who are refugees, Hilda Ro & family, Christine P, Judith Taylor, Victoria, Mike & Penny, Ralph McMillen, Georgina & Phil, Bonnie, Almas I, George Elia, Ibtisam, Dyvid, Lee Todd, James M, Jonathan S & family, Terri, Jordan, Samir M, Kent C, Alice P, Corley B, Cindy H, Ahlam W, Steve V, the family of Essa, Zena, and Bill Smith.

Pray for those serving in the military especially: Riley, Lindzy, Denny, Cris, Ben, Bryan, Matt, Clarence, David Nye, Kristyn, Donovan, Christopher and Joshua Ibanez, Brandon, and for our veterans.

We pray for peace in the Holy Land most especially for our Christian brothers and sisters in Ukraine, Haiti, Myanmar (known as Burma), Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Egypt, Pakistan, Tunisia, Eritrea, Yemen, Nigeria, Somalia, Israel and Palestine, and all places on the earth where people are in danger and treated unfairly, who are suffering deprivation, torture, and death for confessing Christ as their Lord.

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer, we give thanks today for the Clergy and people of St. Philip the Apostle, in Lemon Grove. And also, for all our retired clergy and their spouses; all clergy widows and widowers.

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we give thanks today for the Church of Bangladesh.

Participants in Today's In-Person and Online Worship

Transitional Priest: The Reverend Dr Willy Crespo

Prayers: Judy Brown

Streaming Tech: Hsa Blu Moo

Verger: Judy Brown

Reader (English):

Gospel Readers: Arabic Nawal Yousif, Mary Zori, Jamil Shorees, Ibtisam Bashee, Nahrien Patak, Intissar Razoq, & Musa Karen Angelynn Than

Usher: Sharon Hathaway



Thank You for Your Support
During these challenging times, we
encourage you to support your home church.
If you have no home church and like what you see here
you may support St Alban's Ministries by going to:
<https://st-albans-church.org/giving>

Announcements for the week of 04/21/2024

Weekly Bible Study on Zoom, with Fr Willy

Please join us on Wednesdays, 6-7pm, on Zoom. Contact Fr Willy for details.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83513559709> Meeting ID: 835 1355 9709 Passcode: 139092

Join us for our Monthly Forum

Our Forum will take place on the 2nd Sunday of each month, after coffee hour in the Parish Hall. The forums are popular church topics and will run for about 45 minutes. For example, our first forum, in July 2023, was on reactions to the sermon and any questions/ideas folks may want to share and raise. Please join us, we would love to hear your views.

Sunday School

Sunday School starts **each Sunday at 9:30 am**. The children will be attending in-person at St. Alban's Church in the Education Room. (If your child needs to attend the Sunday School via Zoom please contact Caroline Mahon Hurd for details.) Children who attend the in-person Sunday School can join their families for communion during the church service. Also, on months with 5 Sundays: on the 5th Sunday please bring your children to service for a children's sermon!

Sunday School email: stalbansundayschool@gmail.com

Please use this email with any questions about Sunday School, or special needs attendance.

Where to Find Other St Alban's Regular Meetings

The Monthly Vestry meeting -

The Vestry meeting is on the 3rd SUNDAY of each month following the worship service.

Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am, We are now meeting in the sanctuary, and also this service can be found on the St Alban's Facebook page each Sunday morning if you prefer to attend from your home.

Bi-Lingual (Arabic) Eucharist Service at 8:30am, on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month followed by the food distribution pantry.

Regular Notices

Prayer Requests: To make a request for the prayer chain or bulletin or to update requests, please call the St Alban's office: 619-444-8212, or email: generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info. You are also invited to add a prayer request to be read in our Sunday public prayers. Names added will be listed for three weeks only, unless otherwise requested. We can also now receive prayer requests through our website: www.st-albans-church.org

Parking: If you are able-bodied, please park in the lot on Camden or the side streets, saving the prime spots for those who require a closer parking space. Thank you!

Report Misconduct: As part of our ongoing commitment to creating a safe haven for everyone, our diocese trains people in the prevention of misconduct and encourages all to report misconduct. All reported incidences are taken seriously and investigated thoroughly and confidentially. If you believe you have experienced misconduct of any kind, please contact Mr. John Seitman, jseitman@pacbell.net, 858-793-4555 or the Rev. Janet Wheelock, jwheelock@edsd.org, 952-240-8067.

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
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