



**All Are Welcome at St. Alban's Episcopal Church
10:30 am Sunday September 1, 2024
The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

St. Alban's seeks to be an open and welcoming, Christ-centered community committed to sharing Christ's love, empowering all people to grow spiritually, deepening our relationship with Christ, and living out our faith in our community and the world.

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Immortal Invisible

Hymn 423

Celebrant: Welcome to St. Alban's Episcopal Church. We're here in Edmonds, WA, and wherever you are in the world we're honored that you have welcomed us into your home today, as together we worship the God of all creation as incarnate in Jesus of Nazareth. Whether you're with us for an hour or a lifetime, we hope and trust that you will find this place a refuge that nourishes the Holy Spirit within you.

Before we begin, let us acknowledge that we are situated on traditional and ancestral Snohomish, Coast Salish land. They cared for this land for millennia before it was taken from them. We honor them, pray for the wisdom to care for it as well as they, recognize that we live together in this place, and are seeking ways of working together to be better stewards of this place and its people.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: This is the day the Creator has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.*

Gloria

1 All cre - a - tion danced in an - swer when God's
 2 Je - sus gave the tune new tex - ture, love song
 3 And the Spir - it comes, com - pos - ing mu - sic
 4 Come, my friends, sing, dance in an - swer as God's

voice first touched the air and the great e - ter - nal
 for a world set free: gos - pel sung in full, rich
 made of wind and fire, in its new - found tones dis -
 mu - sic fills the air and the great e - ter - nal

can - tor called a u - ni - verse to prayer, called to
 meas - ure, earth's voice, but God's mel - o - dy; pas - sion
 clos - ing all the heart and soul re - quire, forg - ing
 can - tor calls us yet to praise and prayer, bids us

Text: John Core, 2006. © 2006 Wayne Leupold Editions, Inc.
 Music: Patrick Michaels, 2014, ©.

87 87D
 ETERNAL CANTOR

praise and to thanks - giv - ing all that filled the space a -
 mu - sic, sad and som - bre, dis - cord on a cross was
 from day's hum and thun - der, from that mix - ture sweet and
 join the end - less, sing - ing, till all earth - ly song shall

bout, sought a hymn from all things
 built, giv - ing way to bright new
 strong, psalms and hymns of awe and
 cease; heav - en's voice a - lone goes

liv - ing, bid the stones them - selves cry out.
 tim - bre in the Eas - ter morn - ing's lilt.
 won - der: dai - ly life as sa - cred song.
 ring - ing through a u - ni - verse at peace.

The Collect of the Day

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things:
Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion;
nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good
works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Celebrant: God the Creator be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for
sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully
the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps
of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Hebrew Scripture

A Reading from Song of Solomon Chapter 2 beginning with the 8th
verse

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

⁸The voice of my beloved!

Look, he comes,
leaping upon the mountains,
bounding over the hills.

⁹My beloved is like a gazelle
or a young stag.

Look, there he stands

behind our wall,
gazing in at the windows,
looking through the lattice.
¹⁰My beloved speaks and says to me:
“Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away;
¹¹for now the winter is past,
the rain is over and gone.
¹²The flowers appear on the earth;
the time of singing has come,
and the voice of the turtledove
is heard in our land.
¹³The fig tree puts forth its figs,
and the vines are in blossom;
they give forth fragrance.
Arise, my love, my fair one,
and come away.”

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10

BCP 647

¹My heart is stirring with a noble song;
let me recite what I have fashioned for the king; *
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled writer.

²*You are the fairest of men; **
grace flows from your lips,
because God has blessed you for ever.

⁷Your throne, O God, endures for ever and ever, *
a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom;
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.

*⁸Therefore God, your God, has anointed you *
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.*

⁹All your garments are fragrant with myrrh, aloes, and cassia, *
and the music of strings from ivory palaces makes you glad.

*¹⁰Kings' daughters stand among the ladies of the court; *
on your right hand is the queen,
adorned with the gold of Ophir.*

Christian Scripture

A Reading from James chapter 1 beginning with the 17th verse

James 1:17-27

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive

themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn (10:30 only)

Come Away To the Skies

Hymn 213

The final verse of the Sequence Hymn will be sung following the reading of the Gospel.

The Gospel Reading

The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the

washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
⁷in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

Deacon or Priest: Please stand as you are able as we reaffirm our faith by saying 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.*

Prayers of the People: Creationtide Form

(Adapted heavily by Nina Ranadive Pooley from a form in *Common Worship: Times and Seasons*)

Priest: Creator God,
you call us to love and serve you
with body, mind, and spirit
through loving your creation
and our sisters and brothers.
Open our hearts in compassion
and receive these petitions
on behalf of the needs of the church and the world.

Intercessor: Eternal God:
We thank you for the beauty of the World:
for the teeming life of the seas, the flight of birds, and the diversity of
animal life.

Grant us grace to treat Creation with respect and care; to protect
endangered species, to preserve the variety of habitats, and to honor the
delicate balance of nature.

God of life: *hear our prayer.*

We thank you for the wealth of blessings from land and sea; for the
power of wind, and the warmth of sun. We pray for the nations of the
earth, give us the will to cherish this planet and to use its resources
sustainably for the welfare of all.

God of life: *hear our prayer.*

We pray for the faithful witness of the Church, called to reconcile and
heal:

For this parish and our clergy: for Jim and Greg;

for the members of this congregation, especially Janet Niece for whom we give thanks this week, for the ministries and lay readers of our congregation and our Faith Formation ministries; for our Bishops: Justin, Michael, Sean, Melissa, and Phil; and for the congregations and ministries of our diocese, especially Underhill House, the Center for Spiritual Development and St. James Family Center in Cathlamet.

God of life: *hear our prayer.*

We pray for the human family. We exult in our diversity and giftedness, we repent of our sins, divisions and violence. By the power of your Spirit, restore your image within us.

God of life: *hear our prayer.*

As every human being is known and loved by you, may we care for one another with love and respect. We give thanks for Melissa Hicks and Dave Hoffman who are celebrating their birthdays this week. We pray for those you have commended to our care: Robin, Susie, Karen, Dee, Howard, Tom, Barbara H., Gretchen.

God of life: *hear our prayer.*

We pray for those who have died [especially _____], whom we entrust to your eternal love; may we support and comfort those who mourn.

God of life: *hear our prayer.*

Priest: Holy One,
hear our prayers and make us faithful stewards
of the fragile bounty of this earth
so that we may be entrusted with the riches of heaven. *Amen.*

Confession and Absolution

from *Enriching Our Worship*

Deacon or Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and God's creation.

God of compassion, have mercy upon us.

Heal our relationship with all creation.

*Forgive us for our mistreatment and neglect
of the creatures who share the earth with us.*

*We are truly sorry and we humbly repent for what we have done to
harm them, and for what we have not done to help them.*

Fill us with your Spirit,

*that we may care for one another and for all creatures,
according to your will and in the fullness of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.*

The Absolution

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

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

(Sharing of the Peace adapted from "Celebrating Creation: Honoring Indigenous People," Kelly Sherman-Conroy, ELCA, as provided in "Listen to the Voice of Creation")

Celebrant: In Christ we are becoming a new creation.

People: We see God around us.

We see God with us.

We give thanks to our Creator.

Celebrant: Rejoice! Lift up you hearts.

People: ***We lift our hearts to the Most High.***

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Holy One.

People: ***It is right to offer thanks and praise.***

Celebrant: It is right in all times and in all places to thank and praise you Creator of all. We praise you here where Salish Sea meets lowland forest, where arts thrive, where some prosper and other struggle, at the crossroads of many cultures. We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken again and again.

We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation. Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration. They depended on the land, were displaced from the land and displaced others from their lands. They knew you in tents and cities, on mountains and by wells, in families and in dreams, and through wilderness prophets who spoke of cedars and listened to ravens.

Together with angels and ancestors, with Snohomish, Coast Salish, and settlers, with cedar, salmon, and salal, we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honor song:

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
2 Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant: We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers and seeds, labor and wages, yeast and bread.

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, food of the poor, the work of field and hearth, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you, do this to remember me.

Again after supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood, which is shed for you. When you do this, do it in memory of me.

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection and awaiting his coming kingdom, we offer you this bread and this cup.

Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts so that we know Jesus in them and are gathered together with everyone who shares this sacred meal of justice and community.

Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that we may strive for justice and peace, respect the dignity of every human being, and safeguard the integrity of creation.

Bring us with Mary, Joseph, Alban, and all your saints to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily, child and beggar which is both now and yet to come.

All honor and glory are yours, Creator, Christ, and Spirit, now and forever. *Amen.*

The Lord's Prayer

(The Lord's Prayer written by Martha Blacklock, Mother Thunder Mission, "Honoring God in Creation," 261)

As the Wisdom before Creation teaches us, we pray.

*Holy One, our only Home,
hallowed be your name.*

*May your day dawn,
your will be done,*

here as in heaven.

*Feed us today,
and forgive us*


as we forgive each other.

*Do not forsake us at the test,
but deliver us from evil.*

*For the glory, the power,
and the mercy are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.*

Fraction Anthem

$\text{♩} = 120$



Cre - a - tor God, You have giv - en bread for shar - ing,
Cre - a - tor God, You have giv - en wine for shar - ing,
Hap - py are all! Hap - py are all - who are called to the tab - le of Cre - a - - tion!

Celebrant: This is Living Bread, given for all Creation.
People: All who eat this bread share in Christ's Body.

The Prayer of Spiritual Communion

For those who unable to attend worship in person

*Beloved Jesus,
I believe that you are present in the
Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.
I love you above all things, and I
desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive
you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood,
come spiritually into my heart.
I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you.
Let me never be separated from you in this life
or in the life to come. Amen*

National Cathedral Sunday Online Service 6.13.2021

Communion Hymn (10:30am only)

Rejoice Ye Pure In Heart

Hymn 556

Post Communion Prayer

(Postcommunion prayer 4 from "Prayers of Intercession for Creation Time 2012," prepared by Sister Catherine Brennan SSL and Sister Ann Concannon SSL for Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) (2012)).

Create in us a new heart and a new vision, O God, that the gifts of your Spirit may work in us and renew the face of the earth. May we be one with you so that our work is yours and your work is ours. Lead us to transform our lives to reflect your glory in Creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. ***Amen.***

Blessing

(Prayer from "Prayers for the Planet" at a service at Hinde Street Methodist Church, London, before the Climate March, December 2005, as published in *Season of Creation 2* (Green Anglicans, the Anglican Church of Southern African Environmental Network, 2012), 36.)

Go forth now to care for God's world.

Use resources wisely. Share your knowledge.

Sacrifice where necessary.

Live in harmony with all creation. Go out into all the world as prophets of a new way of living and preach the good news to all. And the blessing of the Creator God, the Risen Son, and the Promised Holy Spirit bless you that you might be a blessing to others today and always. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn *All Things Bright and Beautiful* Hymn 313

Dismissal

Priest or Deacon: Tend the earth, care for God's good Creation;
as you have received freely,
so give freely.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Readings for September 8th

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Psalm 125; James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17; Mark 7:24-37

An Environmental Reading from *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis

Pope Francis (b. 1936) is a Jesuit from Argentina. Laudato si' (Praise Be to You) is his first original encyclical with the subtitle "on care for our common home". In it, the pope critiques consumerism and irresponsible development, laments environmental degradation and global warming, and calls all people of the world to take "swift and unified global action."

When we speak of the “environment,” what we really mean is a relationship existing between nature and the society which lives in it. Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live. We are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it. Recognizing the reasons why a given area is polluted requires a study of the workings of society, its economy, its behavior patterns, and the ways it grasps reality. Given the scale of change, it is no longer possible to find a specific, discrete answer for each part of the problem. It is essential to seek comprehensive solutions which consider the interactions within natural systems themselves and with social systems. We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature.

(Pope Francis, *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home* [Encyclical], (Vatican: 2015), paragraph 139.)

Announcements

Celebration of Bishop Skelton's Ministry September 1st: There will be a Celebration of Bishop Skelton's ministry at Saint Mark's Cathedral, 1245 10th Ave E, Seattle, on September 1, 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm. This will be a Choral Evensong with Gift Presentation and a reception to follow. The Officiant is The Very Rev. Steven L. Thomason, Cathedral Dean, and our Bishop-Elect, and The Rev. Dr. Philip N. LaBelle will preach. The event will be live-streamed at <https://saintmarks.org/worship/live-stream/>

School Is Starting: Local schools resume classes on Wednesday, September 4th. Please be aware of excited students, blurry eyed parents, and an influx of buses! This week and next will be a major adjustment as Summer's schedulelessness transforms into the Academic Year's predictability.

Chase Lake School Kids Need You: Make your faith work for the benefit of local school kids, at Chase Lake Community School—become a VOLUNTEER TUTOR. For many of these kids English is a second language; they are often from low-income homes, and families with health and medical issues. Help bring healing and hope to them.

VOLUNTEER by picking up an application on the counter in the Parish Hall; complete the short application and turn it into Chase Lake School. Or you can find the application form at Chase Lake Community School. Once approval is given/emailed to you, go to the school in person and let them know you have been approved as a volunteer tutor. Any questions, phone or text Bob Chaffee—(206) 715-6610; please leave a voicemail message. School begins soon (9/04/24).

Memorial for Jackie Leake September 7th: There will be a memorial service on Saturday, September 7th at 1pm for longtime friend and member, Jackie Leake who died on April 30, 2024. A reception will follow the service. Please join us as we celebrate the life of Jackie, our sister in Christ.

Adult Bible Study Sundays at 9:15am: Beginning Sunday, September 8th, join us for Adult Christian Education class (Bible Study) led by Eric Hanson Sundays at 9:15am. This hybrid class meets in the Annex and on Zoom. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86545992628?pwd=d08vTmZNbmk1SW1PUXFybm dpMXNYdz09>

Announcements

Welcome Back Sunday Ice Cream Social September 8th: Join us for a special ice cream social coffee hour for Welcome Back Sunday on September 8th! This is our time to enjoy sundaes and fellowship, bid farewell to Summer, and look to the church year ahead. It's also a time when we review our many and varied ministries and activities. Come check it all out, and think about how you would like to be involved in our church community!

Men's Circle Saturday, September 14th: MEN'S CIRCLE invites WOMEN at its next Circle meeting on Saturday September 14th at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Guest Speaker Rick Rouse, retired pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church. Topic: White Christian Nationalism. Ladies, please TEXT (not phone) Harvey Smith at 425-248-0518. Eric Hanson needs to know how many Swedish Pancakes to plan for.

The Ordination and Consecration of the Rev. Dr. Philip N. LaBelle Saturday, September 14th: God willing and the people consenting, The Rev. Dr. Philip Noah LaBelle will be ordained and consecrated as ninth bishop of the Diocese of Olympia on Saturday, September 14, 2024, at 11:00 am at the Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue. Everyone in our Diocese is invited!

The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church will be the chief consecrator. Co-consecrators of Record are The Most Rev. Melissa M. Skelton and The Rt. Rev. Carol J.W.T. Gallagher. The Rev. Pamela L. Werntz will preach. The newly ordained bishop of the Diocese of Olympia, The Rev. Dr. Philip N. LaBelle will preside at the Eucharist.

The service will also be live-streamed (link to come). Reservations are not required, but your RSVP will help those planning: at <https://ecww.org/ordination-consecration-general-rsvp/>

Soup Suppers Return on September 18th: Mark your calendars for September 18, at 6:00pm, for the continuing worship and fellowship of our Soup Suppers. We begin with Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary at 6:00pm, move to the Parish Hall for supper at 6:30, followed by our program. At this September 18 gathering, there will be a presentation about the Congregational Vitality Assessment which parishioners took earlier this year. Also featured at this time will be a report from Fr. Greg about his Sabbatical experience.

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

21405 82nd Place West, Edmonds, WA 98026 Office (425) 778-0371

Sunday Worship 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:15a.m.

Email: StAlbansEdmonds@gmail.com

Fr. Greg Email: gwpeters.stalbansedmonds@gmail.com

Website www.StAlbansEdmonds.org

The Most Reverend Melissa Skelton, Bishop Provisional Diocese of Olympia

The Rev. Greg Peters, Rector

Dan Mullene, Parish Care Minister

Serving in Today's Worship

Celebrant & Preacher

Deacon

Music Director & Organist

Crucifer

Lectors

Chalice Bearer

Altar Guild

A/V Ministry

Father Greg Peters

Jim Gilman

John Palmer

Colyn LaVergne

Judy Kistner

Dan Mullene

Judy Fleenor

Cate Callahan

Judy Kistner

Sharon Joy

Phil McClelland

Denise Robertson

Brad Goergen

Weekly Sunday Outreach Basket Offerings

1st week—Food Bank

2nd week—Discretionary Fund

3rd week—Quarterly Outreach Offering

4th week—International Relief Offering

5th Week—Indigenous Women's Offering



For Online donations:
go to www.StAlbansEdmonds.org and click
on "Donate Now" or use QR code above.

*Flowers are given to the glory of God by the people of St. Alban's
for His many blessings*