



EASTER

**VESTAVIA HILLS
BAPTIST CHURCH**

APRIL 28, 2024

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Nancy Akins, Minister to Preschool and Children
Sara Binet, Interim Student Ministry Coordinator
Mike McBrayer, Administrative Pastor
Beth McGinnis, Organist
Eric Spivey, Senior Pastor
Laura Tadlock, Senior Adult and Adult Ministries Coordinator
Marty Watts, Minister of Music and Worship

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BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA 35216

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WWW.VHBC.COM

WELCOME!

Thank you for worshiping with us today! We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate fully in worship, ministry, discipleship, and fellowship at Vestavia Hills Baptist Church. Our hope is to make a warm, caring community that you can call home. To keep up with VHBC events, services, and more, please visit us at www.vhbc.com.

Special Welcome to Our Guests

Individuals and families new to Vestavia Hills Baptist Church are invited to connect to our church by completing a visitor card found in the pew rack. Cards may be placed in the offering plate as it is passed during the service or given it to a minister. You may also visit www.vhbc.com/connect and submit the digital connect form there.

Children and Worship

Worship Care for children, birth through kindergarten, is available during the worship hour in the Children's Building, rooms 216, 217, and 218. Children, first grade and older, worship with their families in the Sanctuary. Children's worship bulletins, crayons, and books are available on the cart in the foyer outside the Sanctuary.

Sunday Morning Bible Study Classes

Every Sunday morning at 8:45 am, there are small group gatherings for all ages. These groups meet for fellowship and Bible study. Classes for children and youth are offered by age; classes for adults are offered by ages and life-stages or by topical interests.

Accessibility Resources

Large-print hymn sheets may be found in the foyer. Personal assistive listening devices are available from the Worship Technology Team in the back of the Sanctuary.

How to Join VHBC

Any person may join this congregation on the basis of their affirmation of Jesus Christ as Lord. You may communicate your desire for church membership by coming to the front of the Sanctuary during the closing hymn, by meeting privately with a member of our pastoral staff, or by placing a guest card from the pew rack in the offering plate. After meeting with the pastor, new members will be introduced on Sunday morning or Wednesday evening.

An individual may come on *profession of faith*, which means you believe in Christ as Lord and Savior and wish to be baptized and become part of this church. One may also come on *transfer of letter* from another church having received Christian baptism, or by *statement of your faith* in Christ and Christian baptism in another church.

Remote Worship Opportunities

Sunday morning worship at Vestavia Hills Baptist Church is streamed online at www.vhbc.com and on the church's Facebook and YouTube pages and is also broadcast live at 10:00 am on the radio at WAJH 91.1 FM.

Time of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Nancy Akins

One: God, we confess that far too often, we place limits on what You can do. We restrict Your work to particular people and places, forgetting that your Love knows no bounds. Forgive us when our vision of you is far too small.

Limitless God, boundary-breaking God, open wide our hearts and minds. Expand our imaginations, that there may be no limit to our prayers and our God-sized dreams.

In the name of the God who broke the very boundary of death itself and whose resurrection continues to bring about new life today, we pray.

Silent prayers of confession

God is love,
and those who abide in love abide in God,
and God abides in them.

We love because God first loved us.

**All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.**

One: In the light of your resurrection, we claim your forgiveness and pray as the first disciples were taught.

**All: 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. Amen.**

***Hymn No. 163**

“Wonderful Words of Life”
WORDS OF LIFE

***Offertory Prayer**

Betsy Stockdale
Deacon of the Week

Your financial gifts assist Vestavia Hills Baptist Church in sharing God's love in our own community and around the world. Contributions given in person may be placed in the offering plates as they are passed. You may also give online by scanning the QR code or going to www.vhbc.com/giving. Either log in as a registered user of the church's Shelby database or click "give now" to contribute as a guest user.



Musical Offering

“Fairest Lord Jesus”
Arr. Mark Hayes

Beth McGinnis

*Presentation of the Offering

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/8 time signature. The lyrics are: "Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Christ, all people here be-low. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Praise Ho-ly Spir-it ev-er-more. Praise Three-in-One whom we a-dore. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!"

Scripture Meditation

pages 8-9

Eric Spivey

Worship in Song

"Prayer of Being"
Mark Hayes

Sanctuary Choir

Be in my life, be in my breath;
Be in my walk, be in my rest.
Be in this humble heart of mine;
Be ever present in my mind.

Be in my hands, be in my feet;
Be in my eyes and in my speech.
Be in the smile I give away;
Be in each healing word I say.

Be in my work, be in my play;
Be in the struggles of each day.
Be in my joy, be in my pain;
Be in my loss, be in my gain.

Be in my thoughts, be in my song;
Be in my spirit all day long.
Be in my prayers at dawn's first light;
Be in my dreams all through the night.

Amen.

The prayer of my heart forever shall be:
I in You and You in me.

Sermon	“Right Time”	Eric Spivey
*Hymn No. 264	“Where Charity and Love Prevail” RESIGNATION	
*Benediction		Eric Spivey
*Postlude	“Postlude on HYFRYDOL” Jason D. Payne	Beth McGinnis

*The artwork on the bulletin cover is a digital rendering
by church member Jim Basinger of our Lenten banner.*

ACTS 8:26-40

NRSVUE

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, the queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

"Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.
In his humiliation justice was denied him.
Who can describe his generation?
For his life is taken away from the earth."

The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Scripture Meditation

Sunday, April 28, 2024
5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40

The Story of Phillip and the Ethiopian Eunuch

Lectio Divina is a prayer practice that involves reading scripture, meditating, and praying to increase knowledge of God's word and promote communion with God. The phrase "lectio divina" translates to "divine reading" in Latin.

Reading 1: After hearing the passage read earlier in worship, what one word or phrase has the Holy Spirit impressed on you?

Reading 2: Listen with your life. How does this passage make you feel? Where does this passage connect with your life?

Reading 3: Respond. What is God's personal invitation to you from the passage?

SERVING TODAY

WORSHIP CARE

Lisa Speegle, Meryll Cooper, Laura Casey,
Adam Casey, Adam Pouncey, Melissa
Pouncey, Virginia Wood

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Betsy Stockdale, George Van Kirk

WELCOME TEAM

Joe Perez, George Elliott, Cappy
Blackwelder, Dan Caldwell, Lisa Speegle,
Jason Cooper, Sharon Repp

WORSHIP TECHNOLOGY TEAM

Dan McMurray, Dan VanGiessen

FLOWERS

Becky Griffith, Millie Ehrett

TRANSPORTATION TEAM

Scott Phillips, Brent Warren

COUNTING TEAM

Rachel Jordan, Lisa Speegle

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY

WORSHIP CARE

Amy Hamilton, Libby Pittman, AG Stewart,
Vickie Furr, Gary Furr, Judy Schlegel

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

Brent Warren, Steve White

WELCOME TEAM

Joe Perez, Carolyn Slappey, George Elliott,
Dan Caldwell, Howard Finch, Sharon Repp

WORSHIP TECHNOLOGY TEAM

Brent Warren, Dan McMurray

FLOWERS

Marsha Baker

TRANSPORTATION TEAM

Abby Donze, Ken Farley

COUNTING TEAM

Dick Bodenhamer, Bob Booth

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

8:45 am Bible Studies for All Ages
*Use this QR code to find a listing of Bible Studies
for preschool, children, youth, and adults.*



10:00 am Worship

5:00 pm YOSE (Youth on Sunday Evening)

MONDAY

4:00 pm 428 Youth Gathering (First & Third Mondays)

WEDNESDAY

7:00 am Prayer Breakfast on ZOOM

4:45 pm Fellowship Dinner
*Asian Roasted Chicken Thighs and Fried Rice,
Vegetable Egg Roll and dessert*

*Make your dinner reservation by Tuesday
morning using this QR code or calling the
Church Office.*



4:45 pm Handbell Rehearsal

5:30 pm Preschool and Children's Music and Missions

6:00 pm Wednesday Sessions

7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

WHAT'S NEXT AT VHBC?

Visit www.vhbc.com/newsletter or use this QR code to access the church's bi-weekly newsletter, which includes an article from one of the ministerial staff, reflections on recent events, and details of upcoming opportunities.



Wednesday, May 1

Midweek Bible Study with Eric – *Bible as Scripture* - at 10:00 am in the Seminar Room

Contemplative Prayer at 6:00 pm in the Chapel

Sunset Vespers at 6:15 pm on the front lawn

Connections Luncheon TODAY

New Members and Guests Welcome!

In the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship.

SAM Spring Luncheon Friday, May 10 at 11:30am Fellowship Hall

Footprints in the Sky: Voices from Chandler Mountain with Storyteller Dolores Hydock.

Lunch is \$10 at the door. Sign up at VHBC.com or call the Church office to register.

****Save the Date****

Anniversary Sunday – May 5

Music and Missions End of the Year program May 8 in the Fellowship Hall

Shrimp Boil – May 15 – Tickets go on sale soon!

Looking Ahead:

VBS - *Scuba diving into friendship with God*

June 10-13 9am – noon

Register online now

Graduate Recognition Sunday, May 12th

Graduates will be recognized and celebrated during our service on May 12th. If you know someone who is graduating from college or a graduate program that you want to highlight in this service, please e-mail Sara Binet (sara@vhbc.com) with the graduate's name and phone number.

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship 296



1. Breth-ren, we have met to wor - ship and a - dore the Lord our God;
2. Sis - ters, will you join and help us? Mo-ses' sis - ter aid - ed him;
3. Let us love our God su - preme-ly, let us love each oth - er, too;



will you pray with all your pow - er, while we try to preach the Word?
 will you help the trem-bling mourn-ers who are strug-gling hard with sin?
 let us love and pray for sin - ners, till our God makes all things new.



All is vain un - less the Spir - it of the Ho - ly One comes down;
 Tell them all a - bout the Sav - ior, tell them that He will be found;
 Then He'll call us home to heav-en, at His ta - ble we'll sit down;



breth - ren, pray, and ho - ly man - na will be show-ered all a-round.
 sis - ters, pray, and ho - ly man - na will be show-ered all a-round.
 Christ will gird Him - self, and serve us with sweet man - na all a-round.



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Glory Be to the Father

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a quarter rest followed by a half note G4, then quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment.

shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

The third system concludes the piece. The treble staff has a quarter rest followed by a half note G4, then quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5. The bass staff concludes with a final chord and a double bar line. A fermata is placed over the final notes of both staves.

WORDS: Anonymous, 4th cent.
MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)
Irregular

Wonderful Words of Life

1. Sing them o - ver a - gain to me, won - der - ful words of life;
 2. Christ, the bless - ed One, gives to all won - der - ful words of life;
 3. Sweet - ly ech - o the gos - pel call, won - der - ful words of life;

let me more of their beau - ty see, won - der - ful words of life;
 sin - ner, list to the lov - ing call, won - der - ful words of life;
 of - fer par - don and peace to all, won - der - ful words of life;

words of life and beau - ty, teach me faith and du - ty:
 all so free - ly giv - en, woo - ing us to heav - en:
 Je - sus, on - ly Sav - ior, sanc - ti - fy for - ev - er,

Beau - ti - ful words, won - der - ful words, won - der - ful words of life;

beau - ti - ful words, won - der - ful words, won - der - ful words of life.

Where Charity and Love Prevail

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1. Where char-i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
2. For - give we now each oth - er's faults as we our faults con - fess;

brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.
and let us love each oth - er well in Chris-tian ho - li - ness.

With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear true char - i - ty we learn;
Let strife a - mong us be un - known, let all con - ten - tion cease;

let us with heart and mind and strength now love Christ in re - turn.
be Christ the glo - ry that we seek, be ours His ho - ly peace.

WORDS: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; para. Omer Westendorf, 1960

MUSIC: Freeman Lewis's *Beauties of Harmony*, 1828; harm. Shelby Trapp, 2007

RESIGNATION

CMD