

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!



Easter Day

March 31, 2024
10:30 a.m.

Saint Alban's Episcopal Church Welcomes You

130 39th Ave. Pl. NW, Hickory, NC 28601

(828) 324-1351

*Welcome to St. Alban's. We are grateful for your presence.
Cloth pew bags are now available for our younger worshipers.*

Please return to the basket as you depart.

The Prelude

Trumpet Tune

David German

Introit

Morning has Broken
Genesis Bells

arr. Thompson

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn

Jesus Christ is risen today

Hymnal 207

The Salutation

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People ***The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia.***

A Song of Praise

Benedictus es, Domine

S236

Glory to you, Lord God of our fathers; you are worthy of praise; glory to you.

Glory to you for the radiance of your holy Name; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

Glory to you in the splendor of your temple; on the throne of your majesty, glory to you.

Glory to you, seated between the Cherubim; we will praise you and highly exalt you for ever.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: ***And also with you.***

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lesson Acts 31:34-43

Reader A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and the other Gentiles: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism

that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord

People *Thanks be to God*

The Gradual Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (*sung in unison*)

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; *
his mercy endures for ever.
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, *
"His mercy endures for ever."
- 14 The Lord is my strength and my song, *
and he has become my salvation.
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory *
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 "The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! *
the right hand of the Lord is exalted!
the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live, *
and declare the works of the Lord.
- 18 The Lord has punished me sorely, *
but he did not hand me over to death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to the Lord.
- 20 "This is the gate of the Lord; *
he who is righteous may enter."
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.
- 23 This is the Lord's doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- 24 On this day the Lord has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

The Epistle 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Reader A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you--unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them--though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God**

Sequence Hymn

Come, ye faithful

Hymnal 199

The Holy Gospel John 20:1-18

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

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

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?"

Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Gospel of the Lord

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Sermon

The Rev. Anne Bridgers

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

People *I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.*

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People *I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.*

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People *I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.*

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People *I will, with God's help.*

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People *I will, with God's help.*

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the risen Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.



THE HOLY COMMUNION

Anthem

Christ is Risen! Hallelujah!

John Helgen

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer D

BCP p. 372

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.***

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

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 ,

Celebrant and People

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.

The people stand. as the Celebrant continues

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.

Celebrant and People

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

The Celebrant continues

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.

Remember Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury, José our bishop and all who minister in your Church.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remembering especially the people of Baltimore, the Holy Land, Ukraine, and Haiti.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with St. Alban 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, for ever and ever. *AMEN.*

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
*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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Communion of the People

Gluten free wafers are available upon request at the altar rail.

Two chalices are offered at the altar rail. The first one is offered to those who prefer to drink from the cup.

The second chalice follows for those who prefer to intinct (dip) the wafer in the wine before consuming.

Please hold the wafer in your open palm to indicate your preference to the server.

Communion Anthem

*Grand Chorus
Oxford Bells*

Joel Raney

Hymns During Communion *(choir & congregation)*

*At the Lamb's high feast we sing
I am the bread of life*

Hymnal 174
Hymnal 335

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP p. 366

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.

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

Recessional Hymn

Welcome, happy morning

Hymnal 179

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia!

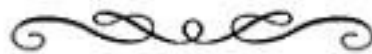
People *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!*

The Postlude

In Death's Strong Grasp the Savior Lay

J.S.Bach

We welcome Garrett Chitwood on trumpet. Garrett is a Gardner-Webb Music Education graduate. He is currently the band director at Crest Middle School in Shelby.



The Sanctuary Candle is given to the Glory of God
in honor of the thirty-third wedding anniversary of Nancy and Doug Brady,
married on Easter Day, March 31, 1991.

Easter Flower and Music Dedications

Easter Flowers given to the Glory of God in thanksgiving for

My children and grandchildren from Chris Oram

The Vestry from Jean Forbes

Our children and grandchildren from Lisa and Terry Jennings

The family of St. Alban's from Suzanne Garrett

My sister, Kerrie Redmond, from Suzanne Garrett

Graham, Ferrell, Jack, and Sierra from Becky Ferrell

Six wonderful grandchildren and in thanksgiving for Elizabeth Archer

Deal's 50th birthday from Tim and Rose Archer

Jan Houck from Jay Tate

Anna, PJ, Caroline, and Olivia from Bob and Mary Klinger

Our Vestry and our Wardens, Constance and Terry, from Richard and
Morri Brantley

Jane Earl from Randall, Sarah Jane, Randy and Erica

Family from Dick and Pett Brands

Our children and grandchildren from Reg and Claudia Moore

Rev. Anne Bridgers from Mary Michelle Millholen

Jeff, Janie, Adam, Anna, and Emily from Jane Earl

The people and the ministry of St. Alban's from The Bridgers

St. Alban's Choirs' dedication to worship from Tammy Shook

*Easter Flowers given to the Glory of God
and in memory of*

John Earl/Papa from Randall, Sarah Jane, Randy, and Erica
Dorothy and Marshall Mackie from Jeff and Florence Mackie
Florence and Edward Spruill and Louise Spruill from Jeff and
Florence Mackie

Reginald and Carolyn Moore from Reg and Claudia Moore

Lydia Mary Claypoole from William Claypoole

Sharon Poovey and Marie Gorupic from Carol Legrand

Dwight and Margaret Lowther from Pat Rice

Our fathers, Thomas E. Stanley and Kenneth "Casey" Robbins from Ellen
and Bucky Robbins

David and Fran Smith from Bruce and Carol Smith

Jon Mott from Kathy and Don Mott

Forest Ferrell from Becky Ferrell

Mack Huffman from Sarah Huffman

William Spainhour Olsen from Barbara Burns and Mandi Olsen

Mr. and Mrs. JC Jennings from Lisa and Terry Jennings

Helen and Jim Tate from Jay Tate

Our loved ones from the Obst Family

My daughter, Elissa Jane Harrell, from Jane Earl

My mother, JoAnn Williams, from Suzanne Garrett

Randy Harrell Sr. from Randall, Sarah Jane, Randy, and Erica

Elissa Earl Harrell from Randall, Sarah Jane, and Randy

My stepmother, Susan Vrh, from Suzanne Garrett

My father, Errol Vrh, from Suzanne Garrett

My brother, Anthony Vrh, from Suzanne Garrett

My sister, Wendy Williams, from Suzanne Garrett

My grandparents, Irvin and Bessie Vrh, from Suzanne Garrett
Robert W. Ingram from Ginny Ingram
Al and Ginny Webb from Gina Claypoole
Rick Hahn from Jan Houck
Richard Wright from Nancy Wright
Our parents and loved ones whom we miss dearly from Richard and
Morri Brantley
Jane and Bill Millholen from Mary Michele Millholen

*Music given to the Glory of God
and in thanksgiving for*

Our choir and Tammy Shook from Amy Campbell
Tammy Shook and Doug Brady from Pat Rice
The Handbells and Choir from Anne Williams
Tammy Shook and the choir from Lisa and Terry Jennings
Tammy, Lauren, and Doug from Becky Ferrell
Tammy Shook from Ellen and Bucky Robbins
St. Alban's Choir from Jay Tate
Meghan Neely and Eddie Alala from Janie Neely
Charlie, Kelly, and Oliver from Richard and Morri Brantley
The ministry of Rev. Anne Bridgers from Richard and Morri Brantley
St. Alban's from Dick and Pett Brands
Anne and Dixon Bridgers from Bruce and Carol Smith
St. Alban's Amazing Musicians from Jan Houck
Our St. Alban's family from Mary Michele Millholen
Rev. Anne, the Vestry, and the St. Alban's family from Jane Earl
The People and the Ministry of St. Alban's from The Bridgers.

*Music given to the Glory of God
and in memory of*

Wayne Oram from Chris Oram

Charles Hager from Jean Forbes

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gilliam from Lisa and Terry Jennings

Blanche and Holiday Smith from Betsy Valentini

Nathan Hefner from Jay Tate

John Earl from Bob and Mary Klinger

Zachary Marzbanian from Gina Claypoole

B.J. Houck from Jan Houck

Dr. Mike and Joyce McCall from Rachel Lucas

Cayden Graham Moore from Reg and Claudia Moore

Jack and Elisabeth Spottswood from Reg and Claudia Moore

Dr. John Earl from Mary Michele Millholen

John Earl from Jane Earl