

**"and then let us make a name for ourselves,**  
lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."

## THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF VESTAVIA HILLS



201 So. Montgomery Highway Birmingham, Alabama 35216

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Web Site: [www.vestavialutheran.org](http://www.vestavialutheran.org) or [lcvh.org](http://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](mailto:pastor@vestavialutheran.org) (205 ) 201-8866

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ADOPTED MEDICAL MISSIONARIES - Arianna and David Shirk, Madeline & Annabelle - [shirkdavid@gmail.com](mailto: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

**Pentecost Sunday**

June 2, 2019

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN**

"Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices"

LSB #811 (v. 1-4)



1 Oh, that I had a thou - sand voic - es To praise my  
2 O all you pow'rs that He im - plant - ed, A - rise, keep  
3 You for - est leaves so green and ten - der That dance for  
4 All crea - tures that have breath and mo - tion, That throng the



God with thou - sand tongues! My heart, which in the Lord re -  
si - lence now no more; Put forth the strength that God has  
joy in sum - mer air, You mead - ow grass - es, bright and  
earth, the sea, the sky, Come, share with me my heart's de -



joic - es, Would then pro - claim in grate - ful songs To all, wher -  
grant - ed! Your no - blest work is to a - dore. O soul and  
slen - der, You flow'rs so fra - grant and so fair, You live to  
vo - tion, Help me to sing God's prais - es high. My ut - most



ev - er I might be, What great things God has done for me.  
bod - y, join to raise With heart - felt joy our Mak - er's praise.  
show God's praise a - lone. Join me to make His glo - ry known.  
pow'rs can nev - er quite De - clare the won - ders of His might.

## INVOCATION

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

**Amen.**



## CALL TO WORSHIP

Celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit, we pray for an increase of the Word, asking that it may be heard in every language, bringing the good news of sins forgiven through Christ to every place.

**Holy Spirit, blessed Comforter, hear our prayer.**

Celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the world, asking that there would be times of peace and understanding between the nations and that the Word of God everywhere have free course.

**Holy Spirit, who enlightens us and intercedes for us always,  
hear our prayer.**

Celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the Church and for this household of faith, that we may be filled with a sense of appreciation for the fruit of the Spirit as evidenced among us. May we daily grow in the languages of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

**Holy Spirit, source of every good gift, hear our prayer.**

Celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, that we might be convicted of our sinful pride resulting in the division barrier of language, remembering with gratitude those missionaries and Bible translators whose work is to unite all people in the tongue of the Gospel!

**Holy Spirit, ever living, hear our prayer. Amen.**

## **RESPONSE**

"Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices"

LSB #811 (v. 5)

5            Creator, humbly I implore You  
              To listen to my earthly song  
              Until that day when I adore You,  
              Together with the angel throng  
              And learn with choirs of heav'n to sing  
              Eternal anthems to my King.

## **CONFESSION OF ASSURANCE AND FORGIVENESS**

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God on this day You once taught the hearts of the faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in Your promises; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

*(Tower of Babel)*

<sup>1</sup>Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. <sup>2</sup>And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. <sup>3</sup>And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. <sup>4</sup>Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth." <sup>5</sup>And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built. <sup>6</sup>And the LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. <sup>7</sup>Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech." <sup>8</sup>So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. <sup>9</sup>Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth. And from there the LORD dispersed them over the face of all the earth.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CHORAL ANTHEM** (10:30)

J. Martin/T. English

"Come Now, Spirit of God"

*Come now, Spirit of God, Spirit of light and of witness.  
Blow, blow, heavenly wind, and pour out Your Spirit upon us.  
Breath from heaven above, fill us afresh with Your power.  
Faithful promise divine, declaring the presence of God.  
Come now, Spirit of truth Spirit of grace and salvation.  
Speak the wonders of God, giving us hearts of compassion,  
Build the Kingdom of Christ. Guide us, we pray, Holy Spirit.  
Blow, blow, heavenly wind, leading us into Your will.*

*Come now, Spirit, Come now, Spirit, Come and bind us together.  
Send Your Spirit, Draw us nearer.  
Pour Your Spirit upon us.  
Alleluia, Alleluia.  
Alleluia, Alleluia.*

## **NEW TESTAMENT LESSON**

Acts 2:1–21

*(Day of Pentecost)*

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. <sup>4</sup>And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. <sup>7</sup>And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, <sup>11</sup>both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." <sup>12</sup>And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup>But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. <sup>15</sup>For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. <sup>16</sup>But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>“And in the last days it shall be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams;

<sup>18</sup>even on my male servants and female servants  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>And I will show wonders in the heavens above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;

<sup>20</sup>the sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,

before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.

<sup>21</sup>And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord  
shall be saved.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### ALLELUIA AND VERSE



The musical score is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a sequence of notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). The second staff continues the melody: D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (half). The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." A square symbol with a 'C' is placed above the first staff.

## HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:23-31

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

*(The Gift of the Holy Spirit)*

<sup>23</sup>Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. <sup>24</sup>Whoever does not love me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

<sup>25</sup>"These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup>But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup>Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup>You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I will come to you.' If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup>And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place you may believe. <sup>30</sup>I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no claim on me, <sup>31</sup>but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us go from here.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH**      Luther's Explanation to the Third Article of the Creed

*What does it mean that I believe in the Holy Spirit?*

**I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.**

**In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.**

**In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.**

**On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.**

**This is most certainly true.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

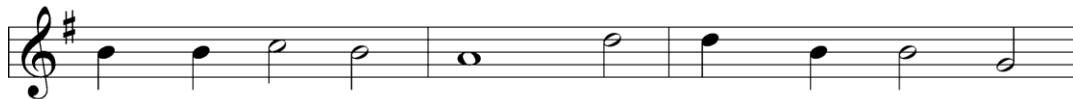
## HYMN OF THE DAY

"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

LSB #528 (v. 1,3,5,7)



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing My  
3 Je - sus! The name that charms our fears, That  
5 Look un - to Him, ye na - tions; own Your



great Re - deem - er's praise, The glo - ries of my  
bids our sor - rows cease; 'Tis mu - sic in the  
God, ye fall - en race. Look and be saved through



God and King, The tri - umphs of His grace!  
sin - ner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.  
faith a - lone, Be jus - ti - fied by grace.

7 To God all glory, praise, and love  
Be now and ever giv'n  
By saints below and saints above,  
The Church in earth and heav'n.

## SERMON

*"The Great(est) Name"*

**Genesis 11:1-9**

Rev. Michael Ahlemeyer

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

**VOLUNTARY**

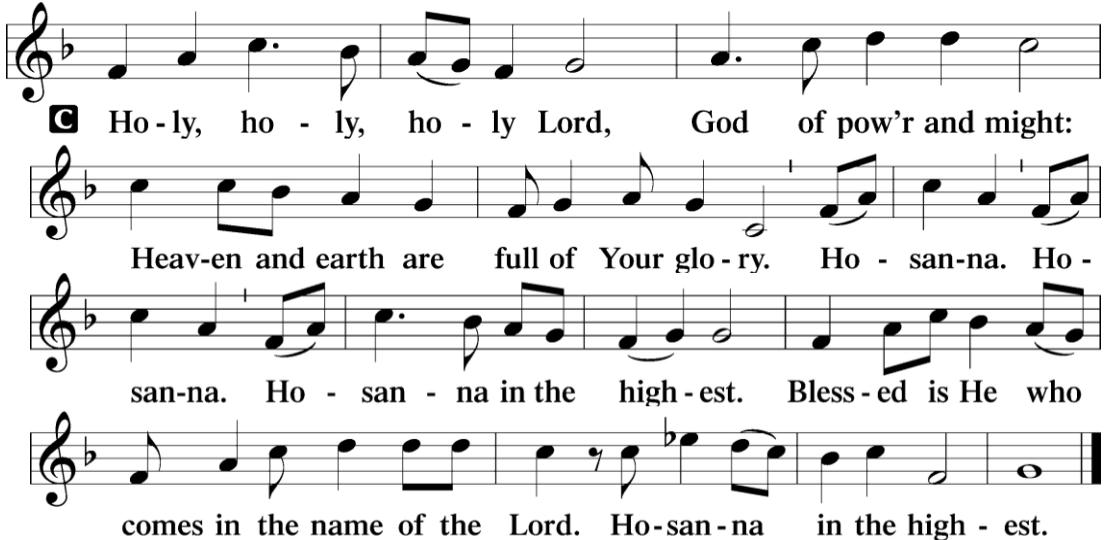
**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

*(inside back LSB cover)*

**SANCTUS**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,      God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry.      Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est.      Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord.      Ho-san-na in the high - est.

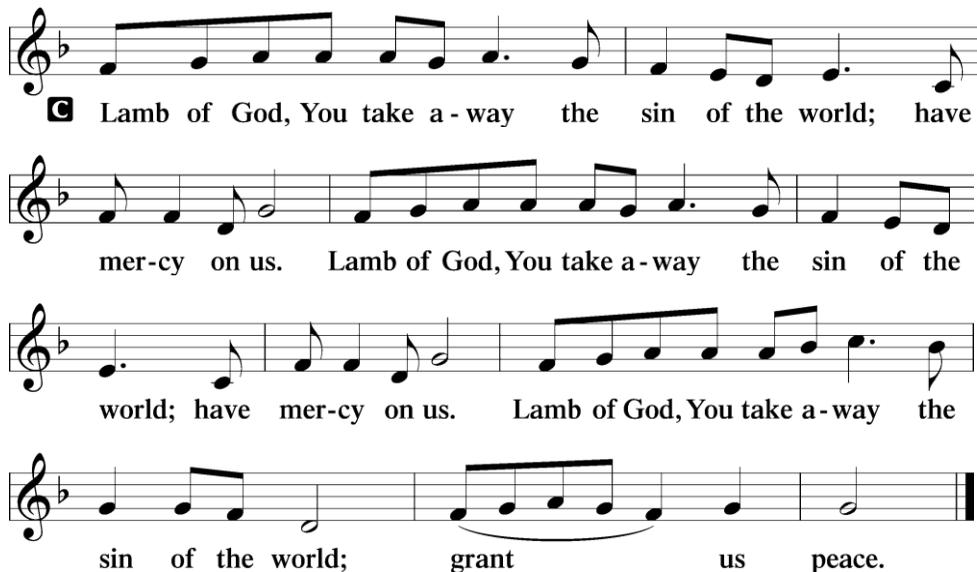
## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

### AGNUS DEI



☐ Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Holy Spirit Light Divine"

LSB #496

"O Spirit of Life" (10:30)

Choir

"Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid"

LSB #500

"Voices Raised to You We Offer"

LSB #795

## **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 concludes on the following page with the Closing Hymn~*

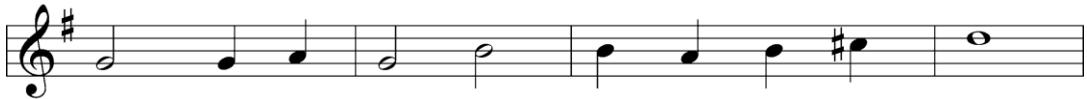
## CLOSING HYMN

"Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise"

LSB #917 (v. 1,2,4)



1 Sav - ior, a - gain to Thy dear name we raise  
2 Grant us Thy peace up - on our home - ward way;  
4 Grant us Thy peace through - out our earth - ly life,



With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;  
With Thee be - gan, with Thee shall end, the day.  
Our balm in sor - row and our stay in strife;



Once more we bless Thee ere our wor - ship cease,  
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait Thy word of peace.  
That in this house have called up - on Thy name.  
Call us, O Lord, to Thine e - ter - nal peace.

## DISMISSAL

Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE