

Prophet.



The Lutheran Church *of* Vestavia Hills

SUNDAY MORNING

August 16, 2020

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
 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. 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.



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 in Communion.

Current Worship Schedule:

Saturday, 6:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Worship with seated communion	<i>*no singing</i> <i>* masks required</i>
Sunday, 8:00 a.m.	Sanctuary Worship with seated communion	<i>*Traditional Service</i> <i>* masks required</i>
Sunday, 9:30 a.m.	Sanctuary Worship with seated communion	<i>*Traditional Service</i> <i>* masks required</i>
Sunday, 11:00 a.m.	Sanctuary Worship with seated communion	<i>*Service will be live-streamed</i> <i>* masks required</i>

The Lutheran Church of Vestavia Hills
A Worship Series on the Threefold Office of Christ
Week II: Christ as our Priest
August 16, 2020

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

LSB #901 (v. 1-3)



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so
3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is

en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,
du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,

Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed
There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O
Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I

is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!
en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!
hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.

INVOCATION

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

Amen.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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.

¹Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

²Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

³Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵For the LORD is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

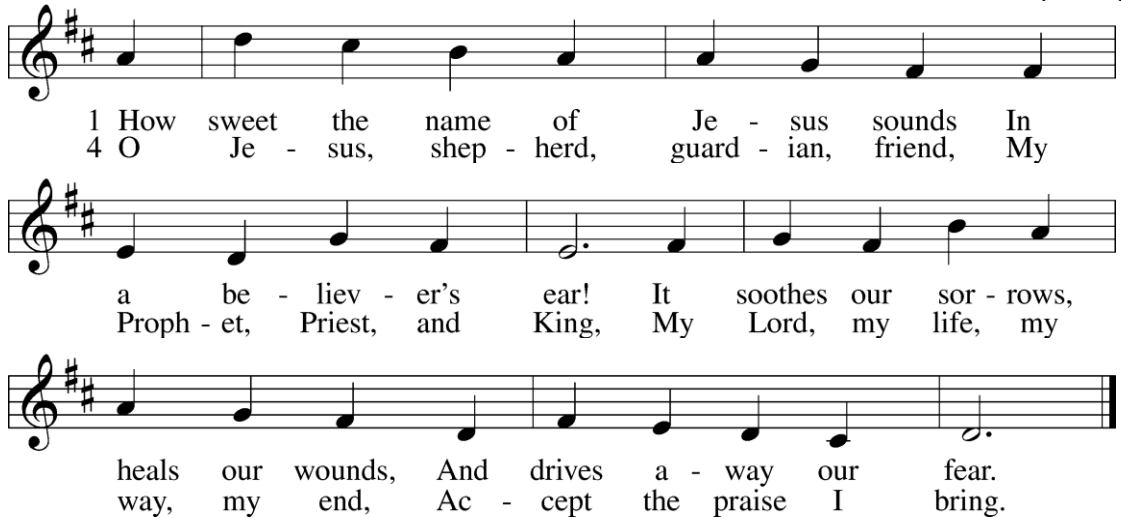
Faithful God, whose mercies are new to us every morning, we humbly pray that You would look upon us in mercy and renew us by Your Holy Spirit. Keep safe our going out and our coming in, and let Your blessing remain with us throughout this day. Preserve us in Your righteousness, and grant us a portion in that eternal life which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

LSB #524 (v. 1,4)



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds In
4 O Je - sus, shep - herd, guard - ian, friend, My
a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,
Proph - et, Priest, and King, My Lord, my life, my
heals our wounds, And drives a - way our fear.
way, my end, Ac - cept the praise I bring.

FIRST LESSON

I John 2:1-2

¹My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.
²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 4:14-16; 7:26-28

¹⁴Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every

respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

²⁶For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. ²⁸For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

John 2:18-22

The Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁸So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?"

¹⁹Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

²⁰The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹But he was speaking about the temple of his body. ²²When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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.**



SERMON HYMN

"In His Temple Now Behold Him"

LSB #519



1 In His tem - ple now be - hold Him, See the long - ex -
2 In the arms of her who bore Him, Vir - gin pure, be -
3 Je - sus, by Your pre - sen - ta - tion, When they blessed You,



pect - ed Lord; An - cient proph - ets had fore - told Him,
hold Him lie While His a - ged saints a - dore Him
weak and poor, Make us see Your great sal - va - tion,



God has now ful - filled His word. Now to praise Him,
Ere in per - fect faith they die. Al - le - lu - ia,
Seal us with Your prom - ise sure; And pre - sent us



His re - deem - ed Shall break forth with one ac - cord.
al - le - lu - ia! Lo, the in - car - nate God Most High!
in Your glo - ry To Your Fa - ther, cleansed and pure.

SERMON

A Worship Series on the Threefold Office of Christ

Week 2: Christ as Priest

Rev. Michael Ahlhelmeyer or

Rev. Clifford Hellmers, Pastor Emeritus

RESPONSE

"Create in Me"

LSB #192

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men." The score ends with a double bar line.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord in Your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

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

THE PEACE

DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

CLOSING HYMN

"Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise"

LSB #917 (v. 1,3,4)



1 Sav - ior, a - gain to Thy dear name we raise
3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
4 Grant us Thy peace through - out our earth - ly life,



With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;
Turn Thou for us its dark - ness in - to light.
Our balm in sor - row and our stay in strife;



Once more we bless Thee ere our wor - ship cease,
From harm and dan - ger keep Thy chil - dren free;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait Thy word of peace.
For dark and light are both a - like to Thee.
Call us, O Lord, to Thine e - ter - nal peace.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE