



The
CREED

I Believe
in the Life Everlasting



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 Last Sunday of the Church Year

Part 1 of 3: The Creed and the End Times

November 10, 2019

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

LSB #761



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill Thy Law's de-mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to Thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood, From Thy riv - en side which flowed,
Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to Thee for dress; Help - less, look to Thee for grace;
When I soar to worlds un-known, See Thee on Thy judg-ment throne,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.
Foul, I to the foun-tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

Amen.

The third day He rose again from the dead, according to the Scriptures.

And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

He sits at the right hand of the Father Almighty.

And He will come again to judge both the living and dead, whose kingdom has no end.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God, Heavenly Father, You have made us stewards of the riches of Your grace. Prepare us to meet our Lord when He comes again in glory and preserve our faith as we hold fast to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 25:6-9

(Heavenly Feast Prepared by God)

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations.

⁸He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

Philippians 1:21-26, 3:20-21

(Apostle Paul Yearns to Be in Heaven)

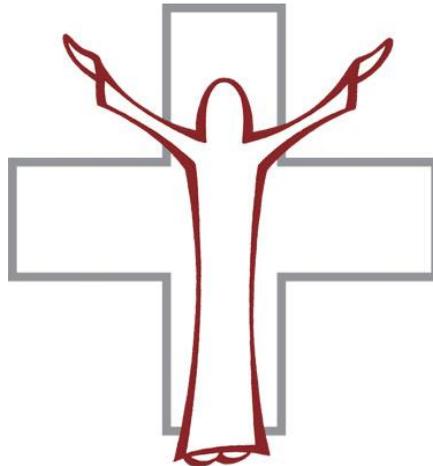
²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account.

²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL PREPARATION HYMN

"Be Thou My Vision"

UMH #451

Unison

The musical score is written for a unison voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system contains the first three lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next three lines. The third system contains the next three lines. The fourth system contains the final three lines of the hymn. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and simple melodic lines that support the vocal melody.

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3. Great God of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,
wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

(The Lord Comforts Disciples with Promise of Eternal Life)

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

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 SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Be Still, My Soul”

LSB #752 (v. 1, 3-4)



1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side; Bear pa - tient-
3 Be still, my soul; though dear - est friends de - part And all is
4 Be still, my soul; the hour is has - t'ning on When we shall



ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to or - der
dark - ened in this vale of tears; Then you will bet - ter know His
be for - ev - er with the Lord, When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and



and pro - vide; In ev - 'ry change He faith - ful will re -
love, His heart, Who comes to soothe your sor - rows and your
fear are gone, Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re -



main. Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly Friend
fears. Be still, my soul; your Je - sus can re - pay
stored. Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
From His own full - ness all He takes a - way.
All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

SERMON

“I Believe in the Life Everlasting”

Part 1 of 3: The Creed and the End Times

Rev. Michael D. Ahlemeyer

VOLUNTARY

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord in Your mercy,
hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

(inside back cover of the LSB pew hymnal)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PEACE

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

DISTRIBUTION

"Amazing Grace"	LSB #744
"How Great Thou Art"	LSB #801
"When Peace, Like a River"	LSB #763
"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"	LSB #770

POST COMMUNION PRAYER (8:00 a.m.)

NEW MEMBER WELCOME (10:30 a.m.)

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.

SENDING HYMN

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"

LSB #918



1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,



Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,
Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,



bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no
strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and
songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to



more; Feed me till I want no more.
shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.
Thee; I will ev - er give to Thee.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.