

“JOURNEY WITH JESUS”



The Lutheran Church of Vestavia Hills
CHILDREN'S EASTER PRAISE SERVICE
April 16, 2023

The Lutheran Church of Vestavia Hills
CHILDREN'S EASTER PRAISE SERVICE

April 16, 2023

10:30 a.m.

*Program Note: All congregational responses (spoken & sung) are in **bold print***

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: He is risen!

Cong: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: We say "Alleluia" to God

Cong: because he sent Jesus to die on the cross.

Pastor: We say "Alleluiah" to Jesus

Cong: because he was punished for all our sins.

Pastor: We say "Alleluia" to the Spirit

Cong: because he give us faith to believe God's love.

Pastor: We say "Alleluia"

Cong: because we know that Jesus is alive! Alleluia!

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong: Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

Pastor: Even in our Easter joy, we confess before our gracious God our failings and sin.

All: Lord God, we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned and that our lives are not always what they should be. Our sin leads to guilt that destroys our joy. Our self-centeredness leaves us feeling empty and alone, without the peace of Your presence. Forgive us, Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Pastor: People of God, the Christ who died for you is risen. His death and resurrection have conquered our enemies of sin and death. Therefore, by Christ's authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Cong: Amen! Alleluia! Amen!

OPENING SONG

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

sung with the congregation

**All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice with us and sing
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Oh burning sun with golden beam
And silver moon with softer gleam
Oh praise him! Oh praise him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

+ +

JOURNEY WITH JESUS:
From His Birth to His Resurrection

SONG

"Jesus, Jesus"

Tambourine: Vivian Tallo

Jesus came and lived among us. Now we can live for him.
Jesus came and walked among us. Now we can walk with him.

Then he gave his life, the greatest sacrifice!

Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus, he died and rose again!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus, he gave his life for you and me!

Reader: Welcome to our worship service, where we can "Journey with Jesus!" We have come together today to lift our praises to our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus.

Reader: We have come together to celebrate his birth!

Reader: We have come together to celebrate his life!

Reader: We have come together to celebrate his death!

Reader: We have come together to celebrate his resurrection!

Reader: Psalm 86:12 says: "I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever."

Reader: Let's praise our Lord right now...and let's begin in the city of Bethlehem, where Jesus was born.

JESUS IS BORN

Reader: We celebrate Jesus' birthday on Christmas because Jesus was God's gift to the whole world. God sent Jesus to be our Savior. 1 Timothy 1:15 says, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." God sent Jesus to save each and every one of us!

Reader: Since the first sin in the Garden of Eden, God had promised to send a Savior. 600 years before Jesus was even born, the prophet Isaiah wrote in Isaiah 9:6, "For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Reader: It all started in a little town called Bethlehem. A young woman had a baby boy, but he was different from every other boy. He was different because this baby's Father was God Himself.

Reader: This child's mother was Mary, and His earthly father was a man named Joseph. An angel had spoken to Joseph months before the child was born. The angel said, "Name the child Jesus, for He will save his people from their sins."

SONG

"Call Him Jesus"

Solos: Addy Meadows & Marbella Capote

Duet: Caleb Doroh & Jacob Doroh

*He is God with Us, He is Emmanuel,
but you will call him Jesus.*

*He's the Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Kings,
but you will call him Jesus.*

REFRAIN:

Call him Jesus, call him Jesus, for he will save you from your sins.

Call him Jesus, call him Jesus, for he will save you from your sins.

Call him Jesus.

*He is Wonderful, He is the Counselor,
but you will call him Jesus.*

*He's Almighty God, He is the Prince of Peace,
but you will call him Jesus.*

Refrain

Son of God, He is Jesus; Son of God, He is Jesus

Son of God, He is Jesus; Son of God, He is Jesus

Refrain

Call him Jesus.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Reader: God sent Jesus as a baby in Bethlehem.

Cong: Glory to God in the highest!

Reader: Jesus grew in wisdom and stature.

Cong: Glory to God in the highest!

Reader: Jesus teaches us and helps us live as God's children.

Cong: Glory to God in the highest!

Reader: We praise God for his great love by giving us the greatest gift: Jesus!

Cong: Glory to God in the highest!

JESUS CALLS HIS DISCIPLES TO BE FISHERS OF MEN

SONG

"Matthew 4:19"

Jesus said, "Come follow me."

Jesus said, "Come follow me."

"I will make you fishers of men."

"I will make you fishers of men."

"I will make you fishers of men."

Mathew 4:19

Reader: In Matthew 4:19, Jesus said: "Come follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Reader: A "fisher of men" is someone who knows and loves Jesus and wants others to know and love him, too. Jesus helps us share the Good News of his love with others.

Reader: A "fisher of men" cares for others by helping in times of need.

Reader: A "fisher of men" would remind those who are sad or afraid that we are never alone – Jesus is with us always.

Reader: A "fisher of men" could share the Good News that Jesus has promised to take care of us.

Reader: Psalm 119:11 says: "I have hidden your word in my heart, that I may not sin against you." But that doesn't mean we hide God's Word from others. It means we treasure and keep God's Word in our hearts so that we can live our lives according to how God wants us to live. In that way, we can be a "fisher of men" by showing God's love to others by our own words and actions.

SONG

"I Will Follow You"

Ukelele: Aaron Tallo

Solos: Vivian Tallo & Grace Schmidtke

Lead me, Lord, in your righteousness and I will follow you.

I will follow you in everything I do

Oh, lead me, Lord, in your righteousness and I will follow you.

I will follow you, follow you in everything I do.

Lead me, Lord, in your righteousness and I will follow you.

I will follow you in everything I do

Oh, lead me, Lord, in your righteousness and I will follow you.

I will follow you, follow you, in everything I do.

REFRAIN:

I will hide your word deep inside my heart.

I will hide your word deep inside my heart.

I will hide your word deep inside my heart.

I will follow you, follow you in everything I do.

Teach me, Lord, all your holy ways and I will be like you.

I will be like you in everything I do.

Oh, teach me, Lord, all your holy ways and I will be like you.

I will follow you, follow you in everything I do.

Refrain

Lead me, Lord, in your righteousness and I will follow you.

I will follow you in everything I do.

Oh, lead me, Lord, in your righteousness and I will follow you.

I will follow you, follow you in everything I do.

I will follow you, follow you in everything I do.

I will follow you, follow you in everything I do.

PRAYER

Reader: Dear Jesus, you love us so much. Help us to follow you always. Help us say loving and kind words. Help us do loving and kind things for other people. Thank you, Jesus, for calling each one of us to follow you.

Cong: Amen.

JESUS PERFORMS MIRACLES

Reader: In Luke 17:13, a leper called to Jesus and said, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!”

Reader: A blind man named Bartimaeus called to Jesus in Mark 10:47, saying: “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

Reader: A father in Matthew 17:15, whose son was ill from having seizures, called to Jesus: “Lord, have mercy on my son!”

Reader: Mercy. That’s a big word. The word mercy means please be kind – I need help. Many times in church we sing a special song. We sing, “Lord, have mercy.” Over and over again we ask God to help us.

Reader: Just as Jesus healed and helped so many people in the Bible, we know that Jesus heals and helps us, too. We need to be thankful for all he does for us.

Reader: Jesus is powerful. He had the power to heal the lepers, and he has the power to heal us, too.

SONG

“He Is Powerful”

Solo/Duet: Klara Dietrich, Hans Dietrich

REFRAIN:

He is powerful.

He healed the leper and heals our disease.

He is powerful.

He calmed the storm and he moves with power in me.

The leper found Jesus and asked him,

“Heal me, oh Lord, if you will.”

In an instant, he was made clean. In an instant, he was healed!

Refrain

The disciples were out in a great storm.

They said, “Save us, oh Lord, if you care!”

In an instant, the sea was made calm. In an instant, it was clear!

Refrain

Reader: Just like the lepers who were healed and the disciples who were scared in a storm, we need Jesus’ kindness and help each day. We can ask for God’s help in our prayers. Let’s pray to him now.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Reader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Cong: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For everyone working and playing together with joy, let us pray to the Lord.

Cong: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For the joy we have in Jesus, and for one day being able to live with him in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.

Cong: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: For this church, and all who come to sing and praise Jesus,
let us pray to the Lord.

Cong: Lord, have mercy.

Reader: Help, save, care for us, and protect us, dear Jesus.

Cong: Amen.

PARABLES & TEACHINGS OF JESUS

Reader: The lost coin. The pearl of great price. The house built on the rock. The sower and the seed.

Reader: The lost sheep. The good Samaritan. The prodigal son.

Reader: These are all parables that Jesus told. A parable is a simple story that tells a lesson.

Reader: Jesus often taught his disciples things about God by telling stories. His disciples could listen to the story and understand the lesson Jesus wanted them to learn.

Reader: Jesus spent his time on earth healing the sick, bringing hope, speaking peace, and teaching about the Kingdom of Heaven.

Reader: Through his teachings, Jesus showed us that the best way to handle every situation in life is the way of love.

Reader: When asked which of the commandments was the greatest one, Jesus answered, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment.

Reader: And then Jesus added, "A second commandment is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself."

Reader: Jesus' love for us helps us love and do good things for other people.

SONG

"Excellent Way"

Solos: Heidi Dietrich, Bauer Gale, Carolyn Phillips

REFRAIN:

Show me, show me your ways.
Lead me, lead me, I pray.
Lord, teach me to love like you today,
For love is the more excellent way.
Yes, love is the more excellent way.

*Love is patient, love is kind,
Never jealous or seeking its own way.
Never boastful, never proud,
Love won't keep record of the things we do or say.*

Refrain

*Never angry, never rude,
But rejoices in the knowledge of the Truth.
It protects, it perseveres.
Love will never fail; it won't give up on you.*

Refrain

*Love will never delight in evil.
Love gives hope for ev'ry brand new day.
Love is patient, love is kind,
and with Jesus' help, we all can love this way.*

Refrain

Lord, ev'ry day in ev'ry way, help me, I pray.
Love is the more excellent way.
Lord, ev'ry day in ev'ry way, help me, I pray.
Love is the more excellent way.
Yes, love is the more excellent way.

PRAYER

Reader: Jesus, we thank you for teaching us about God. We want to grow in our faith to share your Good News with others. Let your Word be a light to our feet and a light to our path. Help us learn to love others, just as you have taught us to do.

Cong: **Amen.**

HOLY WEEK BEGINS: PALM SUNDAY

Reader: On the first Palm Sunday, the people of Jerusalem heard that Jesus, the King of Glory, was coming to their town. They were excited. They wanted to see Jesus. They went out to meet him and welcome him.

Reader: They wanted to see Jesus. Then knew he could make sick people well again.

Reader: They wanted to see Jesus. They heard that he had healed people who couldn't walk.

Reader: They wanted to see Jesus. They knew that he had power to keep people safe in storms.

Reader: They wanted to see Jesus. They knew Jesus loved them and was kind.

Reader: They wanted to see Jesus. They knew that Jesus spoke God's Word and truth.

Reader: They wanted to make Jesus their King. They didn't know he was already their King of Glory.

Reader: Jesus is OUR King of Glory!

Reader: We can't see Jesus like the people of long ago, but we can praise Jesus for being our King of Glory.

SONG

“Ho-Ho-Hosanna”

Solos/Duet: Caroline Schmidtke, Hannah Meadows

*Small Group: Luna Capote, Caroline Schmidtke,
Hannah Meadows, Bauer Gale, Hannah Doroh*

Drum: Andrew Perry

Ho-sanna! Ho-sanna!

*Ho-sanna! Hal-le-lu-jah!
Who can save us? Jesus! Jesus!*

*Ho-sanna! Hal-le-lu-jah!
Who can save us? Jesus! Jesus!*

REFRAIN:

Ho-sanna! Hal-le-lu-jah!
Who can save us? Jesus! Jesus!

Healing in his hands, hope for ev'ry man. Jesus! Jesus!
Refrain

Hail our Mighty King! How can we not sing? Jesus! Jesus!

*With clapping and dancing and laughing out loud,
With waving and praising and singing,
The crowd is falling and calling: “Lord, save us now!
Blessed is he! Blessed is he!”*

Refrain

Ho-sanna! Ho-sanna! Ho-sanna! Ho-sanna! Ho-sanna!

Reader: Father in heaven, hear us pray.

Cong: We praise you, God!

Reader: You give us what we need each day.

Cong: We praise you, God!

Reader: Thanks for taking our sins away.

Cong: We praise you, God!

Reader: May we never forget to say:

Cong: We praise you, God!

Reader: Amen.

JESUS PRAYS IN THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

SONG

“Anytime, Anywhere”

Solo: Grayson Karayan

Anytime, anywhere, I can talk to God.

Anytime, anywhere, God is there.

Anytime, anywhere He will hear my prayer;

Anytime, anywhere, God is there.

Reader: We can talk to God anytime, anywhere. He hears every word we say. He even hears the words we think! When we talk to God, we call that prayer. And we know that God listens when we talk to him.

Reader: The Bible says: “Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.”

Reader: When Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane, he knew that he was going to die on the cross for the sins of all the people of the world. He knew it was going to be difficult. He knew it was going to be painful.

Reader: But Jesus also knew he could go to his Father, God, in prayer. He prayed for God’s will to be done.

GOOD FRIDAY: JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

- Reader: When Jesus finished praying in the garden, he saw that his enemies were coming. The soldiers came to arrest Jesus, even though he had done nothing wrong.
- Reader: Jesus was treated very badly. People told lies about him. They slapped him. They beat him with a whip.
- Reader: They made fun of him. They put a crown of thorns on him. They nailed him to a cross.
- Reader: This was all part of God's great plan. He created man in His image. But God also knew that He needed to save us. Man was separated from God by sin.
- Reader: The payment for sin is death. But God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to pay that price for us.
- Reader: John 4:9-10 says, "This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

SONG

"God Loves Us So"

Solo/Duet: Brady Taylor, Cooper Taylor

*Even though I don't deserve it; No way that I could earn it
He loves us; God loves us so
With grace and full forgiveness; He washed away my sin 'cause
He loves us. God loves us so*

REFRAIN:

This is how he loves us so with love that's unconditional
Not because of what we do or what we've done
This is why he gave his life
Made the greatest sacrifice
Jesus loves us more than we could ever know
God loves us so

This is how he loves us; This is how he loves us so
This is how he loves us; This is how he loves us so

*Even though I don't deserve it; No way that I could earn it
He loves us; God loves us so*

THE RESURRECTION: JESUS LIVES!

Reader: It was very sad when Jesus died on the cross. His friends took him down and laid his body in a tomb and rolled a stone to close up the opening to the grave. Some would think this was the end of His story.

Reader: But we know the happy ending to the story. Three days later on Easter Sunday, Jesus rose from the dead, just as he had promised! God has power over sin and death!

Reader: When we believe Jesus died for us, we do not have to fear! Because He lives, we can know that we will live with Him forever.

Reader: Jesus is our living Savior who loves us and forgives us. Jesus is alive, living inside each one of us! Alleluia!

SONG

“God’s Not Dead!”

REFRAIN:

God’s not dead – No! He is alive!

God’s not dead – No! He is alive!

God’s not dead – No! He is alive!

I know He’s livin’ in me.

I see him in my hands; I see him in my feet
I see him in the air; I see him ev’rywhere
I see him at the church; I see him on the street
And I know He’s livin’ in me.
No, no, no, no, no, no, no.....
Refrain

RESPONSIVE

Reader: Heavenly Father, thank you for your love for us.

Cong: Thank you for sending Jesus – the only sacrifice that could make us right with you.

Reader: Jesus, thank you! When there was no earthly way for us to come to the Father, You made a way.

Cong: You gave your life on the cross and defeated death through the power of the resurrection.

Reader: Lord, not only did you come back to life, but you also give us a life that is forever!

Cong: Life forever! Halleluiah! Amen!

SONG

“Jesus is Alive”

Solos: Rosemary Tallo & Andrew Perry

*It's a great day to thank our God
It's the right time, right now, to give him praise
'Cause he loves us more we could know
Gonna sing it out, shout it out, ev'rybody let it out
Oh, oh, oh! Oh, oh, oh!
Oh, oh, oh! Oh, oh, oh!*

REFRAIN:

I just wanna jump, jump, jump to the sky
Gonna raise my hands and wave them side to side
Shout so loud so ev'ryone can hear
Jesus is alive! Hey! Hey! And he loves me

*God is perfect in ev'ry way
He is worthy of all our praise
He has given so much to us
We're gonna sing it out, shout it out, ev'rybody let it out*

Oh, oh, oh! Oh, oh, oh!

Oh, oh, oh! Oh, oh, oh!

Refrain

Jesus is alive! Hey! Hey! And he loves me

Jesus is alive! Hey! Hey! And he loves me

OUR JOURNEY WITH JESUS

Reader: Long ago, on the first Christmas, Jesus was born. He didn't stay a baby.
He grew bigger each day.

Reader: When Jesus grew up, he helped people and healed people. He taught
them about God's love and God's promises.

Reader: But one day, Jesus died on the cross. He was placed in a grave, but he
didn't stay there. He rose again! Jesus is alive!

Reader: Everyone who loves Jesus celebrates because he is alive! We cannot see
him, but we know that he watches over us.

Reader: Because Jesus became alive again, each day is a new beginning and we
will have another new life forever in heaven.

Reader: Jesus is the happy beginning and glorious ending to our story.

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

SONG

"Doxology"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise him all creatures here below

Praise him above ye heavenly host

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Praise to the Father, Praise to the Son

Praise to our God who shines down his love

Praise God! Praise God!

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE 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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless 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.

Cong: Amen! Alleluia! Amen!

CLOSING SONG

"Christ the Lord is Ris'n Today"

~sung with the Congregation

**Christ the Lord is ris'n today! Alleluia!
All creation joins to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high! Alleluia!
Sing, O heav'ns and earth reply: Alleluia!**

**Lives again our glorious King! Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, he all doth save! Alleluia!
Where's thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!**

**Christ the Lord is ris'n today! Alleluia!
All creation joins to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high! Alleluia!
Sing, O heav'ns and earth reply: Alleluia!**

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Cong: Thanks be to God

WE THANK OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Ruth Johnson, Director of Children’s Ministry

Melissa Phillips, Children’s Ministry Assistant

Readers: Sunday School Teachers

PARTICIPANTS

Bethany Craig
Hannah Doroh
Jacob Doroh
Vivian Tallo
Luna Capote
Abigal Craig
Klara Dietrich
Bauer Gale
Maddie Alvis
Sydney Coffee
Payton Coffee
Avalyn House

Hoyt Gale
Grayson Karayan
Hannah Meadows
William Perry
Rosemary Tallo
Anne Cahill
Hans Dietrich
Carolyn Phillips
Caroline Schmidtke
Asher Noon
Abigail Mwakabumbila
Sophie House

Brady Taylor
Cooper Taylor
Marbella Capote
Caleb Doroh
Addy Meadows
Heidi Dietrich
Andrew Perry
Grace Schmidtke
Parrish Alvis
Abrielle Mwakabumbila
Payton Norris

+++++



**JOIN US JUNE 5th – 9th FOR A WEEK OF OUT OF THIS WORLD FUN!
(4K THRU RISING 6th GRADERS)
REGISTER NOW:**

