St. Alban’s Episcopal Church

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May 2, 2021 • The Fifth Sunday of Easter

St. Alban’s is a community of disciples growing into the full maturity of Christ. Our mission as a community worshipping in the Episcopal tradition is to be devoted to God through prayer, study and action; faithful in welcoming the stranger and serving the needs of our parish and beyond.

Bishop of Northern California The Rt. Rev. Megan Traquair
Rector The Very Rev. Sara Potter
Priest Associate The Rev. Nancy Streufert
Deacon The Rev. Cindy Woods
Senior Warden Rick Timmons
Junior Warden Jeremy Webb
Choir Director Nan Voss-Herlihy
Organist Susan Twomey
Parish Nurse Emily Arents
ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORK DAY: Save the date for the final day of our annual parish Work Day — Saturday May 8th from 9 a.m. until noon. There are a variety of projects to be done inside and outside of Saint Alban’s. Please contact the office to sign-up. As always, bring your wheelbarrows, gloves, pruning shears and any other tools that would be helpful for sprucing things up!

EQUITY AND JUSTICE BOOK GROUP will begin on Tuesday, May 18th, at 6:30 pm, and in the future, we will meet on the first and third Tuesday of the month. To begin our study, we will be reading America’s Original Sin by Jim Wallis, a non-fiction book (2015) about systemic racism in the United States. Please contact Jenni Simpson or Deacon Cindy Woods for more information.

VACCINATION UPDATE: To help in developing our reopening plans please notify the Rector of Parish Nurse Emily Arent when you have been fully vaccinated. If you have questions or concerns about the COVID-19 vaccines, please reach out to Emily. She would be happy to discuss those concerns with you.

DIRECTORY: Current Parish directories are now available. Please contact the office to reserve a copy.

SHELTER MEALS: Arcata House Partnership is now asking for meal donations for the Adult Shelter. We welcome our new and returning cooks and also invite others who would like to consider joining this ministry. St. Alban’s cooks provide dinner on Mondays, and we currently have dates open on May 31 and July. Please email Deacon Cindy, cmwoods1730@gmail.com.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER FROM THE SUNDAY COUNTING TEAM: Please identify your pledge and non-pledge offerings. Check writers, please note what the amount is for in the memo line. If the check total covers several items, note what amount applies to each item. If you give through PayPal, there is an option to identify what the amount is for. Please use it. Our goal is to be sure your giving statements are correct when they arrive in your mailbox. Your Counting Team thanks you for your generosity and assistance in meeting this goal.

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The Word of God

Opening Hymn

**Harmony (the melody is in the tenor)**

1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing, to
3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

Words: American folk hymn, ca. 1835
Music: Wondrous Love, from The Southern Harmony, 1835
Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ is risen.
People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Collect for Purity

All: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit; that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.
Song of Praise

Hymnal S 280

Glory to God    Gloria in excelsis

1. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
2. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
3. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; 4. you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. 5. You are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Setting: Robert Powell (b. 1932)

(Music reprints: OneLicense.net #A-717645)
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, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Lesson Acts 8:26-40

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
Psalm 22:24-30

All: My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
    I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.
The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *

"May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
    and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.
For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
    he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
    all who go down to the dust fall before him.
My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; *
    they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
    the saving deeds that he has done.

Second Lesson 1 John 4:1-21

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

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn

Holy Eucharist

Unison or harmony

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for
2 I come with Christians far and near to
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
5 Together met, together bound, we'll

1 given, loved, and free, in awe and wonder
2 find, as all are fed, the new community
3 proud division ends. That love that made us
4 presence, always near, is in such friendship
5 go our different ways, and as his people
Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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 word 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."


People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Heather Barta
All: 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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.
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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped 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.
Deacon: In peace, let us pray to the Lord, saying, "Lord, have mercy."

Intercessor: For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the day of your coming, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For Michael our Presiding Bishop, for Megan our own Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers, and for all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease, and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For those in positions of public trust, that they may serve justice, and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: We pray for the congregations of our deanery, this month for the people of St. Alban’s, Arcata. Grant us joy and continued patience as we open our place of worship with care for all who gather. We pray to you O Lord,

People: Lord, have mercy.
Intercessor: For this congregation, that we may be delivered from hardness of heart and show forth your glory in all that we do, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For all who have been commended to our prayers; especially (Intercessor reads from the prayer lists #2, #3 and #4), for our families, friends, and neighbors; that being freed from anxiety, they may live in joy, peace, and health, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: For all who have died in the communion of your Church, especially (Intercessor reads from the prayer list #1) and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in the place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Intercessor: Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.

People: To you, O Lord our God.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, “Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:” Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthday Prayer

All: Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be, strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
The Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

_Celebrant:_ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

_Hebrews I 3:15, 16_

The Great Thanksgiving

_Book of Common Prayer 372_

“Lift up your hearts”

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_Celebrant:_ It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing,
“Holy, holy, holy”

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might, heaven and earth are full,
Full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes
Celebrant: We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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.”
Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ’s death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

All: **We praise you, we bless you,**
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Celebrant: Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, forever and ever.

All: **AMEN.**

The Lord’s Prayer

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All: **Our Father in heaven,**
 hail our Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.
The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Prayer

In union, O Lord with the faithful at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live and die in your love. Amen.*

* This prayer comes from The Prayer Book of the Armed Forces, published by The Episcopal Church.

Following worship today the consecrated bread and wine will be returned to the earth in thanksgiving for the earth from which they have come and in recognition that the entire creation is included in God’s work of redemption.
1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the
2 To the mem - bers of Christ's Bo - dy, to the
3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the
chal - lenge of her flight, like the vig - or of the
branch - es of the Vine, to the Church in faith as -
cease - less voice of prayer, with the power to love and
wind's rush, like the new flame's ea - ger
sem - bled, to her midst as gift and
wit - ness, with the peace be - yond com -

might: come,____ Holy Spi - rit, come.

sign: come,____ Holy Spi - rit, come.

pare: come,____ Holy Spi - rit, come.

Phrase 1 of each stanza may be sung by one group, with a contrasted group singing phrase 2,
and all joining for the final phrase.

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)
Music: Bridegroom, Peter Cutts (b. 1937)

Music: Copyright © 1969 by Hope Publishing Company. All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission.

(Music reprints: OneLicense.net #A-717645)
The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: 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

May Almighty God, who has redeemed us and made us his children through the resurrection of his son our Lord, bestow upon you the riches of his blessing. Amen.

May God, who through the water of baptism has raised us from sin into newness of life, make you holy and worthy to be united with Christ for ever. Amen.

May God, who has brought us out of bondage to sin into true and lasting freedom in the Redeemer, bring you to your eternal inheritance. Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. Amen.
Holy Eucharist

1 Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace; let us each, thy love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace: O refresh us,

2 Thanks we give and adoration for thy Gospel's joyful sound: may the fruits of thy salvation in our hearts and lives abound:
ever faithful,

3 so that when thy love shall call us, Savior, from the world away, fear of death shall not appall us,
glad thy summons to obey. May we ever,
ever faithful to thy truth may we be found;
ever reign with thee in endless day.

Words: Att. John Fawcett (1739-40-1817)
Music: Sicilian Mariners, Sicilian melody; first published The European Magazine and London Review, 1792, alt.

(Music reprints: OneLicense.net #A-717645)
Deacon: Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Thank You

Altar Flowers today are given to the greater Glory of God.

The Sanctuary Candle this week burns to the Greater Glory of God.

Today’s Ministers

Altar Guild: The Very Rev. Sara L Potter and Miriam Hohl
Celebrant: The Very Rev. Sara Potter
Preacher: The Rev. Heather Barta
Deacon: The Rev. Cindy Woods
Reader: Dan Scofield
Intercessor: Dan Scofield
Cantor: Nan Voss Herlihy
Musician: Nan Voss Herlihy
Video Verger(s): Garrett Purchio and Cathy Cox
Counter: Diana Cooper
Calendar

Today, Sunday, May 2
10:30 a.m.: Holy Eucharist II – Live Streamed
12:00 p.m.: Coffee Hour – Via Zoom

Monday, May 3
9:00 a.m.: Morning Prayer – Via Zoom
8:00 p.m.: Compline – Via Zoom

Tuesday, May 4
9:00 a.m.: Morning Prayer – Via Zoom
6:00 p.m.: SAA Group

Wednesday, May 5
9:00 a.m.: Morning Prayer – Via Zoom
6:30 p.m.: Bible Study – Via Zoom
8:00 p.m.: Compline – Via Zoom

Thursday, May 6
9:00 a.m.: Morning Prayer – Via Zoom
7:00-8:45 p.m.: EfM – Via Zoom

Friday, May 7
9:00 a.m.: Morning Prayer – Via Zoom
8:00 p.m.: Compline – Via Zoom

Saturday, May 8
8:15 a.m.: SAA Group
9:00 a.m.-12 Noon: Work Day

Sunday, May 9
10:30 a.m.: Morning Prayer II – Live Streamed
12:00 p.m.: Coffee Hour – Via Zoom