

*Walk In Love
As We
Hear the Word. Break the Bread. Share the Love.*



**XXIII Pentecost
Holy Eucharist**

October 27, 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 available for our younger worshipers.
Please return to the basket as you depart.
Fantasie on "Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott"*

Prelude

Paul Fey

The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn*Sing praise to God who reigns above*

Hymnal 408

Opening Acclamation

BCP p. 355

The people standing, the Celebrant says

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

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**Collect for Purity** *(Celebrant and People)*

BCP p. 355

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.

Gloria

Hymnal S-236

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.
 Glory to you, beholding the depths; in the high vault of heaven,
 Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; we will praise you and highly exalt you. Glory to you!

The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 357

Celebrant The Lord be with you.*People* And also with you.*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lesson: Job 42:1-6, 10-17 *The people sit.*

A Reading from the Book of Job.

Job answered the Lord:

“I know that you can do all things,
 and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.
 ‘Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?’
 Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand,
 things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.
 ‘Hear, and I will speak;
 I will question you, and you declare to me.’
 I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,
 but now my eye sees you;
 therefore I despise myself,
 and repent in dust and ashes.”

And the Lord restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends; and the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before. Then there came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and they ate bread with him in his house; they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that

the Lord had brought upon him; and each of them gave him a piece of money and a gold ring. The Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand donkeys. He also had seven sons and three daughters. He named the first Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch. In all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job's daughters; and their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers. After this Job lived for one hundred and forty years, and saw his children, and his children's children, four generations. And Job died, old and full of days.

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

The Gradual: Psalm 34:1-8, 19-22 *(Sung in unison)*

- 1 I will bless the LORD at all times; *
 his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 I will glory in the LORD; *
 let the humble hear and rejoice.
- 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD; *
 let us exalt his Name together.
- 4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me *
 and delivered me out of all my terror.
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant, *
 and let not your faces be ashamed.
- 6 I called in my affliction and the LORD heard me *
 and saved me from all my troubles.
- 7 The angel of the LORD encompasses those who fear him, *
 and he will deliver them.
- 8 Taste and see that the LORD is good; *
 happy are they who trust in him!
- 19 Many are the troubles of the righteous, *
 but the LORD will deliver him out of them all.
- 20 He will keep safe all his bones; *
 not one of them shall be broken.
- 21 Evil shall slay the wicked, *
 and those who hate the righteous will be punished.
- 22 The LORD ransoms the life of his servants, *
 and none will be punished who trust in him.

The Epistle: Hebrews 7:23-28

A Reading from the Book of Hebrews.

²³The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; ²⁴but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. ²⁵Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

²⁶For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. ²⁸For the

law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

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

Sequence Hymn

Surely it is God who saves me

Hymnal 679

The Holy Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

⁴⁶Jesus and his disciples came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside.⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.”⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus.⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.”⁵²Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Anne Bridgers

The Nicene Creed

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 (Stand or kneel)

The Leader and People pray responsively

We humbly bring our prayers before you and ask you to make of us what you created us to be: faithful followers, vessels of your love.

We praise you, and we bless you.

People ***O Lord, hear our prayer.***

We offer our prayers of gratitude for all you are all and all you have done for us. Work through us, O God, and increase in us faith, hope, and charity.

We praise you, and we bless you.

People ***O Lord, hear our prayer.***

We hear you calling us, your church, to get up and keep moving. Expand our vision of your mission in the world, and don't let fear of discomfort hold us back. We pray for all who follow you, for those who bear the joys and burdens of leadership especially José, our Bishop, Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Sean, Presiding Bishop-Elect, and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, St. Francis, Rutherfordton.

We praise you, and we bless you.

People ***O Lord, hear our prayer.***

We thank you for the freedoms and abundance many of us enjoy in this land. May we not take them for granted and keep them to ourselves. Give us courage to participate in civic life and to speak up for those values you have instilled in us for the good of all people. We pray for wisdom our president, the Congress, and courts of this land. May they conduct themselves with integrity.

We praise you, and we bless you.

People ***O Lord, hear our prayer.***

Remembering all those on our Parish Prayer List, we lift to your presence those who are in the throes of physical pain or anxiety, difficult relationships and the weight of financial insecurity. Be their hope and their strength. We pray today especially for those recovering from Hurricane Helene and Milton.

We praise you, and we bless you.

People ***O Lord, hear our prayer.***

We praise you for the lives of those who have gone before us and now have come to eternal joys and unending glory with you and the host of heaven. We pray for those who have died.

We praise you, and we bless you.

People ***O Lord, hear our prayer.***

Silence. The people may add their own prayers

Silence

Celebrant adds concluding Collects.

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States and this community in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Almighty God, you proclaim your truth in every age by many voices: Direct, in our time, we pray, those who speak where many listen and write what many read; that they may do their part in making the heart of this people wise, its mind sound, and its will righteous; to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Confession *(People stand or kneel)* BCP p. 360

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

Silence may be kept.

Minister 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.*

Absolution BCP p. 360

Celebrant 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 *(All stand.)*

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

Walk in Love Stewardship Reflection

Judy Caywood

Discernment Journey Update

Terry Jennings and Judy Caywood

The Holy Communion

Anthem

Grace Before Sleep

Susan LeBarr

Doxology *(Hymn 380, verse 3)*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all the creatures here below; praise him above the heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP p. 361

The People remain standing.

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.

Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

S130

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The People stand or kneel, as 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.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it or lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

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.

The Celebrant continues

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 for ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

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

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

The ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds, and then immediately deliver it to the people.

Gluten free waters 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 follow 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.

The Communion of the People

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

Communion Hymn

Father, we thank thee who hast planted

Hymnal 302

Post-Communion Prayer

BCP p. 365

Let us pray.

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

Go forth into the world in peace, walking in love as Christ first loved us and may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. Amen.

Recessional Hymn

A mighty fortress is our God

Hymnal 688

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Allegro in C

A. Hesse

***We gather for refreshments in the Commons Room immediately following the service.
All are welcome to participate and check out the kiosk for more ways to walk in Love!***

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The flowers today are given in honor and celebration of Rev. Anne's birthday, with much affection from the people of St. Albans.

Thank you for prayerfully considering your Walk in Love 2025 Pledge.