

Lift up
your
Hearts
in
Praise!





THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF VESTAVIA HILLS

201 So. Montgomery Highway Birmingham, Alabama 35216

205-823-1883 Fax: 205-823-4549

Web Site: www.vestavialutheran.org or lcvh.org

WORSHIP: 8:00 AM AND 10:30 AM, Sundays

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00 AM

Church Office Hours: 9 AM to 1 PM Monday thru Thursday



PASTOR: The Reverend Michael D. Ahlemeyer –pastor@vestavialutheran.org (205) 201-8866

PASTOR EMERITUS: The Reverend Clifford Hellmers –vestluth@juno.com

VICAR: Vicar Luke Watt –vicar@vestavialutheran.org– (402) 853-3514

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: Ruth Johnson –rswanagin@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF MOTHER'S DAY OUT: Rose Phillips –rosaphillips@vestavialutheran.org

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Leigh Walter– lwalter@vestavialutheran.org

BOOK KEEPER: Bernie Gregson- bgregson@vestavialutheran.org

ADOPTED MEDICAL MISSIONARIES - Arianna and David Shirk, Madeline & Annabelle - shirkdavid@gmail.com



TO OUR GUESTS: We offer you a warm welcome in the name of Jesus. Please sign the Friendship Register during the offering. If you do not have a church home, we would be delighted to have you become a part of our church family. Please feel free to speak with the Pastor about membership in our congregation. If you do have a church home, we pray that God will bless you as you continue your growth in faith and love.



SUNDAY SCHOOL Christian education classes are offered for all ages at 9:00 AM.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH and NURSERY Following the Children's Message, all children ages 3-7 are invited to Children's Church downstairs. They will return to the sanctuary during the offering. A nursery attendant is provided for children ages birth to 3 years during our 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM services.



COMMUNION We invite all baptized Christians who acknowledge their sinfulness, trust in Christ as their Savior, and who recognize the real presence of Christ's Body and Blood in the bread and wine to join us at the Communion table. The practice of our congregation is to place the bread into the extended hand of the communicant. The wine is offered in both individual cups and the chalice. If you wish to receive it from an individual cup, please take one from the tray as it is offered by the Elder. The cups in the center of the tray are filled with non-alcoholic wine, in consideration of persons who should not drink wine. Also, children who have not received Communion instruction are invited to come to the Communion rail, fold their hands and receive a blessing.

The Lutheran Church of Vestavia Hills

June 11, 2017

8:00 a.m.

A SERVICE OF PRAYER, PRAISE, AND PREACHING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN

"With the Lord Begin Your Task"

LSB #869 (v. 1-4)



1 With the Lord be - gin your task; Je - sus will di - rect it.
2 Let each day be - gin with prayer, Praise, and ad - o - ra - tion.
3 With your Sav - ior at your side, Foes need not a - larm you;
4 If your task be thus be - gun With the Sav - ior's bless - ing,



For His aid and coun - sel ask; Je - sus will per - fect it.
On the Lord cast ev - 'ry care; He is your sal - va - tion.
In His prom - is - es con - fide, And no ill can harm you.
Safe - ly then your course will run, Toward the prom - ise press - ing.



Ev - 'ry morn with Je - sus rise, And when day is end - ed,
Morn - ing, eve - ning, and at night Je - sus will be near you,
All your trust and hope re - pose In the might - y Mas - ter,
Good will fol - low ev - 'ry - where While you here must wan - der;



In His name then close your eyes; Be to Him com - mend - ed.
Save you from the tempt - er's might, With His pres - ence cheer you.
Who in wis - dom tru - ly knows How to stem dis - as - ter.
You at last the joy will share In the man - sions yon - der.

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

AN ACT OF ADORATION

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Glory be to you, O Lord most high.

Blessed is he who has come and is to come in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

To you all your people, from the rising of the sun to the going down of the same, cry aloud with joyful voice and say:

Glory be to you, O God, the Savior of all, forever and ever.

Amen.

AN ACT OF CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins to God, our merciful Father.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all people, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We have turned away from each other in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil you forbid and have not done the good you demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. Have mercy on us, kind Father, because of the obedience of our Brother, Jesus Christ, your Son. Forgive us all that is past, and with the power of the Holy Spirit move us to serve you faithfully. Set our feet upon the new path of life, and build your kingdom here through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to him. May he keep you in his grace by the Holy Spirit, lead you to greater faith and obedience, and bring you to live with him forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" LSB #790 (v. 1,3-5)



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly
fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has
dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.
might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.

5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Dear Father in heaven, We thank You for the blessings You showered upon our Vacation Bible School this past week: the energy and joy of the children; the faith, love, and stamina of the staff who served them; and the seeds of faith planted in young hearts through the proclamation of Your Gospel. We pray that these seeds may grow into lives of fervent faith and loving service in Your kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:26-28,31

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." ²⁷So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them...

³¹And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 2:1-10

¹And you were dead in the trespasses and sins ²in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— ³among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. ⁴But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— ⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL PREPARATION SONG

**Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch him and say that we love him.
Open our ears, Lord, help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 10:13-16

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the tenth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³And they were bringing children to Jesus that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. ¹⁵Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." ¹⁶And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

LSB #783



1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing Al-ways, on - ly for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;



Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease-less praise.
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.
Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

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| 5. Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne. | 6. Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself and I will be
Ever only, all for Thee. |
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SERMON

"Created by God—Built for a Purpose"

Ephesians 2:8-10

Rev. Clifford Hellmers, Pastor Emeritus

OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR RESOURCES

OFFERTORY

"We Give Thee But Thine Own"

LSB #781 (v. 1,2)



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

AN ACT OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, we lift up our hearts in gratitude to you, and for all your loving kindness we bless your holy name.

For life and health, for love and friendship, and for the goodness and mercy that have followed us all the days of our lives.

We thank you, O God.

For the wonder and beauty of the world; and for all things true and honorable, just and pure, lovely and gracious.

We thank you, O God.

For the gift of Jesus Christ, your only-begotten Son; for the grace and truth which came by him; and for his obedience unto death, even death on a cross.

We thank you, O God.

For his glorious resurrection and ascension to your right hand, and for his kingdom and glory and everlasting dominion.

We thank you, O God.

For the Holy Spirit, the Counselor, the Lord and Giver of life; for your holy Church throughout the world; for all the means of grace; and for the fellowship of the redeemed in heaven and on earth,

We thank you, O God.

Glory, thanksgiving, and praise be to you, O Father almighty, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

AN ACT OF SUPPLICATION

Lord's Prayer

**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 forever
and ever. Amen.**

BLESSING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN**"I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"**

LSB #740



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at
 2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my
 3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the



heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,
 staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,
 Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,



Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry
 In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He
 By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me



day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.
 bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.
 to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.**POSTLUDE**

Happy Father's Day



**Join us Sunday, June 18th
for a
Father's Day Brunch
9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.
in the Fellowship Hall**