

# *The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost*



## **Holy Eucharist II**

August 3, 2025  
10:30 a.m.

**Saint Alban's Episcopal Church Welcomes You**  
*130 39<sup>th</sup> 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 worshippers.  
Please return to the basket as you depart.*

**Prelude**

# The Liturgy of the Word

## Processional Hymn

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies*

Hymnal 7

## 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 says)*

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-280

***Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.***

***Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.***

***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; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.***

***For you alone 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.***

## The Collect of the Day

BCP p. 357

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People And also with you.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**The Lesson:** Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23 *(The people sit.)*

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me -- and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People Thanks be to God.*

**The Gradual: Psalm 49:1-11**      (*Spoken in Unison*)

<sup>1</sup>Hear this, all you peoples;  
hearken, all you who dwell in the world, \*  
you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.  
<sup>2</sup>My mouth shall speak of wisdom, \*  
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.  
<sup>3</sup>I will incline my ear to a proverb \*  
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.  
<sup>4</sup>Why should I be afraid in evil days, \*  
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,  
<sup>5</sup>The wickedness of those who put their trust in their goods, \*  
and boast of their great riches?  
<sup>6</sup>We can never ransom ourselves, \*  
or deliver to God the price of our life;  
<sup>7</sup>For the ransom of our life is so great, \*  
that we should never have enough to pay it,  
<sup>8</sup>In order to live for ever and ever, \*  
and never see the grave.  
<sup>9</sup>For we see that the wise die also;  
like the dull and stupid they perish \*  
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.  
<sup>10</sup>Their graves shall be their homes for ever,  
their dwelling places from generation to generation, \*  
though they call the lands after their own names.  
<sup>11</sup>Even though honored, they cannot live for ever; \*  
they are like the beasts that perish.

**The Epistle: Colossians 3:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup>for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup>Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup>On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup>These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup>But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup>In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

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

**Sequence Hymn**

*Where charity and love prevail*

Hymnal 581

**The Holy Gospel: Luke 12:13-21**

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

People

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

<sup>13</sup>Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup>But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” <sup>16</sup>Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup>And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup>Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ <sup>20</sup>But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup>So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

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

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Jonathan Stepp

**The Nicene Creed**

*(All stand.)*

BCP p. 358

*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**                      Form III                      *(People stand or kneel)*

Intercessor     Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*People*             ***That we all may be one.***

Intercessor     In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we pray for The Episcopal Church in the Philippines and in the  
                         Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for Church of the Transfiguration, Bat Cave, and Church of  
                         the Transfiguration, Saluda. Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve  
                         you;  
*People*             ***That your Name may be glorified by all people.***

Intercessor     We pray for Stephen, Archbishop of York, Sean, our Presiding Bishop, José, our Bishop, Father  
                         Jonathan, the staff of St. Alban's, and all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*People*             ***That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.***

Intercessor     We pray for the leaders of our nation, our state, and our city, and we pray for all who govern and  
                         hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*People*             ***That there may be justice and peace on the earth.***

Intercessor     Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*People*             ***That our works may find favor in your sight.***

Intercessor     We pray for those who are sick, especially those on our prayer list, and we pray that you will  
                         have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*People*             ***That they may be delivered from their distress.***

Intercessor     Give to the departed eternal rest.  
*People*             ***Let light perpetual shine upon them.***

Intercessor     We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
*People*             ***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

Intercessor     And now let us pray for our own needs and those of others,

*Silence is kept.*

*The People may add their own petitions, either silently or aloud.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

**Confession of Sin**

BCP p. 359

*Celebrant says*

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. 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.)*

BCP p. 360

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People* ***And also with you.***

# The Holy Communion

**Doxology**

*(People stand as offering is presented)*

Hymn 380, verse 3

**The Great Thanksgiving**

Eucharistic Prayer B *(Stand or kneel)*

BCP p. 367

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Celebrant, the second for the People, the third for the Celebrant, and the fourth for the People. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise."

*Celebrant*  
The Lord be with you. *People*  
And al - so 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 then sings the preface*

*Celebrant and People*

S-129

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

***Hosanna in the highest.***

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

***Hosanna in the highest.***

*The Celebrant continues*

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

*Celebrant and People*

***We remember his death,***

***We proclaim his resurrection,***

***We await his coming in glory;***

*The Celebrant continues*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Alban, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.



## **The Lord's Prayer**

BCP p. 363

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

*People and Celebrant*

***Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your 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 Breaking of the Bread**

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

## **Fraction Anthem**

BCP p. 364

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

*The Celebrant says*

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.

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



**Communion Hymn**

*Father, we thank thee who hast planted*

Hymnal 302

**Post-Communion Prayer**

BCP p. 365

*After Communion, the Celebrant says*

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 Blessing**

BCP p. 366

**Recessional Hymn**

*God of grace and God of glory*

Hymnal 594

**Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People*

***Thanks be to God.***

**Postlude**

***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!***

# *Announcements*

***Altar flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of Richard Wright by Nancy Wright.***

***When coming forward to receive communion, please form one line to receive the bread; then go to the cup on your right for intinction or the cup on your left to drink. Please return to your seat via the side aisles.***

Fr. Jonathan will be on vacation from Sunday afternoon (after services) on Aug. 3 through Saturday, Aug. 9. He will be back for services on Sunday, Aug. 10. If you need pastoral assistance during this week, please contact our Parish Administrator, Kim Wagner (828.324.1351) or Cami Roberts (828.404.8866) and they will refer you to the appropriate clergy person.

**Thank you for your patience** as we continue to hold church services in Ferebee Hall. Installation is expected in ***approximately two weeks***, but in the meantime, we are delighted to gather comfortably in Ferebee Hall!

***The Rector's Discretionary Fund*** exists to provide resources for the Priest in Charge of St. Alban's to assist those in need and make charitable donations on behalf of the parish. If you would like to give to the Discretionary Fund, please do so, in addition to your regular pledge offerings - you can donate by placing cash in the Alms Basin on the first Sunday of each month, or by writing a check at any time and making a note on the memo line that it is for the Discretionary Fund. Thank you for giving to help others!

**Vitality Grant** - Our Diocese has given St. Alban's a \$10,000 Vitality Grant to help us install acoustic panels in Ferebee Hall and the Commons Room. This grant will cover almost ½ the cost of the total project. These panels are very commonly used in church spaces to reduce the echoing effect that can make it hard to hear one-on-one conversations when larger crowds are present. We are grateful to the Diocese for their generosity and looking forward to completing this project soon.

Fr. Jonathan would like your input on possible topics for **Adult Forums** this fall! Please take the very short survey that was listed in this week's "***Alban's Times***" to let us know which topic sounds most interesting to you.

Join your fellow ***FOOTHILLS DEANERY*** Churches for a Crawdads Baseball Game on Sunday, August 10. St. Johns, Marion has invited all the churches in the Foothills deanery to join them for an afternoon of baseball. If you have a St. Alban's t-shirt, please wear it. Don't forget to bring your Sunday Bulletin for a \$2 discount on your ticket! It's also "Bark in the Park" day!! Bring your pup to the park!

**PRAYER SHAWL "WORKSHOP"** - You are invited to help prepare the prayer shawls for their blessing. ***NO KNITTING EXPERIENCE*** necessary! This includes folding, tying bows, and adding prayer cards to each shawl. If you have ever experienced knitting, giving, or receiving one of these shawls you know what a true blessing it is. **WHEN & WHERE:** Monday, August 11, 2 p.m. in the Commons Room. For questions, contact Eileen Leach: 828.256.3744.

Fr. Jonathan will have a training session for all **Lectors** and **Chalice Bearers** on Sunday, Aug. 24, at 9:00 a.m. in the church. If you serve in one of these roles and will not be able to attend that day, please let him know. ([frjonathan@stalbanparish.org](mailto:frjonathan@stalbanparish.org)) The training will begin with Lectors so that those who only lector and do not serve the chalice can leave when that part of the training is finished. If you are not currently serving as a Lector or Chalice Bearer, but would like to – or would like to learn more about it - please reach out to Fr. Jonathan before the training session.

**“LOADS of LOVE” Laundry Drive**--Help bring dignity to our neighbors in need by donating supplies for the homeless right here in our area, by supporting the Laundry Ministry of Greater Hickory Cooperative Christian Ministry. We will continue to collect Laundry Drive items through the summer. Items needed: Low suds detergent (high efficiency preferred), spot/soil remover spray, dryer sheets. Look for the donation basket in the Commons Rooms! Pat Rice and Jane Earl delivered our first collection to CCM last week. They currently do about 4 loads of laundry each day, so these donated items will be such a blessing!! There's something special about a fresh, clean load of laundry!!

### ***This Week at St. Alban's:***

#### **Monday, August 4**

- 7:30 a.m. DOK Prayer Group meets in the Barn
- 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study Group meets in the Barn

#### **Tuesday, August 5**

- 8:30 a.m. Men's Study Group meets at the Big Table
- 4:30 p.m. Cedars HOA meets in the Barn



#### ***Continued prayers of healing, comfort, peace, and strength for***

*Harry Andrews; Jim Dingman; Tammy Shook; Shirley Barlowe (Kevin Barlowe's mother); Melissa Nichols; Anthony Stikeleather (brother of Nancy Brady); James Johnson (son-in-law of Randy and Dana Truitt); Peter Sullivan; Angela Andrews (sister of Harry Andrews); Jenny McCall (sister of Rachel Lucas); Linda Walker; Becky Thomas; Matt Caywood; Linda Brady (mother of Doug Brady); Nancy Wall.*

***Continued prayers for all people affected by Hurricane Helene,  
those suffering from the floods in south-central Texas, and those recovering from wildfires.***



#### **BIRTHDAYS (August 3 – August 17)**

August	5	Lynn Caldwell and Clair Henson
August	7	Joey Abel
August	8	Kathy Shirilla and Jay Tate
August	9	Sierra Eaton and Isla Krenzel
August	11	James Johnson Jr. and Dan Green
August	12	Pett Brands
August	15	Marshall Fisher and Noah VanBeurden
August	16	David Abel
August	17	Piper Amann and Eileen Leach

#### **ANNIVERSARIES (August 3 – August 17)**

August	4	Peter & Ellie Bradshaw
August	5	Kevin & Jill VanBeurden
August	6	Norm & Kit McDonald
August	11	Jeff & Florence Mackie

### **Ministers of the Service**

Adrienne Brooks - Chaliceist

Jay Tate – Chaliceist

Carol Smith – Lector

Sandy Carter - Usher

Charlie Amann – Usher

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### **Vestry Members**

Judy Caywood - Senior Warden

Bill Perrin - Junior Warden

Charlie Brantley

Jane Earl

Susan Hook

Claudia Moore

Ingrid Peake

Bucky Robbins

Bruce Smith

Chris Oram - Vestry Clerk

Ellen Robbins – Treasurer

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### **Those Who Serve You**

**The Most Rev. Sean W. Rowe** - Presiding Bishop & Primate of The Episcopal Church

**The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin** - Bishop, Diocese of Western NC

**The Rev. Jonathan Stepp** - Priest-in-Charge

**Doug Brady** - Organist

**Janet Dziesinski** - Financial Administrator

**Cami Roberts** - Director of Family Formation

**Tammy Shook** - Director of Parish Music and Handbells

**Lauren Timmons** - Associate Director of Parish Music and Cantorkids Director

**Kim Wagner** – Parish Administrator