



Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

- Hebrews 10:25 -

The Lutheran Church of Vestavia Hills



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

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

DIRECTOR OF MOTHER'S DAY OUT: Brooke Heisler—bheisler@vestavialutheran.org

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Leigh Walter—lwalter@vestavialutheran.org

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR ASSISTANT: Amy Alvis—aalvis@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
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
January 27, 2019

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

"O Day of Rest and Gladness"

LSB #906



1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
2 This day at earth's cre - a - tion The light first had its birth;
3 This day, God's peo - ple meet - ing, His Ho - ly Scrip - ture hear;
4 That light our hope sus - tain - ing, We walk the pil - grim way,



O balm of care and sad - ness, Most beau - ti - ful, most bright;
This day for our sal - va - tion Christ rose from depths of earth;
His liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, Through bread and wine made near.
At length our rest at - tain - ing, Our end - less Sab - bath day.



This day the high and low - ly, Through a - ges joined to bless,
This day our Lord vic - to - rious The Spir - it sent from heav'n,
We jour - ney on, be - liev - ing, Re - newed with heav'n - ly might,
We sing to Thee our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;



Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," The tri - une God con - fess.
And thus this day most glo - rious A three - fold light was giv'n.
From grace more grace re - ceiv - ing, On this blest day of light.
The Church her voice up - rais - es To Thee, blest Three in One.

INVOCATION

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

Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

who made heaven and earth.

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

INTROIT

--selections from Psalm 84 & 100, Hebrews 10:25

Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

Come into His presence with singing!

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.

Come into His presence with singing!

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Come into His presence with singing!

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

Come into His presence with singing!

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing.

**Let us encourage one another - and all the more -
as you see the Day approaching. Amen.**

KYRIE



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



- 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord, as we come to worship You in spirit and truth, we pray that You open our hearts to honor Your Day by the hearing of Your Word, so that in the multitude of Your tender mercies we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 17:1-4

(Paul's Custom of Observing the Lord's Day)

¹Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ²And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ." ⁴And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM (10:30)

M. Bedford

"The Lord Is My Light"

The Lord is my light, the Lord is my light,

The Lord is my light and my salvation,

The Lord is my light, the Lord is my light,

Whom shall I fear, whom shall I fear,

Of whom shall I be afraid?

For in times of trouble you hide me in your dwelling;

You shelter me and comfort me, and set me high on a rock.

The Lord is my light, the Lord is my light,

The Lord is my light and my salvation,

The Lord is my light, the Lord is my light,

Whom shall I fear, whom shall I fear,

Of whom shall I be afraid?

Hear, O Lord, when I cry to you, give ear to me and answer;

O hide not your face from me, your face, O Lord, do I seek.

*The Lord is my light, the Lord is my light,
The Lord is my light and my salvation,
The Lord is my light, the Lord is my light,
Whom shall I fear, whom shall I fear,
Of whom shall I be afraid?
Of whom shall I be afraid?*

EPISTLE

I Corinthians 9:24-27

(Importance of Spiritual Discipline)

²⁴Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows a musical score for the Alleluia Verse. It consists of a single staff with a treble clef and a common time signature (C). The melody is written in a simple, rhythmic style. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The first two phrases are separated by a comma, and the third phrase is separated by a period. The music ends with a double bar line.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 4:16-21

(Jesus Announces He Is The Messiah)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁶And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read.
¹⁷And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,
¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."
²⁰And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

CATECHISM

Third Commandment

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

"O Worship the King"

LSB #804 (v. 1-3,6)



1 O wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.
 2 O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
 3 This earth, with its store of won - ders un - told,



O grate - ful - ly sing His pow'r and His love;
 Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;
 Al - might - y, Thy pow'r hath found - ed of old,



Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,
 Es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,



Pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.
 And round it hath cast, like a man - tle, the sea.

6 O measureless Might,
 ineffable Love,
 While angels delight
 to hymn Thee above,
 Thy humbler creation,
 though feeble their lays,
 With true adoration
 shall sing to Thy praise.

SERMON

"As Was His Custom"

Luke 4:16

Rev. Michael D. Ahlemeyer

OFFERING *(please register your attendance in the pads located near the center aisle)*

VOLUNTARY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.**

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

AGNUS DEI



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION

"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

LSB #686

"The Child Lay in the Cloth and Hay"

Choir (10:30)

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

LSB #700

"Draw Us to Thee"

LSB #701

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

The LORD bless you and keep you;

The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you;

The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN**"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"**

LSB #643



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,



The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.
The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.



The Sup-per is end-ed. O now be ex-tend-ed
Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,



The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.



The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;



Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
U-nite us as one in this life that we share.



His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us
Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks-giv-ing



To work for God's king-dom and an-swer His call.
Give hon-or to Christ and His name that we bear.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.