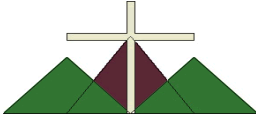




**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 19th, 2021 ♦ 9:30 am
Worship Service
ZOOM 706 565 767, Passcode 767**

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*

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 **Secretary:** Liz Satterfield (205) 995-9673
Musician: Ann Jones (205) 902-2444 **Council President:** Larry Smith (205) 988-6449
Soloist: Eric Campbell

Serving us today in Worship:

Worship Assistant:	Marie Prine	Zoomster:	Phil Pomeroy
Reader:	Bob Peters	Head Zoom Usher:	Susan Pritchett
Children's Message:	Carla Crowder	Music:	Ann Jones
		Soloist:	Eric Campbell

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

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 19th, 2021

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MY YOUNG FRIENDS!! Today's Bible story is "Who Is the Greatest?" on page 324 in your *Spark Story Bible*. If you don't have a *Spark Story Bible* you can read the story in any Bible in Mark 9:30-37. The disciples were worried about which of them was the most important. Jesus answered that those who do good are the most important

FOOD PANTRY Please consider creating bags using the recipes on the website or create your own recipes and share them with us so we can put it in the rotation for the food pantry

13th: MOVIE WATCH & DISCUSSION Sunday September 19 3 pm ET/2pm CT Gather as a synod to watch and discuss the movie 13th

GARDEN GROUP FALL CLEAN UP & PLANTING DAY Today at 2 p.m. at SOTHL

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

C: Amen

A: Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

A: Eternal God our creator,

**C: In you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

P: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God ☩ forgives you all your sins.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN ELW 587 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy verses 1, 3, & 4



- 1 There's a wide-ness
- 2 There is wel-come
- 3 For the love of
- 4 'Tis not all we



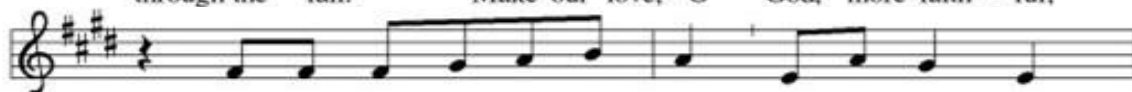
in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;
 for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
 God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
 owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than
 there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der -
 great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy



lib - er - ty. There is no place where earth's sor - rows
 in his blood. There is grace e - nough for thou - sands
 ful - ly kind. But we make this love too nar - row
 through the fall. Make our love, O God, more faith - ful;



are more felt than up in heav'n. There is no place
 of new worlds as great as this; there is room for
 by false lim - its of our own; and we mag - ni -
 let us take you at your word, and our lives will



where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
 fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
 fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
 be thanks-giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

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.

KYRIE

L **C**
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer-cy, Lord have mer - cy.

L **C**
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer-cy, Lord have mer - cy.

L **C**
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer-cy, Lord have mer - cy.

L **C**
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer-cy, Lord have mer - cy.

C
Help, Save, Com-fort, and De-fend us, Gra-cious Lord.

C
Al-le-lu - ia, Al-le-lu - ia Al-le-lu - ia, A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Let us pray.

A: O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE FIRST READING Jeremiah 11:18-20

Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.

¹⁸It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. ¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" ²⁰But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

R: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Read Psalm 54 responsively.

¹Save me, O God, by your name; in your might, defend my cause.

²**Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.**

³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life, those who have no regard for God.

⁴**Behold, God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.**

⁵Render evil to those who spy on me; in your faithfulness, destroy them.

⁶**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

⁷For you have rescued me from every trouble, and my eye looks down on my enemies.

THE SECOND READING James 3:13, 4:3,7-8a

The wisdom God gives unites our hearts and minds. Instead of living to satisfy our own wants and desires, we manifest this wisdom in peace, gentleness, mercy, and impartiality toward others.

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.^{4:}

¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE HOLY GOSPEL Mark 9:30-37

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."

³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

THE SERMON

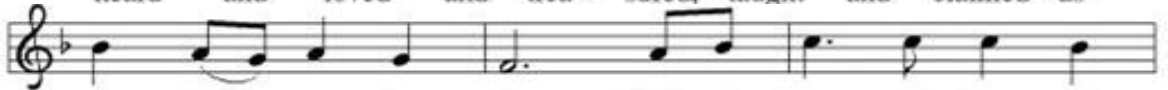
THE HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 641 All Are Welcome verses 1, 3, & 5



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus:
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

THE APOSTLES CREED ELW 105

A: Let us confess together our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: Lord, in your mercy

C: hear our prayer.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

A: The work and mission of the church continues no matter how we gather, in person, electronically, wherever two or more are gathered together in His name. Lord on this day, we bring our tithes and offerings, giving from the abundance that you have given us.

THE OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray together,

C: Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

P: Send your Spirit of truth, O God; Rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: Amen

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

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

SENDING HYMN ELW 538 The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

En - via - do soy de Dios, mi ma - no lis - ta es - tá
The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,
pa - ra cons - truir con él un mun - do fra - ter - nal.
to make of all the earth a bet - ter place to live.
Los án - ge - les no son en - via - dos a cam - biar
The an - gels are not sent in - to our world of pain
un mun - do de do - lor por un mun - do me - jor;
to do what we were meant to do in Je - sus' name;
me ha to - ca - do a mí ha - cer - lo rea - li - dad.
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.
A - yú - da - me, Se - ñor, a ha - cer tu vo - lun - tad.
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will to - day.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Share the good news.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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Next Week's Lesson

THE FIRST READING: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

PSALM: Psalm 19:7-14

THE SECOND READING: James 5:13-20

THE GOSPEL: Mark 9:28-50

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 **September 26th**:

Worship Assistant:	Bob Oster	Zoomster:	Peggy Huckabaa
Reader:	Dorothy McMullin	Head Zoom Usher:	Marie Prine
Children's Message:	Kim Boettner	Music:	Ann Jones
		Soloist:	Eric Campbell

THIS WEEK AT SOTH

Sunday 9/5	9:30 am	E-Worship	Meeting ID 706 565 767, Pass code 767
	2:00 pm	Garden Group Planting Day	
	10 minutes following service	Adult Forum	
Monday	7:00 pm	AA – New Hope	
Tuesday	7:00 pm	Night Zoom Social/ Covid19 Q&A	Meeting ID 706 565 767, Pass code 767

Wednesday 9:30 am Wednesday Bible Study **Meeting ID** 175 995 438
6:30 pm Prayer, Meditation and **Meeting ID** 706 565 767
Conversation **Pass code** 767

Thursday

Friday

Saturday 6:30 pm AA – New Hope

MY YOUNG FRIENDS!! Today's Bible story is "Who Is the Greatest?" on page 324 in your *Spark Story Bible*. If you don't have a *Spark Story Bible* you can read the story in any Bible in Mark 9:30-37. The disciples were worried about which of them was the most important. Jesus answered that those who do good are the most important

Southeastern Synod Advocacy Survey The Advocacy Policy Committee is working on a major effort to update our awareness of ministries in our congregations and connecting with lay and rostered ministers involved in those ministries, to maximize the effort and resources across the four states of our Synod. Please fill out the survey at <https://se-reg.brtapp.com/AdvocacySurvey54>

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS 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

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 2:30pm

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 – Based on circumstance

Click this

link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/706565767?pwd=MjJMbElzM2pNMkkvaHJWNW1YSHU0UT09>

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

TUESDAY – NIGHT ZOOM SOCIAL:

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://us02web.zoom.us/j/706565767?pwd=MjJMbElzM2pNMkkvaHJWNW1YSHU0UT09>

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

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 and third 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://us02web.zoom.us/j/706565767?pwd=MjJMbElzM2pNMkkvaHJWNW1YSHU0UT09>

U0UT09

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

COVID-19 Indicators to Guide Phased Re-opening

9/14/2021

Goal	Source	Phase1	Last week	Current	Data Date	Trend	Status
Decrease/no change in new daily cases (14 day ave.)	A		No	No	3-Sep		No
Test positivity < 5% (7 day mov. Ave)	B	>10%	19.9%	18.8%	10-Sep		No
Disease Burden < 10 per 100,000	B	>20	82.7	78.3	13-Sep		No
Hospitalizations of confirmed covid	A	>800	2815	2474	13-Sep		No

^ASource: Alabama Department of Public Health Covid 19 Dashboard

^BSource: Covidactnow.org

SOTH is currently in Phase 1. Phase 1 is the most restrictive phase.

Phase 2 includes limited small group gatherings and outdoor activities

NOTE: When moving to a less restrictive phase, it is recommended to remain in that phase for a period of time before moving to the next less restrictive phase to ensure that the movement is appropriate based on indicators. Also, moving back to a more restrictive phase can occur based on changing indicators. Thus, phased re-opening is a dynamic process with the possibility of returning to more restrictive phase for public health reasons.

2021 Council Members & Chairs

Larry Smith, President

Bob Oster, Vice President

Brooke Breland, Secretary

Dede Conover-Blankenship, Fellowship Committee Liaison

Will Breland, Outreach Committee Liaison

Bob Peters

Marie Prine, Worship Committee Liaison

Tracy Teague, Learning Committee Liaison

John Boettner, Worship Committee Chair

Rachel Brunswick, Learning Committee Chair

Mike Huckabaa, Facilities Committee Chair

Susan Pritchett, Fellowship Committee Chair

Dennis Steul, Stewardship Committee Chair

Open, Property Committee Liaison

Open, Stewardship Committee Liaison