

ALL SAINTS DAY

Baptism of Gino James Alfano

Sunday, November 1, 2026



Christ blessing the Children, Lucas Cranach the Younger, c. 1545

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 a restroom, changing table, or water fountain, please ask an Usher.

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 join them 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 2nd Sundays, 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

Pastor Stephen

Prelude

Peg Hunt, Pianist

THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn

I sing a song of the saints of God

H82 293



1 I sing a song of the saints of God, _____
2 They loved their Lord so _____ dear, so dear, and _____
3 They lived not on - ly in a - ges past, there are



pa - tient and brave and true, who toiled and fought and
 his love made them strong; and they fol - lowed the right, for
 hund - reds of thou - sands still, the world is bright with the
 lived and died for the Lord they loved and knew. And
 Je - sus' sake, the whole of their good lives long. And
 joy - ous saints who love to do Je - sus' will. You can
 one was a doc - tor, and one was a queen, and one was a shep -
 one was a sold - ier, and one was a priest, and one was slain
 meet them in school, or in lanes, or at sea, in church, or in trains,
 herd - ess on the green: they were all of them saints of
 by a fierce wild beast; and there's not an - y rea - son -
 or in shops, or at tea, for the saints of God are just
 God - and I mean, God help - ing, to be one too.
 no, not the least, why I should - n't be one too.
 folk like me, and I mean to be one too.

Lesbia Scott (1898-1986), alt.

Opening Prayer

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

There is one Body and one Spirit;

There is one hope in God's call to us;

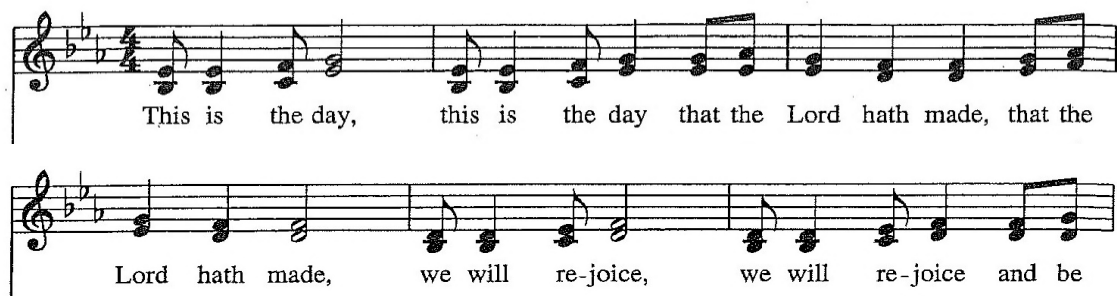
One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

One God and Father of all.

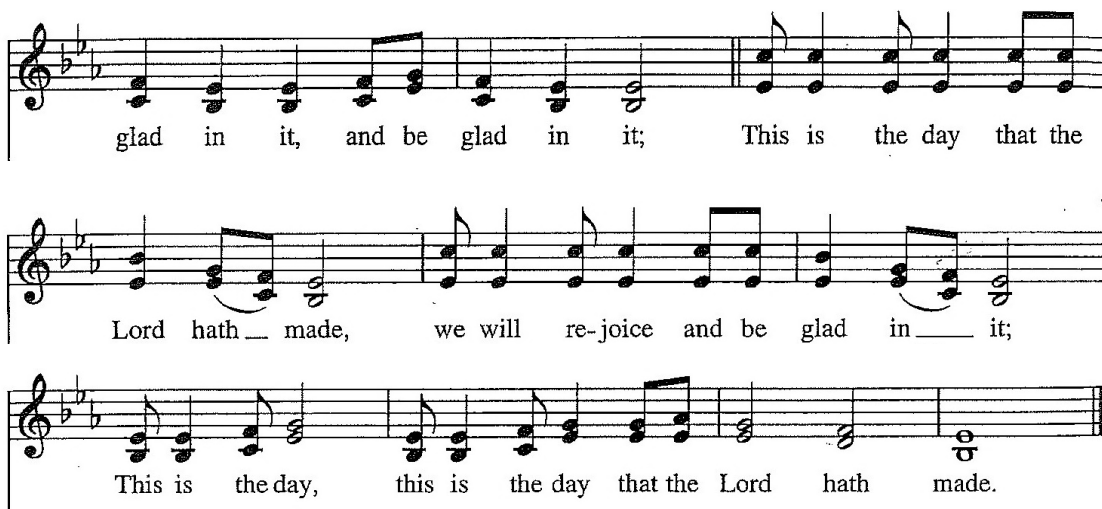
Song of Praise *sung 2X*

This is the day

LEVAS II 219



This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made, that the
 Lord hath made, we will re-joice, we will re-joice and be



Text: Psalm 118:24, Music: Les Garrett

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from the book of Revelation (7:9-17)

After this I, John, looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night within his temple,

and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
'They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 34:1-10, 22

- 1 I will bless the LORD at all times; *
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
- 2 I will glory in the LORD; *
let the humble hear and rejoice.
- 3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the LORD; *
let us exalt his Name together.
- 4 I sought the LORD, and he answered me *
and delivered me out of all my terror.
- 5 Look upon him and be radiant, *
and let not your faces be ashamed.
- 6 I called in my affliction and the LORD heard me *
and saved me from all my troubles.
- 7 The angel of the LORD encompasses those who fear him, *
and he will deliver them.
- 8 Taste and see that the LORD is good; *
happy are they who trust in him!
- 9 Fear the LORD, you that are his saints, *
for those who fear him lack nothing.
- 10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger, *
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.
- 22 The LORD ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.

A Reading from the first letter of John (3:1-3)

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. All who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

1 Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God; the
 2 The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring, to
 3 he to the low - ly soul will still him - self im - part and
 4 Lord, we thy pres - ence seek; may ours this bless - ing be; give

se - cret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's a - bode.
 dwell in low - li - ness with us, our pat - tern and our King;
 for his dwell - ing and his throne will choose the pure in heart.
 us a pure and low - ly heart, a tem - ple fit for thee.

Sts. 1 and 3, John Keble (1792-1866), alt.; sts. 2 and 4, William John Hall (1793-1861), alt

The Good News of Jesus Christ according to Matthew (5:1-12)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them.

He said:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
 for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 Blessed are those who mourn,
 for they will be comforted.
 Blessed are the meek,
 for they will inherit the earth.
 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
 for they will be filled.
 Blessed are the merciful,
 for they will be shown mercy.
 Blessed are the pure in heart,
 for they will see God.
 Blessed are the peacemakers,
 for they will be called children of God.
 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
 for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The Gospel of our Savior.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HOLY BAPTISM

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

Celebrant The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Godparents **I present Gino James to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.**

Celebrant Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is brought up in the Christian faith and life?

Parents and Godparents
I will, with God's help.

Celebrant
Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and Godparents
I will, with God's help.

Then the Celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and godparents

Question Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer **I renounce them.**

Question Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Answer **I do.**

Question Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer **I do.**

Question Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Answer **I do.**

The Celebrant addresses the congregation, saying:

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this person in his life in Christ?

People **We will.**

The Celebrant then says:

Let us join together, committing ourselves to Christ, and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People **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.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People **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.**

Celebrant Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?

People **I will, with God's help.**

Prayers for the Candidate

The Celebrant then says to the people

Let us now pray for this person who is to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Intervessor leads the following petitions

Leader Deliver him, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Open his heart to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Fill him with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Keep him in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Teach him to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Send him into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Celebrant says

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever.
Amen.

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Celebrant then says

The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

At the following words, the Celebrant touches the water

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

The candidate is presented by name to the Celebrant, who pours water upon the candidate saying,

Gino James, I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Celebrant anoints Gino with holy chrism, and then presents him with a candle lit from the Easter Candle, saying,

Gino James, receive the light of Christ as a sign that you have been claimed as God's own child forever. Shine as Christ's light in the world to the glory of God your Father. **Amen.**

The Celebrant continues

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon this your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised him to the new life of grace. Sustain him, O

Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give him an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

The Celebrant then says:

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

Celebrant and People

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Announcements

The mission and ministry of St. Alban's depends on the generosity of our congregation and community. We welcome your donation of cash or checks in the offering plate; or 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.

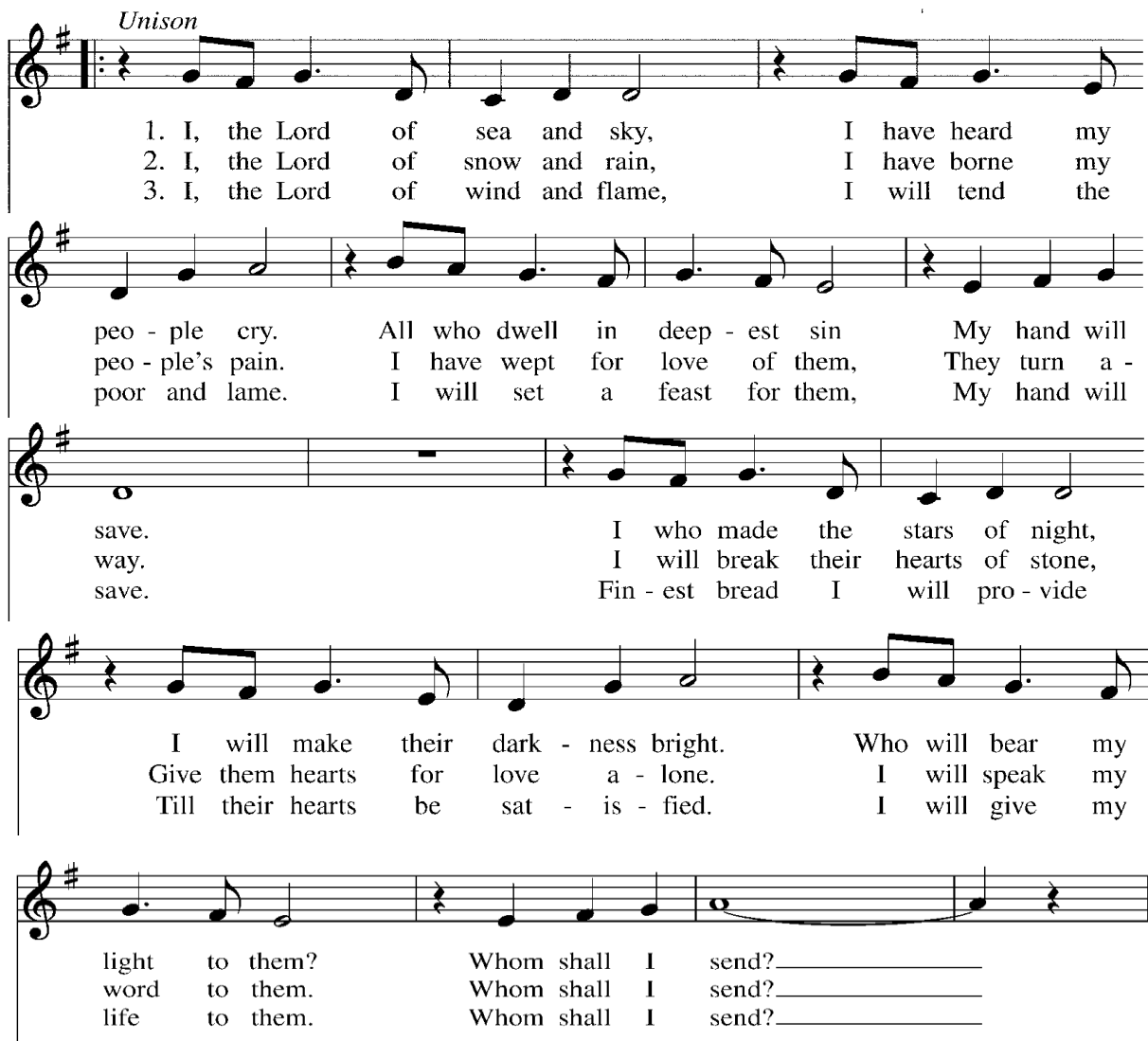
THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn

I the Lord of sea and sky

WLP 812

Unison



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the

peo - ple cry. All who dwell in deep - est sin My hand will
 peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them, They turn a -
 poor and lame. I will set a feast for them, My hand will

save. I who made the stars of night,
 way. I will break their hearts of stone,
 save. Fin - est bread I will pro - vide

I will make their dark - ness bright. Who will bear my
 Give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my
 Till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my

light to them? Whom shall I send? _____
 word to them. Whom shall I send? _____
 life to them. Whom shall I send? _____

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have
heard you call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord,
if you lead me, I will hold your peo - ple in my
heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte Music: Daniel L. Schutte

The gifts are lifted up at the table. Then is sung the Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures, here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

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.

It is truly right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

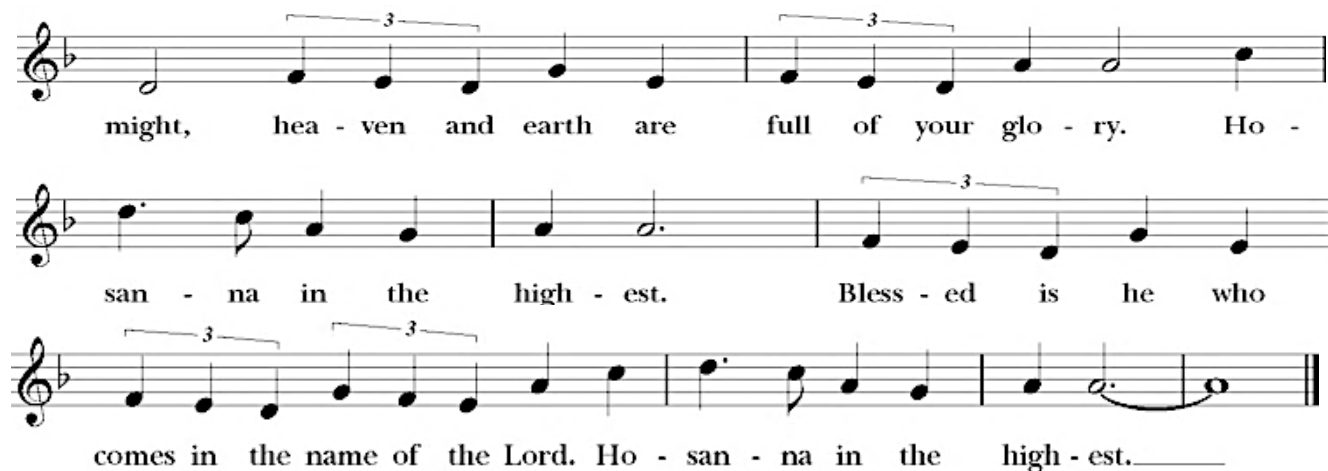
For in the multitude of your saints, you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses, that we might rejoice in their fellowship, and run with endurance the race that is set before us; and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that never fades away.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing (say):

Sanctus

S129

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and



We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose he gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and his descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

Celebrant and People

**We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember Sean our presiding bishop, Jeffrey and Laura our bishops, the ministers of St. Alban's, and all who proclaim the Gospel in word and deed. Remember all who minister to the sick, the prisoners, the friendless, and the needy.

Remember all your people, this community, the nation and the world, those who seek your truth, and those who work for justice, freedom and peace.

Remember our families, friends, and neighbors, and those who are alone. Remember the victims of hunger, fear, injustice and oppression and all who are in danger, sorrow or any kind of trouble.

Remember all those for whom our prayers have been requested, especially: Kathy, Mary Lou, Meredith H., Tom M., T.J., Gilbert III, Christina, Amanda, Christena and family, Mary, Robert, Jane, Brad, Bob B., David, Larry, Benjamin, Naomi, Dorothy, and all those we name silently or aloud.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the Blessed Virgin Mary, with patriarchs and matriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, St. Alban and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, 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:

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Communion

You are invited to come forward to receive Holy Communion.

No one who comes to the altar with outstretched hands will be turned away.

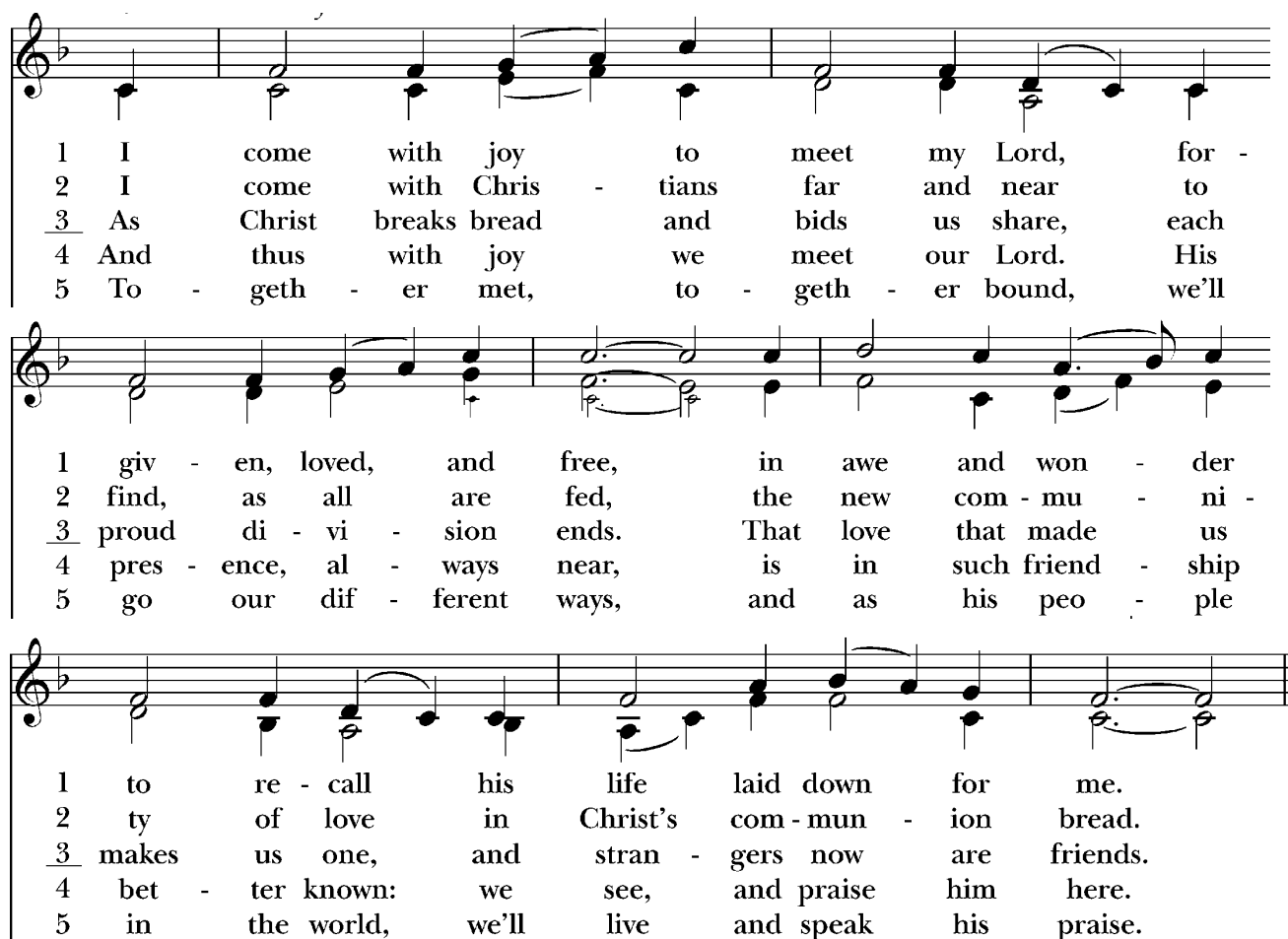
Stand or kneel in a semi-circle around the holy table in whatever way is comfortable for you. The sacrament is offered as bread (ask for gluten free) and/or wine. If you need the sacrament brought to you, please let us know and we will be honored to do so.

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

Communion Hymn

I come with joy to meet my Lord

H82 304



1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, for -
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to
3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each
4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound, we'll

1 giv - en, loved, and free, in awe and won - der
2 find, as all are fed, the new com - mu - ni -
3 proud di - vi - sion ends. That love that made us
4 pres - ence, al - ways near, is in such friend - ship
5 go our dif - ferent ways, and as his peo - ple

1 to re - call his life laid down for me.
2 ty of love in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
3 makes us one, and stran - gers now are friends.
4 bet - ter known: we see, and praise him here.
5 in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.

Brian A. Wren (b. 1936), alt.

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for

assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn

Faith of our Fathers!

H82 558



1 Faith of our fa - thers! liv - ing still in spite of dun - geon,
 2 Faith of our fa - thers! faith and prayer shall win all na - tions
 3 Faith of our fa - thers! we will love both friend and foe in

fire and sword: O how our hearts beat high with joy,
 un - to thee; and through the truth that comes from God,
 all our strife: and preach thee, too, as love knows how,

when-e'er we hear that glo - rious word:
 man-kind shall then in - deed be free. Faith of our fa - thers,
 by kind - ly deeds and vir - tuous life.

ho - ly faith! We will be true to thee till death.

Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt

The Dismissal

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia.
 Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Postlude

Peg Hunt, Pianist



Many Blessings to our newly baptized child of God, Gino Alfano; his parents, Benjamin and Katie Alfano; and his godparents, Nicholas Serafini and Angela Fadgyas.

Thank You to Our Ministers Today

Musician: Peg Hunt
 Usher: Jim Lewis
 Readers: Julie Adams, Jeannie Crabtree,
 Mike Bailey
 Acolyte: Jeannie Crabtree
 Tech: Meredith Jacob
 Altar Guild chair: Sharon Braden



ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH *is a community of faith
whose mission is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.*
Toward this end, we CELEBRATE, INSPIRE and SERVE.
By God's grace, we are here to share our joy, to lead by example, and to care for others.

The Rev. Stephen Nagy, Rector
revsrnagy@stalbanssimsbury.org

Tammie Levy, Parish Administrator
office@stalbanssimsbury.org

Brian Spooner, Bookkeeper
bookkeeper@stalbanssimsbury.org

VESTRY

Judy Duncan, Senior Warden

Bryan Adams, Junior Warden

Meredith Jacob, Treasurer

Mikaila Riedel, Clerk

Vestry Members:

Ann Hall, Jim Lewis,

Eleanor Terrell, Kathleen Canzano

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