

PROPER 28, YEAR C  
MORNING PRAYER

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2025



St. Alban's Episcopal Church  
Simsbury, CT  
*Celebrate. Inspire. Serve.*



Welcome to St. Alban's!

We're glad that you've chosen to be with us this morning! Your prayers and presence for today's worship are a gift to this community; and we invite you to journey with us at whatever point you find yourself on the path. We pray that you sense the love of Christ, the holy stirring of the Spirit, and God's presence here this morning.

### **Worshipping with children**

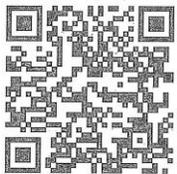
We invite you to visit our Playground in the rear balcony. Please feel free to bring books or an activity bag to your seats; or, sit in the balcony and allow your children to explore the space during worship. And please don't worry about wiggles, conversation, crying, laughing – all of it is welcome in this space and to the glory of God! If you need help finding the bathrooms, a changing table, or the water fountain, please ask an Usher.

### **Learning more about St. Alban's**

We invite you to fill out one of the "Welcome" cards you can find on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary. This allows you to receive mailed materials from St. Alban's and our weekly e-news. You can also visit our website ([stalbanssimsbury.org](http://stalbanssimsbury.org)) or find us on Facebook.

### **Donating to St. Alban's**

During our service today, Ushers will pass Offering plates. You are welcome to place cash or check donations directly into the plate. We also invite your donations through our website ([stalbanssimsbury.org](http://stalbanssimsbury.org), click "Donate").



[stalbanssimsbury.org/donate](http://stalbanssimsbury.org/donate)

You can find your way to that link with the QR code here and on the donation card in the Narthex.

**If you need a gluten-free wafer at communion** please let the priest know when you approach the altar for communion. You can also receive a blessing instead of bread by crossing your arms over your chest.

As you settle in to worship today, take the time and the moments of quiet you need to make the transition from getting here, to being here.

*Our service comes from *Enriching Our Worship* and *The Book of Common Prayer (BCP)* and we make use of all hymnal resources approved by *The Episcopal Church*. Everything you need to worship fully today can be found in the bulletin.*

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

*One of the spaces that has received more attention during the pandemic is around ableism. Our society, in large part, functions as though everyone has nearly full use of their bodies. 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, 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.

Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling. *Psalms 43:3*

THE CONFESSION OF SIN *Standing, seated or kneeling\**

*The Officiant says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Celebrant 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.**

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

*Officiant* Lord, open our lips.  
**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Officiant and People*  
**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the  
beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia!**

The mercy of the Lord is everlasting: **Come, let us adore him.**

VENITE *Psalm 95:1-7*

**Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*  
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*  
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

**For the Lord is a great God, \*  
and a great King above all gods.  
In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*  
and the heights of the hills are his also.  
The sea is his, for he made it, \*  
and his hands have molded the dry land.**

**Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.  
For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*  
Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

- 1 Sing to the LORD a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.
- 2 With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.
- 3 The LORD has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- 6 Sing to the LORD with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.
- 7 With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- 8 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- 9 Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,  
when he comes to judge the earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

READING: *Isaiah 65:17-25*

For I am about to create new heavens  
and a new earth;  
the former things shall not be remembered  
or come to mind.  
But be glad and rejoice forever  
in what I am creating;  
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.  
I will rejoice in Jerusalem,  
and delight in my people;  
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it,  
or the cry of distress.

No more shall there be in it  
    an infant that lives but a few days,  
    or an old person who does not live out a lifetime;  
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,  
    and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.  
They shall build houses and inhabit them;  
    they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.  
They shall not build and another inhabit;  
    they shall not plant and another eat;  
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,  
    and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.  
They shall not labor in vain,  
    or bear children for calamity;  
for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD--  
    and their descendants as well.  
Before they call I will answer,  
    while they are yet speaking I will hear.  
The wolf and the lamb shall feed together,  
    the lion shall eat straw like the ox;  
    but the serpent-- its food shall be dust!  
They shall not hurt or destroy  
    on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

Here ends the Lesson.

CANTICLE 9: *The First Song of Isaiah* *Ecce Deus*

*Isaiah 12:2-6*

Surely, it is God who saves me; \*  
    I will trust in him and not be afraid.  
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, \*  
    and he will be my Savior.  
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing \*  
    from the springs of salvation.  
And on that day you shall say, \*  
    Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;  
Make his deeds known among the peoples; \*  
    see that they remember that his Name is exalted.  
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, \*  
    and this is known in all the world.  
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, \*  
    for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \***  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

READING: *2 Thessalonians 3:6-13*

Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Here ends the Lesson.

CANTICLE 10: *The Second Song of Isaiah*      *Quaerite Dominum*  
*Isaiah 55:6-11*

Seek the Lord while he wills to be found; \*  
call upon him when he draws near.  
Let the wicked forsake their ways \*  
and the evil ones their thoughts;  
And let them turn to the Lord, and he will have compassion, \*  
and to our God, for he will richly pardon.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts, \*  
nor your ways my ways, says the Lord.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth, \*  
so are my ways higher than your ways,  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \***  
**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

READING: *Luke 21:5-19*

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls."

Here ends the Lesson.

REFLECTION

Meredith Jacob

THE APOSTLES' CREED *standing or seated.*

*Officiant and People*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth;**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS

*Officiant* The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

*Officiant and People*

**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.**

SUFFRAGES A *V* = *versicle (Officiant)*; *R* = *response (People)*

- V.* Show us your mercy, O Lord;  
*R.* **And grant us your salvation.**  
*V.* Clothe your ministers with righteousness;  
*R.* **Let your people sing with joy.**  
*V.* Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;  
*R.* **For only in you can we live in safety.**  
*V.* Lord, keep this nation under your care;  
*R.* **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**  
*V.* Let your way be known upon earth;  
*R.* **Your saving health among all nations.**  
*V.* Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;  
*R.* **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**  
*V.* Create in us clean hearts, O God;  
*R.* **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## A COLLECT FOR SUNDAYS

O God, you make us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of your Son our Lord: Give us this day such blessing through our worship of you, that the week to come may be spent in your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## A COLLECT FOR THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES OF OUR COUNTRY

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## A COLLECT FOR PEACE

Almighty God, kindle, we pray, in every heart the true love of peace, and guide with your wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquility your dominion may increase until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## A COLLECT FOR THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this day, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; especially for Tim, Kathy, Amanda, Margi, Monica, Jeff, Jason, Julie, Cassandra, Maryann, Peg, and anyone we name now silently or aloud. *(At this time, we invite your intercessions and thanksgivings silently or out loud.)* All for your love's sake. **Amen.**

## Officiant

O God, you have made of one blood all peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## OFFERTORY HYMN *standing or seated*

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies*

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

*Officiant and People*

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,  
 we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks  
 for all your goodness and loving-kindness  
 to us and to all whom you have made.  
 We bless you for our creation, preservation,  
 and all the blessings of this life;  
 but above all for your immeasurable love  
 in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;  
 for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.  
 And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,  
 that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,  
 not only with our lips, but in our lives,  
 by giving up our selves to your service,  
 and by walking before you  
 in holiness and righteousness all our days;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
 be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

*Officiant and People*

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN *Standing or seated.*

*Down by the Riverside*

LEVAS 210

1. Goin' to lay down my sword and shield,  
 2. Goin' to lay down my war shoes,  
 3. Goin' to put on my long white robe,  
 4. Goin' to meet my lov - ing sav - ior,

Down by the riv - er - side, Down by the riv - er - side,

Down by the riv - er - side. 1. Goin' to lay down my sword and shield,  
 2. Goin' to lay down my war shoes,  
 3. Goin' to put on my long white robe,  
 4. Goin' to meet my lov - ing sav - ior,

Down by the riv - er - side, To stud - y war no

I ain't goin't

more. \_\_\_\_\_ stud - y war no more, Ain't goin't

stud - y war no more, Ain't goin't stud - y \_\_\_\_\_ war no

I ain't goin't

more, \_\_\_\_\_ stud - y war no more, Ain't goin't

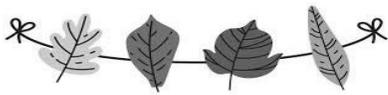
stud - y war no more, \_

stud - y war no more, Ain't goin't stud - y war no \_\_\_\_\_ more. \_\_\_\_\_

*Officiant* Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

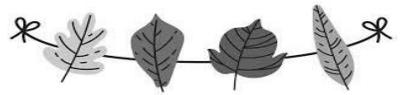
*Officiant*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.** (2 Corinthians 13:14)



## **POST ON THE REFRIGERATOR**

Announcements for November 16, 2025



**Welcome to St. Alban's!** – We're so glad you joined us for worship! Join us in the Parish Hall after worship for coffee hour where we'll enjoy fellowship and refreshments!

### **Today:**

† We are thankful to have Meredith Jacob as our officiant for today's Morning Prayer service!

**Sweets for Voce** – calling all bakers! We need sweets for our Voce after party. Finger sweets only: cookies, bars, candy; NO cakes that need to be cut. There's a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to let us know what you'll be bringing. THANK YOU!

**St. Alban's Book Group** – which meets most Tuesdays from 1:30 to 2:45 in the library, **will meet on Tuesday, November 18th to watch an interview with Jennifer Ryan**, author of our current book, *The Underground Library*. Based on a true story, this book is about a local library being forced to move to an underground station to protect the books and readers during the London Blitz of WWII. You can borrow a copy of *The Underground Library* at Simsbury Public Library's circulation desk using your town's public library card. **Discussion questions for *The Underground Library*** as well as the **Book Group schedule through December** are on the table in the Narthex. **Looking ahead: On Tuesday, November 25th, we'll discuss *The Underground Library*. Thinking of joining us? We hope you do!** Please contact Diane Mather ([dmather13@me.com](mailto:dmather13@me.com)), 860-874-6107 or find her at coffee hour; she's there most Sundays.

**Feed A Friend (People & Pets) – November's donations set a record: 19 bags of food and other items, plus 24 cans of dog food and 64 cans of cat food!** The extraordinary number of bags donated is primarily due to Eleanor Terrell's request that those participating in her craft session in the parish hall on Saturday, November 8th bring canned goods. **Thank you, Eleanor! Thanks, too, to all others who donated much needed items, including dog and cat food.**

❖ **Simsbury's Dept. of Social Services has changed the list of needed food and other items. Most needed:** Canned vegetables (corn, peas, mixed, beets...), stuffing, rice, toilet paper (wrapped singles or 4 packs), gluten free items, and feminine hygiene products. **Canned cat food and canned or dry dog food are always needed.** The church is always open; drop off donations at your convenience! **Donations will be blessed Sunday, December 14th. Thank you for donating!**

**As We Pray Together Today** and as you offer your personal prayers throughout the week, please include the following people who we have been asked to pray for: Kathy M., Charlotte, Tom, Chris, Tim, Kathy, Amanda, Margi, Monica, Jeff, Jason, Julie, Kassandra, Maryann, and Peg. If you would like prayers for yourself or for someone else, please add their name to the “Intercessory Prayer” sheet located at the front of the Sanctuary; or, email the Parish Office ([office@stalbanssimsbury.org](mailto:office@stalbanssimsbury.org)).

## *Save the Date...*

**Interfaith Thanksgiving Service** – **NEXT SUNDAY!** November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4pm at St. Mary’s Church, Simsbury.

**VOCE Concert! Friday, December 13, 7:30pm** – Tickets are selling fast for this year’s VOCE Concert. This Hartford area choral group is not to be missed! See Bryan Adams for tickets after the service today.

<b>Week of November 17 – November 23</b>
<i>Tuesday, November 18</i> Church office open, 11am – 1pm <b>Book Group – 1:30pm</b>
<i>Thursday, November 20</i> Church office open, 11am – 1pm
<i>Sunday, November 23</i> Morning Prayer, 10am

