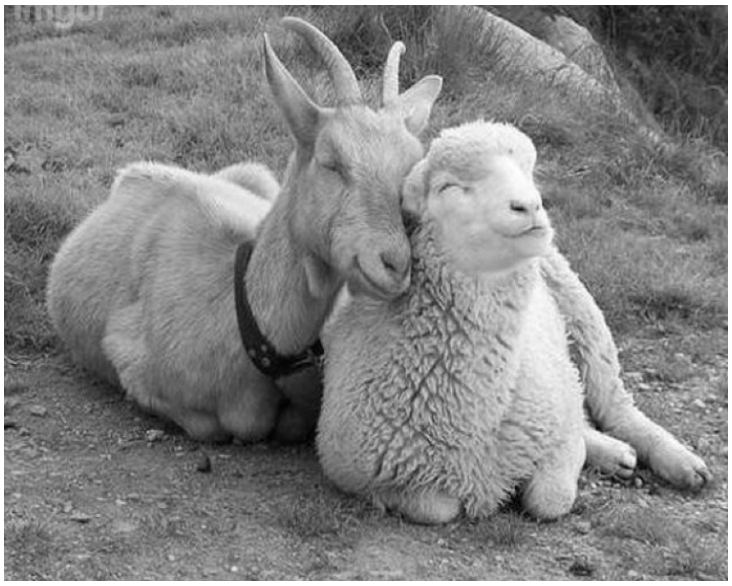


St. Alban's Episcopal Church

Simsbury, Connecticut

The Last Sunday after Pentecost
Christ the King
Sunday, November 22, 2026

Welcome *Pastor Stephen*

Prelude *Peg Hunt, Pianist*

THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn *Crown him with many crowns* Hymnal 1982 #494

Opening Prayer

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Gloria Hymnal 1982 #S280

The Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

A Reading from the book of the Prophet Ezekiel *(34:11-16, 20-24)*

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 95:1-7a

1 Come, let us sing to the LORD; *
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

2 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

3 For the LORD is a great God, *
and a great King above all gods.

4 In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *
and the heights of the hills are his also.

5 The sea is his, for he made it, *
and his hands have molded the dry land.

6 Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *
and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

7 For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

A Reading from Paul's first letter to the Ephesians *(15-23)*

Ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, and for this reason, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in

his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn *The King of love my shepherd is* Hymnal 1982 #645

The Good News of Jesus Christ according to Matthew (*25:14-30)*

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'

"He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

"Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

The Gospel of our Savior.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Homily *The Rev. Stephen Nagy, Rector*

Reflections on parish finances *Jim Lewis*

The Nicene Creed

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

Celebrant
Jesus said, "In my Father's house there are many dwelling places." Trusting in God's abundance and welcome, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all creation.

Leader
Gracious God, you have made plenty good room for us in your household. Inspire your church to be a place of welcome, generosity, and love. We thank you for the resources you have entrusted to us, and we pray for wisdom to use them in service of your mission.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of community, you bind us together in relationships of care and compassion. Strengthen the bonds within this congregation, and guide us to extend hospitality to our neighbors near and far.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of abundance, you invite us to respond with gratitude for all your gifts. Bless this stewardship campaign, that our pledges of time, talent, and treasure may be faithful signs of our trust in you.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of creation, you have made a world with plenty good room for all living things. Teach us to care for the earth and to share its resources with justice and joy.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of mercy, your dwelling place has room for all who suffer. Be present with those who are sick, lonely, grieving, or in any kind of need 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, Ben, Phyllis, Beth, Levi, and all those we name silently or aloud. Surround them with your healing and your peace.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of hope, you prepare a place for us in your eternal home. We remember before you those who have died, confident that they now rest in your embrace.
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Celebrant
Loving God, you call us into your abundant life and promise that there is plenty good room for all your children. Hear our prayers and accept the offerings of our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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 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 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 *Lord whose love through humble service* Hymnal 1982 #610

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

All things come from you, Creator God.

Out of the abundant gifts you have given us, we pledge to you our time, our energy, and the fruits of our labor. May these gifts strengthen the Body of Christ that is St. Alban's parish, so that we may deepen our love for you and each other, and reach out to joyfully serve our neighbors who hunger for your saving Hope. May we ever Celebrate, Inspire and Serve in the saving name of Jesus your Son our Lord. Amen.

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. 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 Hymnal 1982 #S129

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:

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 *Come, ye thankful people, come* Hymnal 1982 #290

Post Communion 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

Recessional Hymn *Jesus shall reign where e'er the sun* Hymnal 1982 #544

The Dismissal

Let us go forth carrying the good News of Jesus Christ to a needy world.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Peg Hunt, Pianist*

Thank You to Our Ministers Today

Celebrant: Pastor Stephen
Musician: Peg Hunt
Acolyte: Jeannie Crabtree
Readers: Judy Duncan, Kathleen Canzano
Intercessor: Jon Lynch
Usher: Jim Lewis
Tech: Bryan Adams
Altar Guild chair: Sharon Braden

St. Alban's 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)

Judy Duncan, Senior Warden
Bryan Adams, Junior Warden
Meredith Jacobs, Treasurer
Mikaila Reidel, Clerk
Vestry Members: Ann Hall, Jim Lewis, Eleanor Terrell, Kathleen Canzano

Tammie Levy, Parish Administrator (office@stalbanssimsbury.org)
Brian Spooner, Bookkeeper (bookkeeper@stalbanssimsbury.org)

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EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT
PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S MISSION

The Right Reverend Jeffrey W. Mello, Bishop Diocesan
The Right Reverend Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan

Welcome to St. Alban's!

Your prayers and presence are a gift to this community. May you feel the love of Jesus, the holy stirring of the Spirit, and God's presence here this morning.

Worship. Everything you need to join in worship is in your own heart, guided by this bulletin. We may follow traditional times when we sit or stand or kneel, and it's all optional. 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 something, please ask an usher.

Afterwards. Please join us in the parish hall for drinks and snacks. Some of us continue on for a short bible study.

Children of all ages, along with their voices, wiggles and wanderings, are the stuff of the Holy Spirit and enhance the joy of our time together. Some kids like to hang out in the Prayground in the rear balcony. Some like to be in the center of the action, and are welcome to stand around the table during the Eucharist.

Communion. Sharing in the bread and wine is the heart of our Sunday service. Come join in the feast! If you need healing prayer, please see Pastor Stephen after worship.

Learning More. Ask one of us! Or fill out a welcome card that's on the back table, or ask an usher. We have a website (currently under construction) and a Facebook page. Always feel free to reach out to Pastor Stephen with any questions or needs. All our contact info is on the back page.

Donating. During our service today, Ushers will pass offering plates for your monetary gifts. On 2nd Sundays, donations go to the rector's discretionary fund, which supports urgent needs in the community. You can also donate on our website.