

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“SECOND” SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2026



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



Welcome to St. Alban's!

Your prayers and presence today are a gift to this community. We are grateful that you are here. We pray that you feel the love of Christ, the holy stirring of the Spirit, and God's presence here this morning.

Worship

Everything you need to worship can be found in this bulletin and in your own heart. We may follow traditional times when we sit or stand or kneel, and it's all optional. Please feel free to speak, sing and move in ways that draw you into joyful life with each other and God. If you need help finding the bathrooms, a changing table, or the water fountain, please ask an Usher.

On Second Sundays (that's today!), we take an even less formal approach, with a special eye toward welcoming all who may be exploring what God is up to here. Enjoy!

Children

Children of all ages are welcome. Wiggles, noises, wandering, cries and conversation are the stuff of the Holy Spirit and enhance the joy of our time together. We also have special space where our children like to hang out. We call it the Playground and it's in the rear balcony. Please feel free to hang out there, or bring stuff to your seats.

Communion

Sharing in the bread and wine is the heart of our Sunday service. Please join in the feast (or just come forward for a blessing)! Ask if you would like gluten-free bread. If you want healing prayer, please see Pastor Stephen after the service.

Learning More

Ask one of us! And fill out a "Welcome" card, so we can stay in touch. They're on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary, or ask an usher. You can also visit our website or find us on Facebook. Please always feel free to contact Pastor Stephen if you have any questions or needs. See back page for all our contact info.

Donating

During our service today, Ushers will pass offering plates for your monetary gifts. On this 2nd Sunday, the cash donations will go to the rector's discretionary fund, which is used to support urgent needs of parishioners and the wider community. We also invite your donations through our website (stalbanssimsbury.org, click "Donate").

WELCOME

THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN

*My life flows on (How can I keep from singing?)**traditional*

1

My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation.
 I hear the sweet tho' far of hymn... that hails a new creation
 Thru all the tumult and the strife... I hear its music ringing.
 It sounds an echo in my soul, HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING?

2

But though the tempest loudly roars, I hear the truth, it liveth.
 And though the darkness round me close, songs in the night it giveth.
 No storm can shake my inmost calm... while to that rock I'm clinging.
 Since Love is Lord of heaven and earth. HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING?

3

I lift my eyes, the cloud grows thin, I see the blue above it
 And day by day this pathway clears, since first I learned to love it.
 The peace of God restores my soul, A fountain ever springing.
 All things are mine since I am loved... HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING?

OPENING PRAYER



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

Do you see people making cross signs on their chests?
 You can too ---- Check out this dude!
 Look for the + symbol as we follow along in the
 bulletin for other places you might cross yourself!



SONG OF PRAISE sung 2x

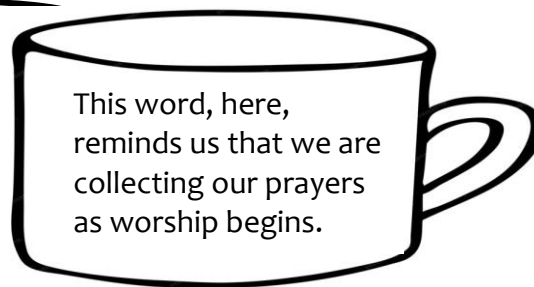
*This is the day**LEVAS 219*

This is the day, this is the day
 That the Lord hath made, that the Lord hath made,
 We will rejoice, we will rejoice
 and be glad in it, and be glad in it;

This is the day that the Lord hath made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it;
This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord hath made.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

God be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.



Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LESSONS

A Reading from the First Book of Kings (1 Kings 19:3a, 8b-18)

Elijah was afraid and ran for his life.

He traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. There he went into a cave and spent the night.

And the word of the LORD came to him: “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

He replied, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

The LORD said to him, “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM (85:8-13)

- 8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Did you know...
that Psalms
are a collection
of praises or
poems to God?!
They can be songs
too!

HYMN

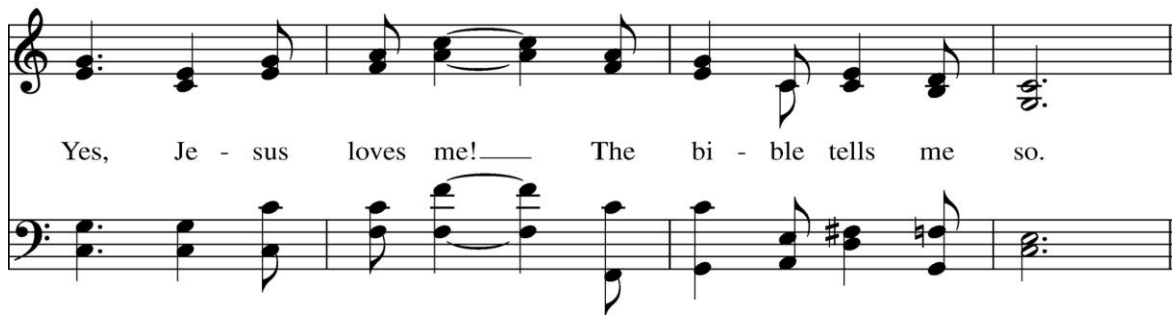
Jesus Loves Me, This I Know

LEVAS 218

1. Je - sus loves me! this I know, For the bi - ble tells me so;
2. Je - sus loves me! He who died, Hea - ven's gate to op - en wide;
3. Je - sus take this heart of mine, Make it pure and whol - ly thine;

1. Lit - tle ones to Him be - long; They are weak but He is strong.
2. He will wash a - way my sin, Let His lit - tle child come in.
3. On the cross you died for me, I will try to live for thee.

Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!



The Good News of Jesus Christ according to Matthew (14:22-33)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Right then, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead to the other side of the lake while he dismissed the crowds. When he sent them away, he went up onto a mountain by himself to pray. Evening came and he was alone. Meanwhile, the boat, fighting a strong headwind, was being battered by the waves and was already far away from land. Very early in the morning he came to his disciples, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified and said, “It’s a ghost!” They were so frightened they screamed.

Just then Jesus spoke to them, “Be encouraged! It’s me. Don’t be afraid.”

Peter replied, “Lord, if it’s you, order me to come to you on the water.”

And Jesus said, “Come.”

Then Peter got out of the boat and was walking on the water toward Jesus. But when Peter saw the strong wind, he became frightened. As he began to sink, he shouted, “Lord, rescue me!”

Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him, saying, “You man of weak faith! Why did you begin to have doubts?” When they got into the boat, the wind settled down.

Then those in the boat worshipped Jesus and said, “You must be God’s Son!”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Stephen Nagy, Rector

THE CHILDREN’S CREED

We believe in God above.

We believe in Jesus’ love.

**We believe God’s Spirit, too,
comes to teach us what to do.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

The Gospel readings
are stories about
Jesus’s life on earth.

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop; and Jeff and Laura our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray especially for Amanda, Bob, Chris, Kathy, Margi, Mary Lou, Miriam, Meredith H., Tom M., T.J., Gilbert III, Christina, Christena and family, and anyone we name now, silently or aloud.
(Please add your own petitions).

Silence

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
(Please add your own thanksgivings)

Silence

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
(Please add your own petitions)

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

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

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The mission and ministry of St. Alban's depend on the generosity of our congregation and community. On 2nd Sundays, cash plate donations will go to the rector's discretionary fund which is used to support urgent needs of parishioners and the wider community. You may also use the QR code on the cards available from an usher.

We are grateful that you've chosen to share your gifts with us today.

OFFERTORY HYMN

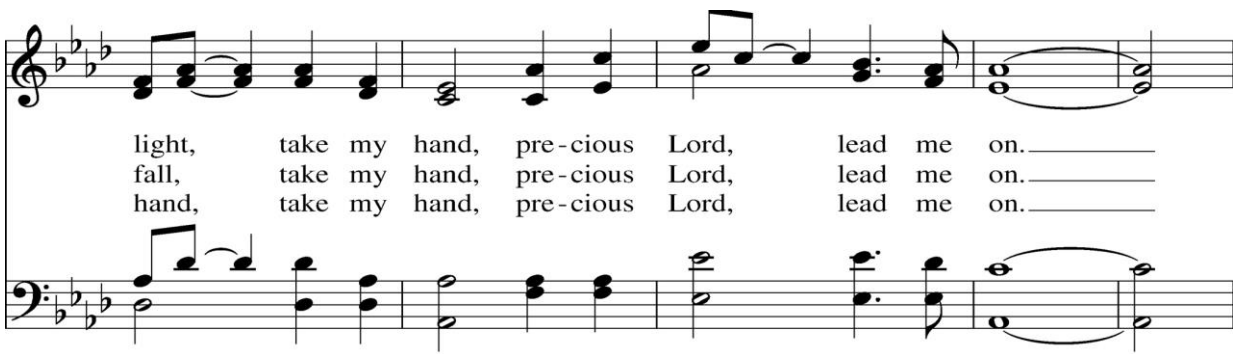
Precious Lord, take my hand

WLP 800

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me
2. When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger
3. When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws

stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
near, when my life is al - most gone;
near, and the day is past and gone;

— through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the
— hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I
— at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my



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.

If you're having any trouble
hearing  or seeing  or
you just want to get closer,

come right up to the altar!

And, if you want,

you can copy the



priest's movements as

he prays the Eucharistic Prayer!

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.
From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep
and brought all things into being: sun, moons, 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 parent cares for
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 say:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

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.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.
A period of silence is kept.
Then may be said:*

God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.
Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

You are invited to come forward to receive Holy Communion. No one who comes to the altar with outstretched hands will be turned away.

To receive a blessing instead, let us know by crossing your arms over your chest.

Stand or kneel in a semi-circle around the holy table in whatever way is comfortable for you. The sacrament is offered as bread (ask for gluten free) and/or wine. If you need the sacrament brought to you, please let us know and we will be honored to bring it to you.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

Instrumental

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Loving God,
We give you thanks
for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior.
Amen.**

THE BLESSING

God's Blessing be with you,
Christ's peace be with you,
the Spirit's outpouring be with you,
now and always. **Amen.**



HYMN

How firm a foundation

H82 637

1	How	firm	a	foun - da - tion,	ye	saints	of	the	Lord,		
2	"Fear	not,	I	am	with	thee;	O	be	not	dis - mayed!	
3	"When	through	the	deep	wa - ters	I	call	thee	to	go,	
4	"When	through	fier - y	tri - als	thy	path - way	shall	lie,			
5	"The	soul	that	to	Je - sus	hath	fled	for	re - pose,		
1	is	laid	for	your	faith	in	his	ex - cel - lent	word!		
2	For	I	am	thy	God,	and	will	still	give	thee	aid;
3	the	riv - ers	of	woe	shall	not	thee	o - ver - flow;			
4	my	grace,	all - suf - fi -	cient,	shall	be	thy	sup - ply;			
5	I	will	not,	I	will	not	de - sert	to	its	foes;	



1 What more can he say than to you he hath said,
 2 I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
 3 for I will be with thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
 4 the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
 5 that soul, though all hell shall en - deav - or to shake,



1 to you that for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 2 up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
 3 and sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.
 4 thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 5 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Peg Hunt, Pianist

Thank you to our Ministers today:

Musician - Peg Hunt
 Acolytes - Jon Lynch/Wesley Riedel
 Reader - Jeannie Crabtree
 Intercessor - Meredith Jacob
 Ushers - Adam & Hollyn Riedel
 Tech - Judy Duncan

ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Stephen Nagy, Rector
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