



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

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CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Leigh Walter –lwalter@vestavialutheran.org

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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

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 31, 2019

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN "Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice" LSB #556 (v. 1,3,4)



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re-joice, With ex-ul-ta-tion
3 My own good works all came to naught, No grace or mer-it
4 But God had seen my wretch-ed state Be-fore the world's foun-



spring-ing, And with u-nit-ed heart and voice And ho-ly
gain-ing; Free will a-gainst God's judg-ment fought, Dead to all
da-tion, And mind-ful of His mer-cies great, He planned for



rap-ture sing-ing, Pro-claim the won-ders God has done, How
good re-main-ing. My fears in-creased till sheer de-spair Left
my sal-va-tion. He turned to me a fa-ther's heart; He



His right arm the vic-t'ry won. What price our ran-som cost Him!
on-ly death to be my share; The pangs of hell I suf-fered.
did not choose the eas-y part But gave His dear-est trea-sure.

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

Amen.

Judge not, that you be not judged,

For with judgment you pronounce you will be judged.

Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye,

But do not notice the log that is in your own eye?

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

Father in heaven, though we deserve complete and total judgment, our punishment was placed on Your Son. Help us never to be unjust in our judgment of others, but measured with the same mercy You graciously demonstrate to us. Move us always to speak the truth in love. By Your Spirit, help us to look beyond our self-righteousness to trust in the righteousness of Your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 11:2-4

(The Lord Will Judge with Righteousness)

²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

"Come to Save"

*Holy, holy, worthy, worthy, is the God-man come to save;
Holy, holy, worthy, worthy, such a sacrifice He made.
For we like sheep had gone astray, each one alone to his own way.
But the Father knew our need: He heard our cry, He felt our plea.
Holy, holy, worthy, worthy is the God-man come to save;
Holy, holy, worthy, worthy, such a sacrifice He made.
There in our place the Lamb was slain;
Thru His own blood the price was paid.
For the Savior knew our need, He heard our cry, He felt our plea.
Holy, holy, worthy, worthy is the God-man come to save;
Holy, holy, worthy, worthy, such a sacrifice He made.
There at the cross the darkness fell, and from the sorrow, who could tell
How the Father knew our need, He heard our cry, He felt our plea.
Holy, holy, worthy, worthy, such a sacrifice He made.
Holy, holy, worthy, worthy is the God-man come to save.*

EPISTLE

Romans 2:1-11

(God's Righteous Judgment)

¹Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things. ²We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who do such things. ³Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who do such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God? ⁴Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

⁵But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. ⁶He will render to each one according to his works: ⁷to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; ⁸but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. ⁹There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, ¹⁰but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. ¹¹For God shows no partiality.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE "Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness" LSB #563 (v. 1,2)



1 Je - sus, Thy blood and righ - teous - ness My beau - ty
2 Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and re -



are, my glo - rious dress; Midst flam - ing worlds, in
deemed, no debt to pay; Ful - ly ab - solved through



these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

(Judge Not)

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹“Judge not, that you be not judged. ²For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. ³Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? ⁴Or how can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when there is the log in your own eye? ⁵You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.

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.

MISSION MOMENT

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

"God Loved the World So That He Gave"

LSB #571 (v. 1-3)



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.

SERMON

Lenten Series: "The Sermon on the Mount"

Part 4: *Judge Not*

Matthew 7:1-5

Rev. Michael Ahlemeyer

OFFERING

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

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

"Just As I Am, without One Plea"	LSB #570
"Bread of the World"	Choir (10:30)
"What Wondrous Love Is This"	LSB #543
"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"	LSB #425

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

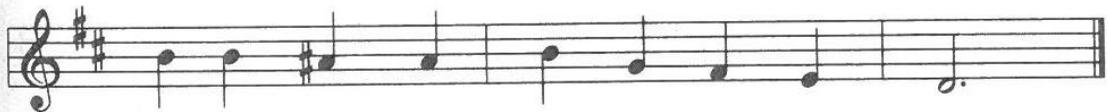
"There Is a Green Hill Far Away"



1 There is a green hill far a - way, Out -
2 We may not know, we can - not tell What
3 He died that we might be for - giv'n, He
4 There was no oth - er good e - nough To



side a cit - y wall, Where the dear Lord was
pains He had to bear, But we be - lieve it
died to make us good, That we might go at
pay the price of sin, He on - ly could un -



cru - ci - fied, Who died to save us all.
was for us He hung and suf - fered there.
last to heav'n, Saved by His pre - cious blood.
lock the gate Of heav'n and let us in.

5 Oh, dearly, dearly has He loved!
And we must love Him too
And trust in His redeeming blood
And try His works to do.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.