



ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
SIMSBURY, CT



THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE TWO

FEBRUARY 19, 2023 – 9:00 AM

Welcome to St. Alban's!

As we say every Sunday, “If you’re visiting St. Alban’s for the first time, or for the first time in a while, we extend a special welcome to you.” To all of you joining us today whether in the building or via Zoom or Facebook, we’re feel so fortunate to be together.

There are no “reserved seats” in our Sanctuary. We hope you’ll find a spot and make yourself comfortable. Our Prayground in the balcony is available for any worshipper who needs a more flexible space. We invite you to enjoy the Prayground resources in the Prayground; or, pack a tote bag and take it somewhere else in the Sanctuary.

We invite you to fill out one of the “Welcome” cards that you can find on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary. This gives us a chance to stay in touch with you. You can also find us on Facebook and visit our website: [stalbanssimsbury.org](http://stalbanssimsbury.org).

Head down to the Parish Hall after our service for a little refreshment!

We’re so glad you’re here!!

*\*A note about standing, kneeling, sitting rubrics:*

*One of the spaces that has received more attention during the pandemic is around ablism. Our society, in large part, functions as though everyone has nearly full use of their bodies. During the pandemic, the shift to an online space made it possible for folks who have added accessibility needs to join groups and activities they hadn’t been able to before. Where a “standing” rubric might have been added alone, we’re adding “seated”, as well, as an invitation for you to listen and respond to the needs of your own body. You are invited to remember that our bodies are created by God and intended for worship, just like our voices. However you feel comfortable doing that, God sees that it is good!*

1 Christ is the world's true Light, its Cap-tain of sal - va - tion,  
 2 In Christ all rac - es meet, their an - cient feuds for - get - ting,  
 3 One Lord, in one great Name u - nite us all who own thee;

the Day - star clear and bright of ev - ery race and na - tion;  
 the whole round world com - plete, from sun - rise to its set - ting;  
 cast out our pride and shame that hin - der to en - throne thee;

new life, new hope a - wakes, for all who own his sway:  
 when Christ is throned as Lord all shall for - sake their fear,  
 the world has wait - ed long, has tra - vailed long in pain;

free - dom her bond - age breaks, and night is turned to day.  
 to plough-share beat the sword, to prun - ing - hook the spear.  
 to heal its an - cient wrong, come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

## THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.  
**Glory to God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

1. Come, let us sing to the  
 Lord; let us shout for joy to the Rock of our sal -  
 va - tion. 2. Let us come be - fore his pres - ence with thanks - giv - ing —  
 — and raise a loud shout to him with psalms. 3. For the  
 Lord is a great God, — and a great King a - bove all  
 gods. 4. In his hand are the cav - erns of the earth, —  
 — and the heights of the hills are his al - so. 5. The  
 sea is his, for he made it, — and his hands have  
 mold - ed the dry land. 6. Come, let us bow down, and bend the  
 knee, — and kneel be - fore the Lord our Ma - ker. 7. For

he is our God, and we are the people of his  
 pas - ture and the sheep of his hand.  
 Oh, that to - day you would hearken to his voice!

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

God our true and only Light: receive our morning prayers, and illumine the secrets of our hearts with your healing goodness, that no evil desires may possess us who are made new in the light of your heavenly grace. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

READING: *Exodus 24:12-18*

The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, “Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.”

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 2 *Quare fremuerunt gentes?*

- 1 Why are the nations in an uproar? \*  
Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?
- 2 Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,  
and the princes plot together, \*  
against the LORD and against his Anointed?
- 3 "Let us break their yoke," they say; \*  
"let us cast off their bonds from us."
- 4 He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; \*  
the Lord has them in derision.
- 5 Then he speaks to them in his wrath, \*  
and his rage fills them with terror.
- 6 "I myself have set my king \*  
upon my holy hill of Zion."
- 7 Let me announce the decree of the LORD: \*  
he said to me, "You are my Son;  
this day have I begotten you.
- 8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance \*  
and the ends of the earth for your possession.
- 9 You shall crush them with an iron rod \*  
and shatter them like a piece of pottery."
- 10 And now, you kings, be wise; \*  
be warned, you rulers of the earth.
- 11 Submit to the LORD with fear, \*  
and with trembling bow before him;
- 12 Lest he be angry and you perish; \*  
for his wrath is quickly kindled.
- 13 Happy are they all \*  
who take refuge in him!

READING: 2 *Peter* 1:16-21

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with

whom I am well pleased.” We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

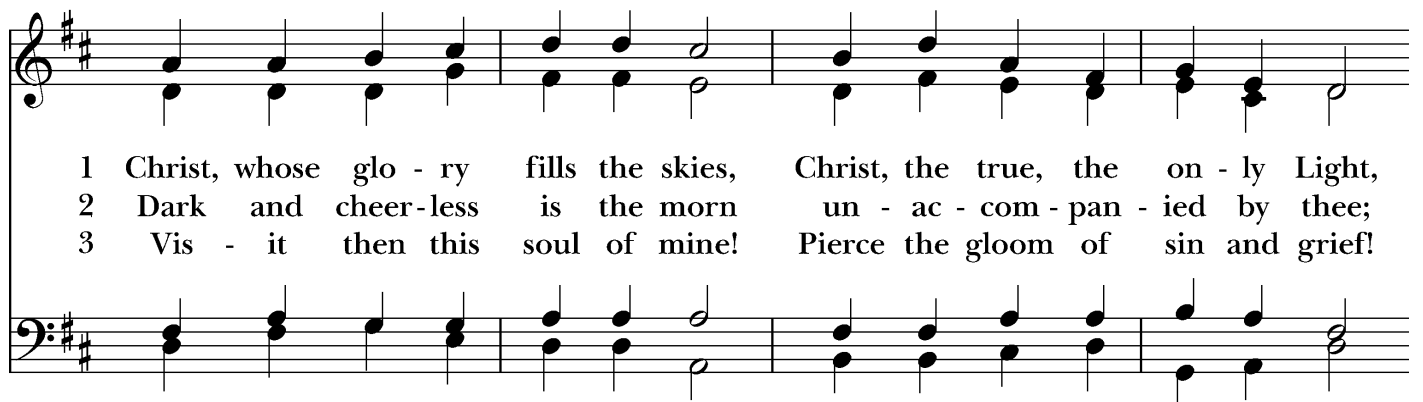
So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

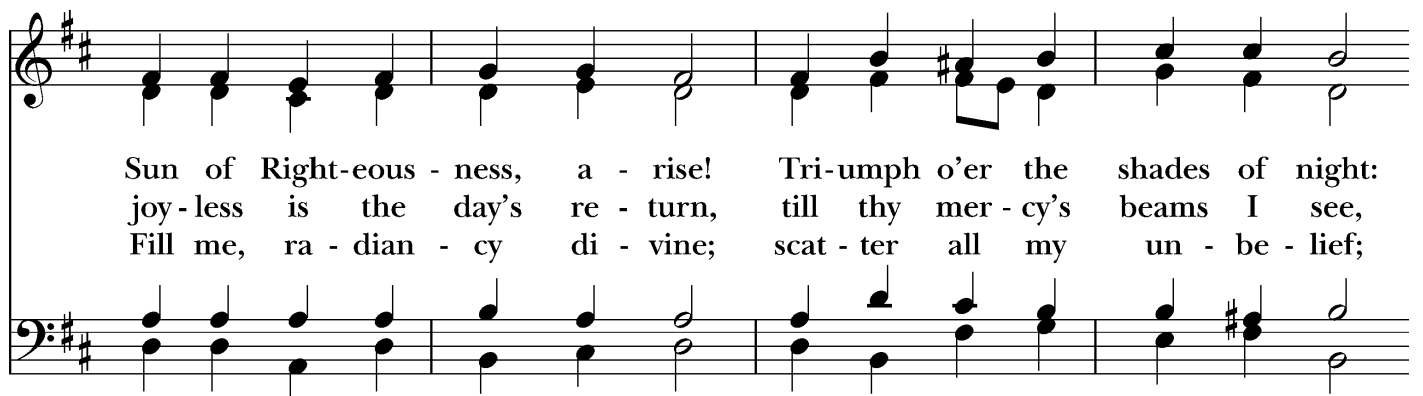
**Thanks be to God.**

HYMN *standing or seated*

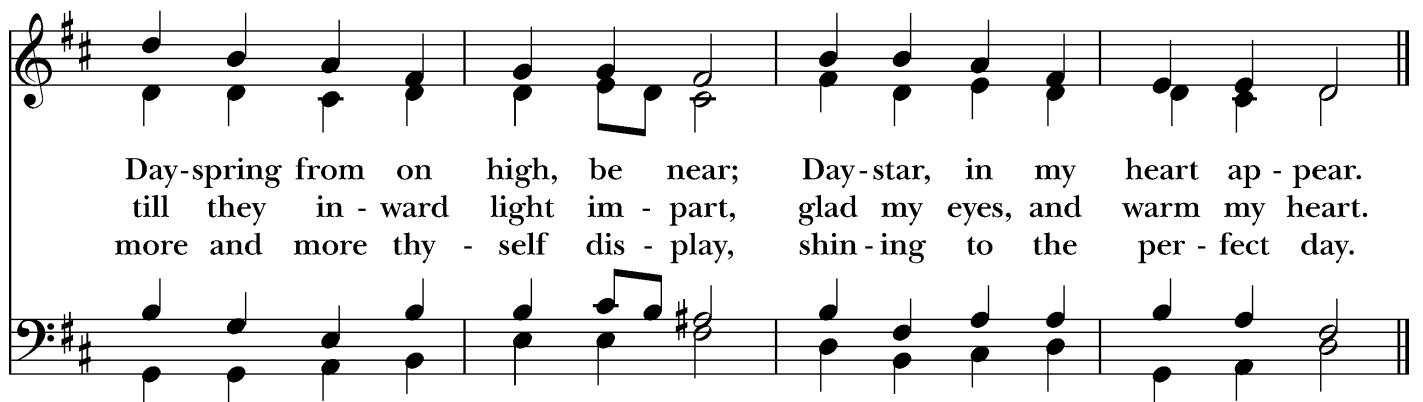
*Christ whose glory fills the sky (H82 7)*



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly Light,  
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pan - ied by thee;  
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!



Sun of Right-eous - ness, a - rise! Tri-umph o'er the shades of night:  
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer - cy's beams I see,  
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.  
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.  
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

THE GOSPEL: *Matthew 17:1-9*

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.  
**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

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

SERMON

*The Rev. Rebekah Hatch*

THE NICENE CREED *standing or seated*

**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

People **God of light and life our prayers rise before you this day in hope and faith.**

Intercessor We pray for your church, for The Episcopal Church in Connecticut, our bishops Jeff and Laura, clergy and all people who bless your church with their gifts.

People **Flame of abundant love, be our Joy in proclaiming your Good News to the world.**

Intercessor We pray for all who are coming to faith, all who wonder about faith, and all who are struggling with faith. We pray especially for those who are preparing for Confirmation: Cooper from Trinity, Collinsville; Molly, Rocco and Ian from St. James, Farmington; and Addie, Chester and Angie from St. Alban's.

People **Light of all creation, guide us to lead, teach and nurture your disciples.**

Intercessor We pray for those in need of food, shelter, clothing, and of God's healing touch, especially those for whom our prayers are especially desired: The Harris Family, Rick, Gail, Art, Dick, Barbara, Scott, Alex, David G., Margaret, Punch, Kathy, David C., Jim, Nathan, David, Meredith H., Jesse, Amanda, Frank, Hayden, John H., Mark, Tony, Bryan, and anyone we name now silently or aloud.

People **Comforter of the suffering, warm our hands and hearts to loving service.**

Intercessor We pray for the world, especially where there is trouble and suffering, far away or nearby. We invite your petitions, silently or out loud.

People **Ember of steadfast care, fuel our passion to challenge injustice and violence and to pursue peace and reconciliation.**

Intercessor We pray for the land on which we stand, the peoples, creatures, plant life and waters around us.



People **Star blaze of glory, lead us to care for this fragile earth, our island home, and to heal the circle of creation.**

Intercessor God of radiant light, your love illumines our hopes before we know them, and our needs before we ask. Kindle your flame within us, that in our prayers and service, we may know your transforming presence at work in the world around us. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN *standing, seated or kneeling*

Let us confess our sins to God.

**God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.**

*Celebrant continues*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY HYMN

*I love to tell a story (LEVAS 64)*

1. I love to tell the sto - ry Of un - seen things a - bove,  
 2. I love to tell the sto - ry, For those who know it best

1. Of Je - sus and His glo - ry, Of Je - sus and His love.  
 2. Seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing To hear it, like the rest.

1. I love to tell the sto - ry, Be - cause I know it's true;  
 2. And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

1. It sat - is - fies my long - ings As noth - ing else would do.  
 2. 'Twill be the old, old sto - ry That I have loved so long.

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'Twill be my theme in glo - ry.

To tell the old, old sto - ry Of Je - sus and His love.

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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 our thanks and praise.**

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

## SANCTUS

*S128*

Ho - ly, ho - ly,  
ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

*The Celebrant continues*

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with Alban and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

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

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,**

**for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### FRACTION ANTHEM

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

#### THE INVITATION

#### COMMUNION ANTHEM

#### THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*To receive Holy Communion, you may stand or kneel at the altar rail; or stand in the space between the altar rails, in front of the altar. If you need the sacrament brought to you, please let someone know and we will be honored to bring it to you.*

*Anyone of any age and tradition is invited to receive Holy Communion, and no one who comes to the altar with outstretched hands will be turned away. To receive a blessing instead of the sacrament, approach the altar and cross your arms over your chest.*

*Currently we are only distributing communion in one kind and have been refraining from offering the chalice.*

#### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

*Celebrant and people*

**God of Abundance,**

**you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;**

**you have united us with Christ and one another.**

**and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.**

**Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,**

**that we may proclaim your redeeming love**

**to the world and continue for ever**

**in the risen life of Christ our Savior.**

**Amen.**

#### THE BLESSING



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Jes - us, Lord, to thee we raise,  
 2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, Pro-phet, Priest, and King su - preme;  
 3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole pal - sied limbs and faint - ing soul;  
 4 Man - i - fest on moun - tain height, shin - ing in re - splen - dent light,



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far;  
 and at Ca - na, wed - ding - guest, in thy God - head man - i - fest;  
 man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell - ing all the dev - il's might;  
 where dis - ci - ples filled with awe thy trans - fi - gured glo - ry saw.



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem;  
 man - i - fest in power di - vine, chang - ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
 man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring - ing good from ill;  
 When from there thou led - dest them stead - fast to Je - ru - sa - lem,



an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 an - thems be to thee ad - dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.  
 cross and Eas - ter Day at - test God in man made man - i - fest.

## THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Mary DeLibero, Music Director & Organist*