

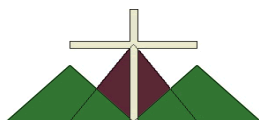


**Fourth Sunday of Easter  
April 25, 2021 ❖ 9:30 am  
Outdoor Lawn Chair Service  
ZOOM 706 565 767, Passcode 767**

# SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

4887 Valleydale Road, Birmingham, AL 35242

(205) 995-9673 [www.sothl.org](http://www.sothl.org)



**Welcome to  
Shepherd of the  
Hills  
Lutheran Church**  
*"A Place to Call Home"*

## ***Our Mission Statement***

*Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church seeks to demonstrate God's grace, to learn and grow in the Christian faith, and to serve with humility.*

## ***Our Welcoming Statement***

*As an inclusive congregation, we welcome all into God's love and grace without regard to:*

*Ability \* Age \* Beliefs \* Culture \* Ethnicity \* Gender Identity \* Income \* Language  
\* Life Circumstances \* Marital Status \* Race \* Sexual Orientation*

***As God's grace welcomes all, we are united in Christ***

**Thank you for worshipping with us today. If you need assistance following the order of worship, feel free to ask your neighbor for help. May this time of worship encourage and strengthen you for the week ahead. We hope you'll worship with us again.**

**Pastor:** Carolyn Hayford (803) 606-6683

**Musician:** Ann Jones (205) 902-2444

**Soloist:** Eric Campbell

**Secretary:** Penny Muetzel (205) 995-9673

**Council President:** Jared Brunswick (205) 531-5428

## **Serving us today in Worship:**

**Worship Assistant:** Christine Wells

**Reader:** John Boettner

**Children's Message:** Kim Boettner

**Ushers:** Tracy Teague, Bob Oster, Bernard Troncale, Carla Crowder

**Zoomster:** Erica Bjornstad

**Audio:** Joel Bjornstad

**Music:** Ann Jones

Please check out our new and improved website: [www.sothl.org](http://www.sothl.org).

Note that pictures taken at various church events and services are posted on both our website and our Facebook page. If you do not want your picture to appear on our page or on the web site for any reason, please alert the church office at [office@sothl.org](mailto:office@sothl.org) or 205-995-9673 so that your request can be honored.

We pray that our time together will be an inspiration to all. Our order of worship is Setting Three from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW red). Our order of worship is printed in its entirety below. **Congregation** responses are indicated in **bold** print, P: Pastor, **C: Congregation**

## Order of Worship Fourth Sunday of Easter April 25, 2021

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Meditation

*Stand*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen**

A: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination*

A: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

The Lord's My Shepherd

*Eric Campbell, Soloist*

## GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Let us pray.

A: O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Sit*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### THE FIRST READING

**Acts 4:5-12**

*Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he is able to proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.*

<sup>5</sup>The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?"

<sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead.

<sup>11</sup>This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

<sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

R: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALM

Please read Psalm 23 responsively printed below.

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

## SECOND READING 1 John 3:16-24

*Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.*

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? <sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

R: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## THE HOLY GOSPEL John 10:11-18

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>11</sup>"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

<sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.

<sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you. O Christ**

*Sit*

## THE SERMON

**THE HYMN OF THE DAY** There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (vrs 1,3,4) *Eric Campbell, Soloist*

**THE NICENE CREED** (*ELW page 104*)

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

## TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Offering Boxes are at entrance / exits. Please place when entering or exiting only.*

## THE OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray together,

**C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts,**

ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

### EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

**Note:** During the Eucharistic Prayer, you will hear the Pastor say

P: Great is the mystery of faith

The people respond by saying

**C: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (Please speak whichever version, in whatever language, you prefer.)

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

*sit*

A: God's love is poured out in Christ for you. Open yourselves to receive it.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**THE HOLY COMMUNION** *Those in cars will receive communion first. Ushers will direct you. We believe that in this sacrament Christ comes to us in, with and under the elements of bread and wine. These are Christ's body and blood given and shed for us and for all people. All who wish to receive are welcome. Grape juice is available instead of wine.*

**Communion Music**

**Dismissal will occur to individual pods after communion.**





### **TODAY: Gardening Small Group**

- Who:** Anyone interested in joining a Gardening Small Group
- What:** Kick off meeting
- Where:** SOTH "backyard" near the labyrinth
- When:** This Sunday, April 25, 2021, at 3pm
- Why:** Here are a few reasons it will be great to join the Gardening Small Group.
- 1) Build public and/or private raised garden beds to grow herbs and veggies to supplement the food station or for personal use (first project),
  - 2) Enjoy a family activity that is outside and educational,
  - 3) Participate in other activities such as visiting gardens like Aldridge's, learning tips from our own experienced and Master gardeners, attending talks from other gardening experts.

**Questions?:** Call or text Susan Pritchett (205 602 1282)

### **TODAY: Congregational Meeting Announcement**

Please make plans to participate in our Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting, scheduled for April 25, 2021, at 1 PM. We will utilize the same Zoom number as Sunday morning service (**706 565 767**, PASSODE **767**). The primary purpose of our Semi-Annual Meeting is to elect new council members and elect/re-elect committee chairpersons for Facility, Fellowship and Stewardship.

**TODAY: YOUNG FRIENDS!** This week's Children's Bible story is "The Good Shepherd" and can be found on page 436 in the *SPARK Story Bible*.

**COVID-19 Notifiers:** The COVID Task Force has established the following process to ensure we do not need to modify our current procedures and to help identify a potential cluster early: Anyone who attends a church even (even parking lot ones) or has been in the church building for any reason, and tests positive for COVID within 2 weeks of being here, is asked to contact one of the volunteers on this list below. Your name will be kept completely confidential. Thank you! Jared Brunswick, 205-531-5428, [jrdbrunswick@yahoo.com](mailto:jrdbrunswick@yahoo.com); Erica Bjornstad, 443-717-0065, [ericaecuador@yahoo.com](mailto:ericaecuador@yahoo.com); Susan Pritchett, 205-602-1282, [sspritch@bellsouth.net](mailto:sspritch@bellsouth.net).



**WORSHIP MUSIC** - Wondering about the beautiful music you hear in our worship service? It's Eric Campbell's voice. The piano is played by Ann Jones. We appreciate them sharing their gifts to the glory of God.

### **SUNDAY – E - WORSHIP:**

Sundays at 9:30 am. Consider signing on early to catch up with friends and family. The room is open at 9:00 am. Click on the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/706565767?pwd=MjJMbElyM2pNMkkvaHJWNW1YSHU0UT09>

Or Call this number: 1-312-626-6799 Enter Meeting ID 706 565 767, Passcode 767

### **SUNDAY – SPANISH PRAYER MINISTRY:**

Led by Pastor Ed Cortes – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in the Month at 1:00pm

Click this link: <https://zoom.us/j/88295986939>

Or Call this number: 1-646-558-8656 Enter Meeting ID: 882-9598-6939

### **MONDAY – SOTH COVID TASK FORCE:**

Mondays at 7:00PM

Click this link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/997505114>

Or Call this number: 1-312-626-6799 Enter Meeting ID 706 565 767, Passcode 767

### **TUESDAY – COVID-19 Q&A:**

A question and answer session with Erica Bjornstad, pediatrician epidemiologist, regarding current status of COVID-19 which has morphed into a Friendly support group. If you do have any questions about COVID-19 or just want to check in with some friendly folks. Tuesdays at 7:00 pm

Click this link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/997505114>

Or Call this number: 1-312-626-6799 Enter meeting ID: 997 505 114

### **WEDNESDAY – BIBLE STUDY:**

Wednesday at 9:30am

Click this link: <https://zoom.us/j/175995438>

Or Call this number: 1-312-626-6799 Enter Meeting ID: 175 995 438

### **WEDNESDAY – LYDIA CIRCLE:**

All women are welcome to join. First Wednesday of the month at 9:30 am

Click this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/524874986>

Or Call this number: 1-312-626-6799 Enter meeting ID: 524 874 986

### **WEDNESDAY PRAYER, MEDITATION & CONVERSATION**

Currently we are talking about race and related topics. Join Pastor Carolyn and your church friends to talk openly in a safe space. Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 pm

Click this link: <https://zoom.us/j/706565767>





Or Call this number: 1-312-626-6799 Enter Meeting ID 706 565 767, Passcode 767

### **THURSDAY – TM2.0**

Every Thursday at 7:00pm

Click this link: <https://zoom.us/j/98230581708>

Or Call this number: 1-312-626-6799 Enter meeting ID: 982 3058 1708

COVID-19 Indicators to Guide Phased Re-opening				
4/19/2021				
Goal	Source	Current	Trend	Last Week
Decrease in new daily cases (14 day ave.)	A	Flat		Yes
Disease burden < 3-5 per 100,000	B	7.0		6.1
Sufficient Testing > 7400 tests / day	A	8,648		8,402
Test positivity < 3-5%	B	6.2%		5.5%
<sup>A</sup> Source:	Alabama Department of Public Health Covid 19 Dashboard			
<sup>B</sup> Source:	Covidactnow.org			

SOTH is currently in Phase 2B per Church Council. Phase 2B includes limited (10 or less) small groups upstairs, limited small group of up to 20 people downstairs and outdoor activities.

### WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for worship volunteers for all roles: ushers, Zoomster, audio, reader, worship assistant, and children’s message. The more volunteers, the less load on any person. Can you please help? Please reach out to pastor or the office if you can help. Grace abounds so be not afraid.

### SURVEY

Church council would like to hear your feedback. Please respond to the survey by Monday, April 26. We would like each adult to respond to the survey. Answer the survey through this link: <https://us7.list-manage.com/survey?u=d796aae3ce21f45304816c4c5&id=a3d6b4a231&attribution=false>

If you need a paper copy, please let the office know.



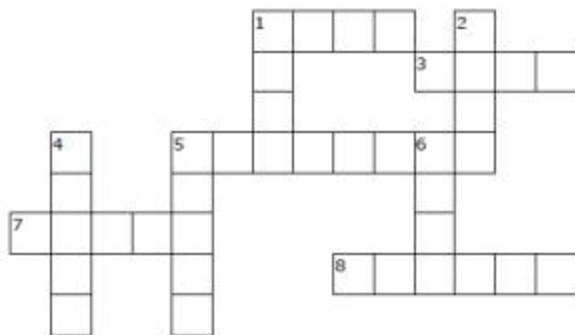
Drawing, Word Search and Maze

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P E P F E L D W S R L G F T T  
 T B F L O C K P K M I U W E J  
 Q V C Q K N O W F L F R I A Y  
 L N B F O O H P J O E Q U T I  
 Z G N L Q R I D Q V U C W N S  
 A A I G O O D S T E T S A L S  
 O S T M S J C N H S S D M L T  
 B F G S R C Y Y Z E V R S I K  
 D W E O H C A R E S E K H S A  
 A O Q J B E O T M V C P C T K  
 P L D V E F P Q T A R E T E T  
 E F O O D H E H T E P K H N V  
 N B G I S C U T E Q R A Y B S  
 K G E C G B A O T R L S C V V  
 U M R E Q O A T H D D D K X W

LISTEN	SHEEP	LOVES	WOLF	FLOCK
ATTACKS	CARES	PEN	GOOD	RUNS
SCATTERS	VOICE	SHEPHERD	LIFE	KNOW

# Crossword Puzzle



## ACROSS

1. The period from birth to death
3. A wild animal that look like a dog and hunts in a pack
5. One who takes care of the sheep
7. What we use to speak
8. To hear or pay attention to something

## DOWN

1. A strong feeling of affection
2. The opposite of bad
4. A group of sheep herded together
5. Wooly animals which are similar to goats
6. Goes faster than walking

SHEPHERD	GOOD	LIFE	SHEEP	WOLF
FLOCK	RUNS	VOICE	LISTEN	LOVE

# Maze Puzzle

## The Good Shepherd

Help the sheep find his way to the shepherd.



"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep  
and my sheep know me."

John 10:14 (NIV)

## Council Members

Ray Allen, Facilities Committee Liaison

Karen Bishop, Learning Committee Liaison

Joel Bjornstad, Fellowship Committee Liaison

Brooke Brown, Secretary

Jared Brunswick, President

Carol Dotson, Worship Committee Liaison

Mike Huckabaa, Stewardship Committee Liaison

Roger Sinkey, Vice President

Tracy Teague, Outreach Committee Liaison

**\*\*\*Outdoor Lawn Chair Service 4/18 at 9:30 am.\*\*\***

We are excited about trying our new experiment: Outdoor lawn chair service.

The service will also be on Zoom using **Meeting ID 706 565 767** and **PASSCODE 767**. There will not be a waiting room, so you need the passcode to join.

We will be using paper bulletins for the service.

We will be parking in the lower lot and gathering in the upper lot to worship together.

Masks and physical distancing apply. We love each other and our neighbors by following CDC guidelines.

**Please use the bathroom facilities prior to coming to service.**

- Ushers will be directing you. Please park in lower lot. If you need to park in the upper lot due to mobility issues, please just let the usher know.
  - Masks are required and we ask you to maintain physical distance.
- Carry your lawn chair to the upper lot using either driveway (entrance or exit) thus both sides are open.
  - Bulletins and offering boxes will be at the entrance/exit to the upper lot.
- Ushers will seat you according to “pod” size. We will be sitting in the parking spaces as well as on the hillside in front of the church. If you have a preference, please let the usher know.
- Service will end with communion. Those with cars will be served first so that vehicles exit the lot before bringing “pods” to communion and dismissal.
- After receiving communion, a “pod” will be dismissed from the service and will need to return to their car in the lower lot.
- Remember that this is something new for all of us. Please be kind to one another and to all those who are volunteering to make this happen. This is an exciting next step and it will be great to hear some live music again with worship! We will learn as we go and potentially change things as well.

It will be great to see people again in person!

We need 9 volunteers for each service to make this happen. Please consider volunteering to help.

Remember, Grace Abounds!