Celebrating our time together

### December 2023

January 12, 2024



The Voce Chamber Choir made their annual visit to St. Alban's on December 16<sup>th</sup> to the delight of all. The beauty and the power of their voices let us leave our concerns behind and embrace the joy of the season. We also enjoyed the amazing reception immediately following organized by Caroline Coolidge.





A group of five delighted the audience with an up-beat, jazzy Christmas song by Mariah Carey.



The audience joined in for some traditional carols and for the Hallelujah Chorus.

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We opened Advent with Lessons and Carols on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The silvery stars came back to the mobile, replacing the red doves. We had a guitar prelude, solos and duets, and two anthems by the choir.





The service was followed by a delicious pot luck brunch and a special rendition of the Twelve Days of Christmas with 12 signs to be raised whenever that "gift" was mentioned. Great fun thanks to Bob Moody.





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Our Christmas Eve service opened with joy and closed with Silent Night as is our tradition.





The Christmas sermon could not proceed until a "problem" was solved. Rebekah explained that some of the creatures were not in their places. Our children helped find them and bring them back to complete the manger scene. Then, assisted by her child Ruth, the familiar story was given a dramatic reading.











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Having attended Lay Preacher Training offered by the diocese, two of our members gave reflections recently. Jon Lynch, left, on November 26<sup>th</sup>, and Stan Moraski, below, as part of Morning Prayer on December 10<sup>th</sup>.



Jon Lynch and Sharon Braden also led a Christmas Lessons and Carols service on December 31st.

We are fortunate to have such capable lay leaders.





# St. Alban's Life

Geoff Mather, Editor Pictures in this edition by: Diane Mather, Ann Hall Judy Duncan, Geoff Mather

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The Rev. Rebekah Hatch, Rector St. Alban's Episcopal Church 197 Bushy Hill Road, Simsbury CT 06070 860-658-0406 www.StAlbansSimsbury.org please like us on Facebook Sunday worship at 9:00 a.m. Please join us!