

BRIGHTER DAYS!

in the presence of Jesus, our Lord and Savior

Courtyard Worship

Saturday, April 17 at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 18 at 8:15 a.m.

Livestream Worship

Sunday, April 18 at 10:45 a.m.

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

3525 Bee Caves Road Austin, TX 78746

www.shephills.org

3RD WEEK OF EASTER BRIGHTER DAYS

GATHERING MUSIC 5:30 + 8:15 Josh Norem

10:45 *I Know That My Redeemer Lives* Arr. Lynette Maynard

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor: Come and see the love God has given to us.

All: Come and see what it means to be children of God.

Pastor: Come with this hope, that Christ's presence is real.

All: With joy, we come to see the Lord.

WELCOME/LIFE IN COMMUNITY

***Song of Praise #619** vs 1, 2, 4 & 8 *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

- 1 I know that my Redeemer lives!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
he lives, my ever-living head!
- 2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
he lives eternally to save;
he lives exalted, throned above;
he lives to rule his church in love.
- 4 He lives to silence all my fears;
he lives to wipe away my tears;
he lives to calm my troubled heart;
he lives all blessings to impart.
- 8 He lives, all glory to his name!
He lives, my Savior, still the same;
what joy this blest assurance gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Please stand as you are able. 2

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE READING...1 John 3:1-3 (NRSV) 5:30 Pam Petterson, 8:15 Judy Haugen, 10:45 Will Johnson

¹ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³ And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF RESPONSE

Open Our Eyes, Lord

Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.

Open our eyes, Lord, and help us to listen.

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

GOSPEL READING... Luke 24:36b-48 (NRSV)

³⁶ While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

Pastor: Christ is Risen!

All: He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ***Open Our Eyes, Lord***

Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.
Open our eyes, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

MESSAGE ***Brighter Days-- in God's Surprises!*** Pr. Tom Grevlos

MESSAGE SONG** ***Lord of the Dance

I danced in the morning
when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and
the stars and the sun,

And I came down from heaven
and I danced on the earth:
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Refrain

Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
But they would not dance and
they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
They came with me and the dance went on: *Refrain*

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped
and they hung me on high,
And they left me there on a cross to die: *Refrain*

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
But I am the dance, and I still go on: *Refrain*

They cut me down and I leapt up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die.
I'll live in you if you'll live in me:
I am the Lord of the dance, said he: *Refrain*

***EASTER STATEMENT OF FAITH** by Rev. Andreas Wagner

I believe in the God of Easter morning
Who awakes us from our darkest dreams
And leads us into the light of a new day,
Who meets our pessimism
With stunning hope
Of angelic proclamation.

I believe in the God of Easter Day
Who beats us to the obstacles in our lives
And empties the dark tomb for us;
Who appears in surprising ways
When we least expect it;
Walking with us
On our detours.

I believe in the God of Easter evening
Who breaks into our closets and prisons,
Bringing peace and crushing our fear.
I believe in the risen Lord who meets us
with wounds on his hands and feet;
Who grants us his spirit,
Sending us out
To bring peace to the world.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 5:30 Pam Petterson, 8:15 Judy Haugen, 10:45 Will Johnson

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THANK OFFERING

- To make a gift to the mission and ministry of Shepherd of the Hills, go to shephills.org/give.
- Take a picture of the QR Code with your camera phone to give now.
- By mail, send to 3525 Bee Caves Rd, Austin, TX 78746



GENEROSITY IMPACT

THIS MATTERS!

How grateful and blessed are we that our campus renewal was complete and ready for our faith community through the challenges of the past year!? My name is Melissa Robertson. My husband John and I have two young girls, Keaton and Natalie and we've been active members of Shepherd for almost 7 years. I've been a volunteer of the Family Ministry Program for 5 of those years. We've supported the This Matters! Campaign and we cannot be more pleased with all the renovations, inside and out. The improvements outside especially have enhanced my family's experiences here, both in worship, at events, and through fellowship with others. We thoroughly enjoy the Saturday courtyard worship. Our girls are happy with the casual setting and, more importantly to me and John, it allows them to see that church doesn't always have to be in a Sanctuary. We all enjoy the nature aspect too. We find God's creatures crawling on our picnic blanket during worship. How cool is that!? Church is not just about attending worship, it is about community, belonging, fellowship and FUN too!

Speaking of fun, the monthly family ministry event "Friday Fun Nights" has been a highlight for my family. It's where families of young ones meet on a Friday for 2 hours for a meal, along with some sort of seasonal activity, service project or craft. Kids run free while parents can enjoy conversation together. I'm very thankful for the outdoor courtyard layout because it allowed us to be creative and continue to meet. This spring (and last fall) we are using it for 'popcorn movie nights.' It has been a lot of fun for our families! I'm not sure what this ministry would've looked like without this space.

The entire facility, inside and out, has been transformed to a more beautiful, inviting and purposeful space for my family, and for all - young and wise. Because of This Matters! children have enjoyed climbing around on a new safe playground. My mom and I have practiced yoga and meditation in the courtyard. I've had good planning meetings and laughter with staff over coffee on the back porch. Worship

is a safe and rejuvenating experience between the trees. And, I look forward to the Sunday I can have a breakfast taco again with my friends in the Activity Center, and having the choice to worship inside our beautiful Sanctuary again. Thanks be to God for the blessings given to all of us through this campus renewal - that our community can enjoy and share this together for years to come!

SONG OF RESPONSE #583 vs 1-2 *Take My Life, that I May Be*

Refrain

Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

1 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee. Refrain

2 Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose. Refrain

OFFERING PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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;

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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

As we celebrate this sacrament, all are invited to receive the Risen presence of Jesus. God is really present—in bread and wine—forgiving sins and promising new life.

*Bread/wafer— “this is my body given for you”;
Wine— “this is my blood shed for you.”*

COMMUNION MUSIC 10:45 ***When Thou Art Near*** JS Bach

COMMUNION BLESSING/PRAYER

***BENEDICTION**

COMMISSIONING SONG #860** vs 1-3 ***I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me

- 1 *I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me.
I'm so glad Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.*

- 2 *Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me.
Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.*

- 3 *When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me.
When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.*

***COMMISSIONING**

Pastor: Jesus continues to show up for us, dispelling our doubts and our fears. We go in peace, to point to the risen Jesus and to proclaim his love to the world.

All: **Thanks be to God...and We Will!**

POSTLUDE 5:30 + 8:15 Josh Norem

10:45

Simple Gifts arr Cherwein

PRAYERS

Please pray for Kristen Murray, Walter Buell, Lauren Paulson, Wanda Lowke and Don Gaskin

Please pray for Geneva Robertson, mother of John Robertson

Please pray for Andrea Evilsizer, daughter of Don Cadenhead

Prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of Cosmo McNeil, son of Michael and Rachael McNeil, grandson of Thom and Marcy McNeil

Please pray for those who mourn for Dolores Smith, mother of Larry Smith

We pray for Jamie Putnam and family as they remember the one-year anniversary of Justin's tragic death. May all find comfort in you as they find strength in one another. And, may the flowers today remembering Justin be a sign of our new life found in You.

Our prayers for the community of Mpls.-St. Paul as they confront issues of racial strife. May your Spirit of peace and justice intervene. May violence not be repaid with more violence so that a path forward of healing and reconciliation may occur. We pray for all communities and all people who harbor hate and prejudice that your way of love may be found and followed.

We continue to pray for all those affected by COVID-19, and for those caring for them. We give thanks for the hopefulness we are experiencing with more and more vaccinations each week. We look forward to the continued movement toward the end of this pandemic, and we pray for therapeutics and medical care to tend to those who fall ill.

Please pray for our global ministries: Rev. Karen Castillo in Guatemala; Iglesia Luterana Augustina Virgen del Rosario, Aurora 8 de Octubre, Guatemala; Malcolm and Joy Henderson and the ministry of CHARIS in Haiti

Please pray for our local ministries: Mariposa Family Learning Center, Bread For All and Upbring Ministries

Please pray for our faith community, that we may be a church without walls and live out loud...faithfully!

**Prayers for family and friends are listed for 2 weeks, unless we are notified otherwise.*

WORSHIP TEAM

Pastors

Pr. Tom Grevlos, Pr. Lauren Dow Wegner

Preaching Pastor

Pr. Tom Grevlos

Director of Worship/Arts

Kevin McClure

Piano

Maria Lyapkova

Trumpet

Bob Cannon

AV

(5:30 + 8:15) Jamie Nichols, Peter Walsh
and James Enochs

(10:45) Bill and Sara Dawson

Bread

Kitt Richter

Hosts

(5:30) Anita and Don Knight;

(8:15) Judy and Bob Haugen, Tim Stein

Creative Media

Dabney Gomes

Director of Digital Media Arts

Dave Wegner

Admin Ministry Coordinator

Amanda Forsberg

FAITH 5



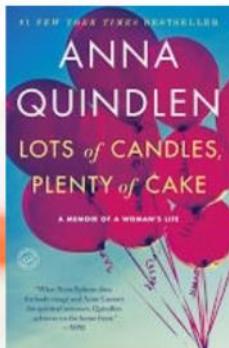
Join us for in-person

Sanctuary Worship

Sunday, May 2 at 8:15 a.m.

It's time to re-gather!
Read about it in your Weekly Connections

Readers' Heaven Book Group Thursday, April 29 @ 7 pm



*We will meet in the Sanctuary!
Register on Realm to receive information and
to let us know you are coming!*

Brighter Days Happy Hour Chat!

It's Done! This Matters! Capital Campaign and next steps...

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom
Zoom info under Realm Events

Come contribute to the conversation!

Witnesses to Brighter Days find the study that fits your lifestyle

Week of April 18 - Faith for the Future: Jacob

Sundays @ 9:30 a.m. on Zoom
Wednesdays @ 8:00 a.m. in-person on Solomon's Porch
Wednesdays @ 12:00 p.m. on Zoom
Thursdays for Men @ 7:15 a.m. on Zoom

Zoom information on Realm Events Calendar