



St. Alban's Episcopal Church
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November 17, 2020

Dear Friends,

I would like to relay what happened in the church on Sunday morning during the diocesan service. During Bishop DeDe's sermon a poor, African-American widow whom I help from time to time came in and sat down in a pew. After the service had ended she asked if she could speak to us. Barely holding back the tears she pleaded for an end to racism. She had gone to her church, where the majority of members are African-American, to ask for help and was told that no help would be given because her deceased husband was Muslim. Her husband's mosque would not help her because she is a Christian. I prayed for her and that we would learn to recognize when we are participating in racism, and then invited her back to my office.

As so happens with people who live from check to check, she lost her new job when she was hospitalized with bronchitis, and hadn't worked long enough to receive unemployment. This beloved child of God was desperate and suffering. It was all I could do not to take her in my arms, as I've done before, because of COVID-19. She wanted to protect me from her lingering bronchitis. Of course I gave her a check and then invited her to our Thanksgiving Eve service when she told me that, because of COVID-19, she could not be with her family on Thanksgiving and would eat her turkey alone. If she comes I will have a meal with her after the service.

Having been rejected by another church 30 minutes before, she came to St. Alban's because she knows she won't be rejected here. St. Alban's is a community that follows our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by walking the Way of Love in Jesus' Name. It's the reason I've been here for 14 years and the reason I plan to stay.

This Advent I will lead a book study on the first three Saturday mornings of December at 10:00 a.m. It will be on Zoom. We will read our Presiding Bishop's new book, Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times. The Most. Rev. Michael Curry is an extraordinary, down to earth, preacher, writer and story teller. If you don't have access to free shipping I'll be happy to order the book for you.

May God bless us and keep us,

Mother Julie+

Announced at 5:00 p.m. today:
In Person worship and gatherings will be suspended beginning November 29
due to the surge in COVID cases. Our last In Person gathering will be
the Thanksgiving Eve service.



With Organ!

Thanksgiving Eve, November 25 at 5:30 p.m.

Join Mother Julie and organist Phoebe Swope-Askeland

In Person and on Zoom

868 7740 0339 and 763802

Tuesday Abbreviated Morning Prayer at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

Zoom Code: 868 3084 1089/Password: 114552

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Thursday Rector's Class: Matters of Faith at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom

Zoom code: 858 6751 9278/Password: 211036

Because of the Advent book study, and that Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve are both on a Thursday night, the class will not be held in December.

Office Hours

The office will be closed on November 26-27 for Thanksgiving.

Next week the Newsletter will be sent out in place of the Rector's weekly letter.

Stewardship Sunday is November 22

2021 pledges that aren't received in the mail by November 22 will be blessed on November 29.

November 22 Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30 a.m. Bible Study in the Fellowship Room and also on Zoom

9:30 a.m. In-person Holy Eucharist and Zoom Spiritual Communion

Zoom Code/Password for Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. - 835 9000 0245 & 562087

Zoom Code/Password for Worship at 9:30 a.m. - 826 9515 6305 & 446765

Use your telephone for Zoom on Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Dial 1-646-558-8656

When prompted Enter **826 9515 6305#**

When prompted Enter #

When prompted Enter **446765#**

That will put you in Zoom's waiting room and I will let you in.

To mute or
unmute yourself
on the phone
press *6

Use your telephone for Zoom on Thanksgiving Eve at 5:30 p.m.

Dial 1-646-558-8656

When prompted Enter **868 7740 0339 #**

When prompted Enter #

When prompted Enter **763802 #**

That will put you in Zoom's waiting room and I will let you in.

