

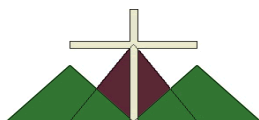


**Ascension of Our Lord Day of Pentecost
May 23, 2021 ❖ 9:30 am
Outdoor Lawn Chair Service
ZOOM 706 565 767, Passcode 767**

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

4887 Valleydale Road, Birmingham, AL 35242

(205) 995-9673 www.sothl.org



**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: Kenya Harris (205) 995-9673

Council President: Jared Brunswick (205) 531-5428

Serving us today in Worship:

Worship Assistant: Jeanne Trammell

Zoomster: Erica Bjornstad

Reader: John Boettner

Audio: Joel Bjornstad

Children's Message: Kim Boettner

Music: Ann Jones

Ushers: Bernard Troncale, Carla Crowder, Bob Oster, Mike Huckabaa

Please check out our new and improved website: 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 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

Day of Pentecost

May 23, 2021

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Sunday, (5/16) council voted to make a change to our outdoor service to meet the needs of those attending that are fully vaccinated. Effective immediately, the wearing of masks will be optional and we will continue to maintain physical distancing. In addition, the worship committee is working on the logistics associated with indoor worship and we anticipate having inside in-person worship in June.

Blessing of Graduates

P: We are delighted to recognize graduates today. It is our privilege to affirm these young people who have completed one phase of their lives and move with great expectations to another.

A: Today we are recognizing three young people. **Eric Campbell** graduated from college. **Claire Blankenship** and **Michael Peters** are graduating from high school. If they are here with us today, could they please step up to the center.

Graduates, as you celebrate your achievements and prepare to begin new endeavors, be mindful of your grounding in faith, and of your vocation to serve God in all your life's work and accomplishments.

P: Let us pray.

Gracious God, you bless your servants with many achievements. We give thanks especially for the milestones that Eric, Claire and Michael have attained. As they begin new phases of their lives, may they also know your love and experience your peace in all the experiences they encounter. Bless also the parents of these students, who have raised their children and nourished them in the Christian faith. Give them strength in your continuing presence and give them many joyful reunions with their sons and daughters, who may be leaving home soon to begin new and varied ventures, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Dear SOTH members,

We are excited to learn that a Little Free Library will soon be on our campus. Like the food pantry, it will be available to anyone 24/7 to take a book and hopefully share a book. But we need your help. If you have any inspirational books or games that you would be willing to

donate to the church it would be very much appreciated. We would also like to put a wooden picnic table near the LFL so that folks could play games or read if they wish. Your donations will go toward educating people about the good things God has to offer. We appreciate All the folks who use the food pantry. May it feed their bodies and nourish their souls.

Meditation

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

Sit/Kneel

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 Hail Thee, Festival Day! ELW 394

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: Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE FIRST READING Acts 2:1-21

Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Please sing responsively Psalm 104:24-34, 35b printed below.

²⁴ How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁵ **Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.**

²⁶ There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

²⁷ **All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.**

²⁸ You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

²⁹ **When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.**

³⁰ You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

³¹ **May the glory of the LORD endure forever; O LORD, rejoice in all your works.**

³² You look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke.

³³ **I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.**

³⁴ May these words of mine please God. I will rejoice in the LORD.

^{35b} **Bless the LORD, O my soul. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING Romans 8:22-27

By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.

²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

When speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus referred to the Holy Spirit as "the Helper" and described the difference the Spirit would make in their lives and in the world.

[Jesus said,] ²⁶ "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷ You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

16:4b⁴“I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. ¹²“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason, I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you. O Christ

THE SERMON

THE HYMN OF THE DAY O Living Breath of God ELW 407 *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.

Installation of Leaders in the Congregation

A: The following people have been elected and I ask them to come to the front to be installed for their term beginning in June 2021.

The assembly stands. Those being installed face the assembly. The worship assistant addresses the assembly.

A: People of God, I ask you:

Will you support these, your *elected* leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized? If so, respond with **We will**, and we ask God to help us.

We will, and we ask God to help us.

I now declare you installed as *council members and committee chairs* of this congregation.

Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

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: Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. 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.

EUCCHARISTIC 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.)

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

A: Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

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.

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Next Week's Lessons

THE FIRST READING: Isa 6:1-8

PSALM: 29

THE SECOND READING: Rom 8:12-17

THE GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Intercessory Prayer

We are a praying community; believing in the value of prayer. We ask that you keep the congregation, our community, and all those on the prayer list insert in your prayers during the week. Prayer request cards can be found in the Narthex or in the back of the hymnal. Please utilize the Intercessory Prayer insert during your prayers this week.

Worship Servants for May 30

Worship Assistant:	Bob Oster	Zoomster:	Susan Pritchett
Reader:	Bob Peters	Audio:	Joel Bjornstad
Children's Message:	Carla Crowder	Music:	Ann Jones
Ushers:	Bart Jones, Bob Oster. Will Breland, Gene Myers		

THIS WEEK AT SOTH

Sunday	9:30 am	Lawn Chair & E-Worship	Meeting ID 706 565 767 ,
5/23		With installation of new church leaders	Pass code 767
	2:00pm	Small group dog meetup	Pelham Dog Park
			Pelham Trail Parkway
			Pelham, AL 35124
Monday	7:00pm	AA – New Hope	
	7:00 pm	SOTH Covid Task Force	Meeting ID 706 565 767 ,
			Pass code 767

Tuesday	6:00pm 7:00pm	Shepherd's Bells Rehearsal Covid-19 Q&A	Meeting ID 997 505 114
Wednesday	9:30am 6:30pm	Wednesday Bible Study Prayer, Meditation and Conversation	Meeting ID 175 995 438 Meeting ID 706 565 767 , Pass code 767
Thursday	7:00pm	T.M 2.0	Meeting ID 982 3058 1708
Friday			
Saturday			

MY YOUNG FRIENDS! This week's Bible story is about The Holy Spirit. You can read this story in your *Sparks Story Bible* on page 502. If you don't have a *Sparks Story Bible* you can read the story in any Bible in Acts 2:1-21.

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; Erica Bjornstad, 443-717-0065, ericaecuador@yahoo.com; Susan Pritchett, 205-602-1282, sspritch@bellsouth.net.

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=MjJMbElzM2pNMkkvaHJWNW1YSHU0UT09>

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 – 1st 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

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.

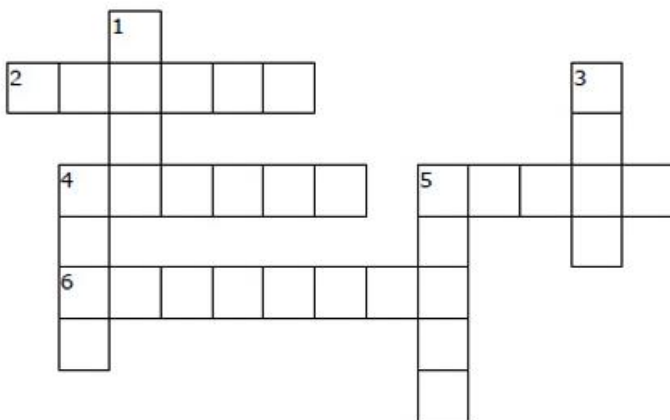
WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

HELP: We need people willing to assist with worship. Please consider stepping into a new role such as audio. We also need folks to assist as zoomsters, readers, children's messages & ushers. How is the Holy Spirit nudging you? Not sure you are up to it? Give it a try- Grace Abounds!

The Day of Pentecost

All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Acts 2:4 (NIV)

Based on Acts 2:1-21



ACROSS

2. A being that cannot be seen, like a ghost
4. The place where God lives
5. Something that can be heard
6. Means of communication used by the people of a particular country

DOWN

1. A destructive burning
3. Blowing air, especially that which would move the leaves on a tree
4. Something that is pure and good, such as God's Word
5. To say words, to use the voice

LANGUAGE	FIRE	HOLY	WIND
SPIRIT	HEAVEN	SOUND	SPEAK



The Day of Pentecost
Acts 2

2021 Council Members

Dede Conover-Blankenship, Council Member

Bob Oster, Council Member

Marie Prine, Council Member

Larry Smith, Council Member

Rachel Brunswick, Learning committee Chair

Jeanne Trammell, Outreach committee Chair

Carol Dotson, Stewardship Committee Chair

Mike Huckabaa, Facilities Committee Chair

Susan Pritchett, Fellowship Committee Chair

*****Outdoor Lawn Chair Service 5/23 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!