

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



Holy Eucharist II

July 13, 2025
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 worshippers.
Please return to the basket as you depart.*

Prelude

The Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn

In Christ there is no East or West

Hymnal 529

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.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:9-14 (The people sit.)

Moses said to the people of Israel, "The LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, when you obey the LORD your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

"Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: Psalm 25:1-9

(Spoken in Unison)

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.
²Let none who look to you be put to shame; *
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.
³Show me your ways, O LORD, *
and teach me your paths.
⁴Lead me in your truth and teach me, *
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.
⁵Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, *
for they are from everlasting.
⁶Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.
⁷Gracious and upright is the LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his way.
⁸He guides the humble in doing right *
and teaches his way to the lowly.
⁹All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

The Epistle: Colossians 1:1-14

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,
²To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, ⁸and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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

Sequence Hymn

Love divine, all loves excelling

Hymnal 657

The Holy Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

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

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

²⁵Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” ²⁷He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” ²⁸And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

²⁹But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” ³⁷He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

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 Church of North India (United) and in the
 Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for St. Alban's, Hickory. 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 sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Celebrant, and the second is for the People. The third staff is for the Celebrant, and the fourth is 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 *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. 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

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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

O Master, let me walk with thee

Hymnal 660

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.

Blessing

BCP p. 366

Recessional Hymn

Lord, dismiss us with thy blessing

Hymnal 344

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

We extend a warm welcome to Linda Faulk as guest organist for the month of July while Doug is away.

Young at Heart Camp! Camp Henry and Lake Logan are excited to announce ‘Young at Heart Camp’ for those age 60+ (August 26 - August 28). Enjoy the majestic playground of mile-long Lake Logan surrounded by the Shining Rock Wilderness and the Great Balsam Mountains. Throughout our time together, campers can sign up for guided indoor activities and outdoor adventures or simply enjoy time relaxing with friends and Camp Staff. Everyone is encouraged to experience all that Lake Logan has to offer – take a stroll along the river, spot a bald eagle in flight, take out a rowboat on the lake, or share some laughs around the game tables in Boojum’s Cave. Evening activities include live local music, history and ecology talks, and of course, good ol’ fashion campfire sing-alongs. Register today at www.lakelogan.org/event/young-at-heart-camp/.

Rental Unit Needed for Church of the Ascension's Interim Rector. If you have a vacation home, apartment/condo, or in-law suite in the Hickory area that’s available for lease, please contact Church of the Ascension at office@ascensionhickory.org or 828-328-5393. Ascension anticipates needing this housing beginning in August. The unit must have a private entrance, one bedroom, a bathroom, and a kitchen/kitchenette.

COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE! Our plants are *THRIVING* with the loving care they are receiving. They still require lots of attention (watering, occasional weeding, and of course, words of affirmation like: “*You are such a pretty tomato!*”) If you are interested, and have some *LOVE of Gardening*, please contact Bud Caywood (828.302.6783 or caywoodstudio@outlook.com), and he’ll be happy to get you lined up with a little job to help keep this beautiful outreach mission providing fresh veggies to The Hickory Soup Kitchen!

“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!!

CMM has a number of Volunteer Needs! Please look over the list to see if there’s something here for you! Clothing sorters for the crisis closet donations, Painters for inside painting project, Receptionist Assistant for aiding front desk with selecting clothing for clients in the crisis closet, Medical professional volunteers, Pastoral care, lay-leaders, faith leaders, prayer warriors to pray and interact with clients in lobby (this could include, but not required or limited to, sharing a devotional, singing, discipleship and mentorship, taking prayer requests, or just being present to talk with people and give faith based encouragement in the lobby), Van Drivers - driving clients to appointments such as work, dr. appointments, other nonprofit resources in the community, Teaching a class - such as budgeting, coping skills, AA, NA, Celebrate Recovery, Griefshare, Divorce Care, conflict resolution, foundations of faith, trade skill education, etc. *Lots of ways to share your faith and help others are needed!* If you are interested, please contact Amanda Sowards at asowards@ccmhickory.org.

Donation Opportunity: Pett Brands currently manages the reading material at the Habitat Store in Taylorsville. They are critically low on books. If you have any books you would like to donate, please bring them to the Commons Room and Pett will collect them for the Taylorsville Habitat Store!

REMINDER: Hearing devices are available in a basket at the usher stand. Please return it to the basket following the service. We are currently missing a couple of devices. If you happen to have taken one home, we kindly ask that you return it to the church.

If you would like to visit our *Memorial Garden*, and you have mobility issues, please contact a member of the staff; we will be happy to assist in you making your way into that space.

Prayer Corner... The St. Alban's Chapter of the Daughters of the King remove and pray weekly for the prayer requests added to the Prayer Box. It is located on the shelf at the Wall of Crosses which were hand wrought using wood from the St. Alban's original altar rail. Prayers of thanksgiving and intercession continue with the addition of the Prayer Box and the faithful ongoing ministry of the Daughters of the King. All prayer requests are held in confidence and available for all to use.

This Week at St. Alban's:

Monday, July 14

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

Tuesday, July 15

- 8:30 a.m. Men's Study Group meets at the Big Table
- 9:30 a.m. Building & Ground Committee Meeting

Wednesday, July 16

- 9:00 a.m. Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday, July 17

- 2:00 p.m. Pastoral Care Team Ministry Team meets in the Barn



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

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

Continued prayers for all people affected by Hurricane Helene and those recovering from wildfires.



BIRTHDAYS (July 13 – July 27)

July	13	Lynn Loehr
July	14	Jane Earl
July	18	Marti Hejl
July	23	Peter Bradshaw
July	25	Carol Mansi
July	26	Bill Loehr and Kempton Smith
July	27	Dennis Hefner

ANNIVERSARIES (July 13– July 27)

July	13	Gene & Libby Teague
July	17	Ken & Barbara Burns
July	17	John & Eileen Leach

Ministers of the Service

Jeff Mackie - Chalicist
Barbara Carter – Chalicist
Carol Smith – Lector
Linda Faulk - Pianist
Bill Stokes - Usher
Sandy Carter – Usher
Chuck Camby – Sound / Streaming
Maria Headrick – Sound / Streaming

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

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