

# *The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost*



## **Holy Eucharist II**

July 27, 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 worshipers.*

*Please return to the basket as you depart.*

**Prelude**

# The Liturgy of the Word

**Processional Hymn**

*Morning has broken*

Hymnal 8

**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 God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

**The Lesson:** Genesis 18:20-32

*(The people sit.)*

The Lord said to Abraham, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord.

Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            ***Thanks be to God.***

**The Gradual:** Psalm 138                    (*Spoken in Unison*)

<sup>1</sup>I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; \*  
before the gods I will sing your praise.  
<sup>2</sup>I will bow down toward your holy temple  
and praise your Name, \*  
because of your love and faithfulness;  
<sup>3</sup>For you have glorified your Name \*  
and your word above all things.  
<sup>4</sup>When I called, you answered me; \*  
you increased my strength within me.  
<sup>5</sup>All the kings of the earth will praise you, O LORD, \*  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.  
<sup>6</sup>They will sing of the ways of the LORD, \*  
that great is the glory of the LORD.  
<sup>7</sup>Though the LORD be high, he cares for the lowly; \*  
he perceives the haughty from afar.  
<sup>8</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; \*  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;  
your right hand shall save me.  
<sup>9</sup>The LORD will make good his purpose for me; \*  
O LORD, your love endures for ever;  
do not abandon the works of your hands.

**The Epistle:** Colossians 2:6-19

<sup>6</sup>As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; <sup>12</sup>when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

<sup>16</sup>Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. <sup>17</sup>These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup>Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, <sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.

*People*            ***Thanks be to God.***

**The Holy Gospel:** Luke 11:1-13

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

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

<sup>1</sup>Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”<sup>2</sup>He said to them, “When you pray, say:

‘Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread.

<sup>4</sup>And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.’ ”

<sup>5</sup>And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’

<sup>7</sup>And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ <sup>8</sup>I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

<sup>9</sup>“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup>Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup>Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Jonathan Stepp

**The Nicene Creed**      (*All stand.*)

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***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 Anglican Church of Papua, New Guinea and in  
                          the Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for St. James, Black Mountain, St. James, Hendersonville,  
 People            and St. James, Lenoir. Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
                          ***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

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*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

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*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)*

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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, 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

*For the bread which you have broken*

Hymnal 341



## Post-Communion Prayer

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*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

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## Recessional Hymn

*On this day, the first of days*

Hymnal 47

## 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 would like to thank Linda Faulk as guest pianist during the month of July while Doug has been away.***

***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.***

**Thank you for your patience** as we continue to hold church services in Ferebee Hall. The refinishing company is communicating with Reg Moore and providing updates on the progress of the pews, altar rails, and pulpit. Installation is expected in approximately three weeks, but in the meantime, we are delighted to gather comfortably in Ferebee Hall!

***TASTE OF THE GARDEN - SUNDAY, AUGUST 3 - FOLLOWING WORSHIP!*** Join us after worship for a little sampling of recipes made from our Community Garden. It's sure to be a wonderful way to celebrate our bounty and recognize those who make this ministry such a blessing!

**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/](http://www.lakelogan.org/event/young-at-heart-camp/).

**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](mailto: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!!

***CCM 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](mailto:asowards@ccmhickory.org).

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 28**

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting



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

*Jim Dingmar, Tammy Shook; Shirley Barlowe (Kevin Barlowe's mother); Melissa Nichols; Linda Walker; Peter Sullivan; 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); 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 (July 27 – August 10)**

July	28	Sarah Temple and Nancy Wall
July	29	Josh Nixon and Meghan Neely
August	2	Barbara Lydick and Aubrey Stocks
August	5	Lynn Caldwell and Claire Henson
August	7	Joey Abel
August	8	Kathy Shirilla, Jay Tate
August	9	Sierra Eaton, Isla Krenzel

### **ANNIVERSARIES (July 27– August 10)**

July	31	Ross & Pat McIntosh
August	1	Sandy & Barbara Carter
August	4	Peter & Ellie Bradshaw
August	5	Kevin & Jill VanBeurden
August	6	Norm & Kit McDonald

## **Ministers of the Service**

Libby Teague - Chalcist  
Adrianne Brooks – Chalcist  
Lee Young – Lector  
Linda Faulk - Pianist  
Carol Smith - Usher  
Bruce Smith – 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