



**The Lutheran Church of Vestavia Hills**

SUNDAY MORNING

August 30, 2020

## THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF VESTAVIA HILLS



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 Web Site: [www.vestavialutheran.org](http://www.vestavialutheran.org) **or** [lcvh.org](http://lcvh.org)  
 Church Office Hours: 9 AM to 1 PM Monday thru Thursday



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**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 Beatitudes  
**Part 1: Blessed are the Poor in Spirit**  
August 30, 2020

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN**

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

LSB #686 (v. 1,3,4)



1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -  
4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,  
strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter  
love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,



Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less  
Bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I  
How I'll sing Thy won-drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me  
feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my  
tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.  
heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.  
an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

## INVOCATION

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

**Amen.**

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

**And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:**

“Blessed are the poor in spirit,

**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”**

## CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

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.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**Amen.**

## PSALMODY

*select verses from Psalm 143*

Hear my prayer, O Lord;  
give ear to my pleas for mercy!

**In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!**

Enter not into judgment with your servant,  
**for no one living is righteous before you.**

Therefore my spirit faints within me;  
**my heart within me is appalled.**

I stretch out my hands to you;  
**my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**

Answer me quickly, O Lord!  
**My spirit fails!**

Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love,  
for in you I trust.

**Make me know the way I should go,  
for to you I lift up my soul.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## RESPONSE

"I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

LSB #729 (v. 1-2)



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;  
2 I am trust-ing Thee for par - don; At Thy feet I bow,  
Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.  
For Thy grace and ten - der mer - cy Trust - ing now.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Heavenly Father, God of all grace, may we never forget the blessings of the Christian life and continually thank and praise You for all Your goodness in this life until, with all Your saints, we praise You eternally in Your heavenly kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMNET LESSON

Isaiah 61:1-4

*(The Messiah Will Preach Good News to the Poor)*

<sup>1</sup>The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor;  
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

<sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
<sup>3</sup>to grant to those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;  
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.  
<sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins;  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **EPISTLE LESSON**

I Peter 5:5b-9a

*(Humble Yourself before the Lord and He Will Exalt You)*

<sup>5</sup>Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."  
<sup>6</sup>Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, <sup>7</sup>casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup>Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him, firm in your faith.

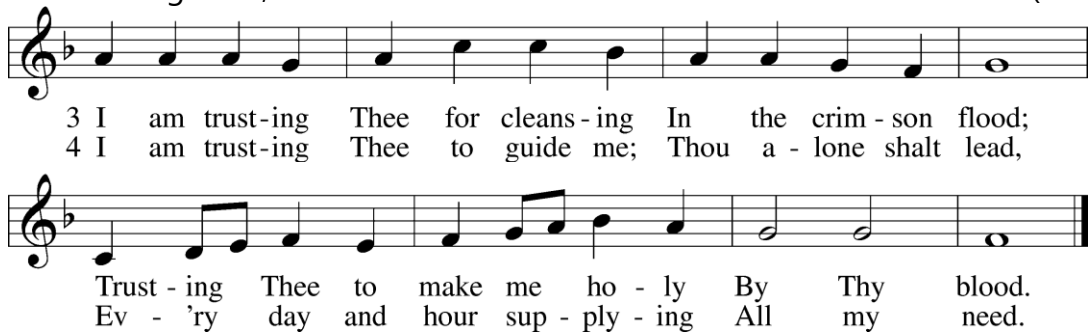
This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSE

"I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"

LSB # 729 (v. 3-4)



3 I am trust-ing Thee for cleans-ing In the crim-son flood;  
4 I am trust-ing Thee to guide me; Thou a-lone shalt lead,  
Trust-ing Thee to make me ho-ly By Thy blood.  
Ev-'ry day and hour sup-ply-ing All my need.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 18:9-14

*(The Pharisee and the Tax Collector)*

The Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighteenth chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>9</sup>[Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt:

<sup>10</sup>"Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' <sup>13</sup>But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

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.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

LSB #702 (v. 1-3)



1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;  
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my  
My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my  
Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's



guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!  
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire!  
tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.

## SERMON

Sermon Series on the Beatitudes

### Part 1: Blessed are the Poor in Spirit

Rev. Michael Ahlemeyer

or

Rev. Clifford Hellmers, Pastor Emeritus

## OFFERTORY

"We Give Thee But Thine Own"

LSB #781 (v. 1-2)



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.  
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

## 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**

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.**

## CLOSING HYMN

### "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

LSB #643



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,  
 2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,

The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.  
 The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.

The Sup-per is end-ed. O now be ex-tend-ed  
 Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,

The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.  
 Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.

The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,  
 With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;

Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.  
 U-nite us as one in this life that we share.

His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us  
 Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks-giv-ing

To work for God's king-dom and an-swer His call.  
 Give hon-or to Christ and His name that we bear.