



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 of Lent

March 24, 2019

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

"How Firm a Foundation"

LSB #728 (v. 1-2,4)



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,



Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, will be your sup - ply.



What more can He say than to you He has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign



Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

Amen.

“Do not be anxious about what you will eat or drink or wear.

Life is more than food and the body more than clothing.

Look at the birds of the air. They do not sow or reap or gather.

Yet our Heavenly Father feeds them.

Look at the lilies of the fields. They neither toil nor spin.

Yet Solomon in all his splendor was not arrayed like them.”

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

O almighty God, merciful Father,

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lenten Lord, help us to trust in You with all our heart and lean not on our own understanding. In all our ways may we acknowledge You; and when Your plans are different from our own, help us to seek Your kingdom knowing that according to Your will and wisdom You will provide our daily bread; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.



OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 41:8-13

(Fear Not, for I Am with You)

⁸But you, Israel, my servant,
Jacob, whom I have chosen,
the offspring of Abraham, my friend;
⁹you whom I took from the ends of the earth,
and called from its farthest corners,
saying to you, "You are my servant,
I have chosen you and not cast you off";
¹⁰fear not, for I am with you;
be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.
¹¹Behold, all who are incensed against you
shall be put to shame and confounded;
those who strive against you
shall be as nothing and shall perish.
¹²You shall seek those who contend with you,
but you shall not find them;
those who war against you
shall be as nothing at all.
¹³For I, the LORD your God,
hold your right hand;
it is I who say to you, "Fear not,
I am the one who helps you."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Do Not Be Anxious)

⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE

"I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

LSB #729 (v. 1,4)



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;
4 I am trust-ing Thee to guide me; Thou a - lone shalt lead,



Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.
Ev - 'ry day and hour sup - ply - ing All my need.

(Do Not Worry)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus said:] "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

²⁵"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

³¹Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³²For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

³⁴"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

(inside back cover of the LSB pew hymnal)

MISSION MOMENT

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

"If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee"

LSB #750 (V. 1-4)



1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee And hope in
2 What can these anx - ious cares a - vail thee, These nev - er -
3 Be pa - tient and a - wait His lei - sure In cheer - ful
4 God knows full well when times of glad - ness Shall be the



Him through all thy ways, He'll give thee strength, what - e'er be -
ceas - ing moans and sighs? What can it help if thou be -
hope, with heart con - tent To take what - e'er thy Fa - ther's
need - ful thing for thee. When He has tried thy soul with



tide thee, And bear thee through the e - vil days. Who trusts in
wail thee O'er each dark mo - ment as it flies? Our cross and
plea - sure And His dis - cern - ing love hath sent, Nor doubt our
sad - ness And from all guile has found thee free, He comes to



God's un - chang - ing love Builds on the rock that naught can move.
tri - als do but press The heav - ier for our bit - ter - ness.
in - most wants are known To Him who chose us for His own.
thee all un - a - ware And makes thee own His lov - ing care.

SERMON

Lenten Series: "The Sermon on the Mount"

Part 3: *Do Not Worry*

Matthew 6:25-34

Rev. Michael Ahlemeyer

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

OFFERTORY

PRAYERS

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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PEACE OF THE LORD

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"	LSB #702
"Lord of All Hopefulness"	LSB #738
"Children of the Heavenly Father"	LSB #725
"All Depends on Our Possessing"	LSB #732

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

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.

~The service continues on the following page with the Closing Hymn.~

CLOSING HYMN

"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"

LSB #722



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.
For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.
I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.



With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.
For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.
So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.