

# *The Ascension of Our Lord*



*The Dedication of  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
of Ft. Meade*  
*Reverend Emeritus Donald Francis, Preacher*

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**14344 Jamison Way (941) 249-5108**

**WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN!** Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on this special day in the life of our church! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, **please place your cell phones on mute** for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Please use a prayer request card if you have a specific prayer request this morning (CARDS ON BACK TABLE). It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise give them to the ushers at the time the offering is collected.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Every Wednesday at 10 a.m. Bible Study meets at the church. Everyone welcome!!!

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY:** Meets once a month. Please see Pastor's wife, Peggie Sue, for information.

**We Serve Today:**

Reader: *Pr. Steve*

*Offering: Jeff Cisco, David Colburn*

Communion: *Bev Cisco, Fran Thibideau,*

*Greeter: Jeff Cisco*

*Piano: George Stern*

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**Call to Worship Pastor Steve**

“Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name” (Ps. 100:2–4).

**Invocation**

O God, eternal and ever blessed, who delights in the assembling of Your people in the sanctuary; receive us graciously as we come into Your house, and grant that peace and prosperity may be found within its walls, that the glory of God may be the light thereof, and that we may be satisfied with the goodness of Your house; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Confession and Absolution**

**CONFESSIONAL PRAYER - (congregational responses) in BOLD**

Pastor: Lord, we approach Your altar with love for You and our appreciation for the price You paid for us on the cross. We realize the difficulties that we face, and we confess the poor job we have done with our response to Your sacrifice. For that, Dear Lord, we make our confession to You this day.

*1 John 1:8-9*

**Most merciful God, we confess that we sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by the things we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with**

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**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!**

**ABSOLUTION:**

Pastor: As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus on His cross, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, and by the authority of Jesus Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus we pray. **Alleluia and Amen.**

**Hymn**

*R-316 The Churches One Foundation vs 1,2,3*

**The Nicene Creed**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in One Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; [God of God], Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of One substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made. "Who, for our salvation, came down from Heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;**

**He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into Heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose Kingdom shall have no end.**

**"And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; Who proceeds from the Father [and the Son]; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen."**

**Scripture Readings**

*Hebrews 10:19-25*

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house

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of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

**Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.**

**THE GOSPEL LESSON: LUKE 24: 44-53** (*please stand for reading*) ESV

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 and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His Name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the Promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city Jerusalem until you are clothed with power from on high."

The Ascension

And He led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up His hands He blessed them. While He blessed them, He was parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God.

**SONG FOR MEDITATION** – I'll Fly Away, George Stern, Pr. Steve, Saxophones

**SERMON:** Reverend Emeritus Donald Francis - LCMC

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Ephesians 1:2*

**C: Amen**

**SERMON HYMN:** R1 Holy, Holy, Holy

**OFFERING**

**Rite of Friendship:**

P. The Peace of the Lord Be With You Always.

C. **And Also With you.**

P. We now have the opportunity to share back with the Lord a little of the bounty He has shared with us.

*As the offering is brought forward, we will sing the Doxology.*

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**Doxology:**

**Praise God, From Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Doxology, written in England for Protestant Churches in 1674.*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P: Merciful Father,

**C: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us-our  
selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love.  
Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ**

**Presentation of Building for Dedication – Pastor Don Francis**

On behalf of the church council, the members, and this congregation, I present you this building to be dedicated to God as a place of worship and of service in His kingdom.

**Acceptance of Building for Dedication – Pastor Steve**

Dear friends, for countless centuries people have erected buildings for the public worship of God, and have separated these buildings from all unhallowed uses in order to increase their reverence for God and for those places in which they commune with Him. We rejoice that God has put it into the hearts of His people to dedicate this house in this place to the glory of His Holy name. I now accept this building, to be known as the Our Savior Lutheran Church of El Jobean, to dedicate it and to set it apart for the worship of Almighty God and the service of all people. Let us therefore, as we are assembled, solemnly dedicate this place to its proper and sacred uses.

**Litany of Dedication - Pastor Steve**

*Leader:* To the glory of God the Father, who has called us by His grace; to the honor of His Son, who loved us and gave Himself for us; to the praise of the Holy Spirit, who illumines and sanctifies us;

*Congregation:* **We dedicate this house.**

*Leader:* For the worship of God in prayer and praise;

*Congregation:* **For the preaching of the everlasting gospel;**

*Leader:* For the celebration of the holy sacraments;

*All:* **We dedicate this house.**

*Leader:* For the comfort of all who mourn;

*Congregation:* **For strength to those who are tempted;**

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*Leader:* For light to those who seek the way;

*All:* **We dedicate this house.**

*Leader:* For the hallowing of family life;

*Congregation:* **For teaching and guiding the young;**

*Leader:* For the perfecting of the saints;

*All:* **We dedicate this house.**

*Leader:* For the conversion of sinners;

*Congregation:* **For the sanctification of believers;**

*Leader:* For the promotion of righteousness; for the extension of the kingdom of God;

*All:* **We dedicate this house.**

*Leader:* In the unity of the faith; in the bond of Christian brotherhood and sisterhood; in charity and goodwill to all;

*Congregation:* **We dedicate this house.**

*Leader:* In gratitude for the labors of all who love and serve this church; in loving remembrance of those who have finished their course; in the hope of a blessed immortality through Jesus Christ our Lord;

*Congregation:* **We dedicate this house.**

*All in Unison:* **We now, the people of this church and congregation, surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, grateful for our heritage, aware of the sacrifice of our fathers and mothers in the faith, confessing that apart from us their work cannot be made perfect, do dedicate ourselves anew to the worship and service of Almighty God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Prayer of Dedication – Pastor Don**

Almighty God, we are not worthy to offer unto You anything belonging unto us. We humbly acknowledge that "except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it." Yet we ask that in Your great goodness You would accept the dedication of this place to Your service. Prosper this our undertaking. Receive the prayers and intercessions of all Your servants who shall call upon You in this house.

Give them grace to prepare their hearts to serve You with reverence and godly fear. Affect them with a solemn apprehension of Your divine majesty, and a deep sense of their own unworthiness. May they always approach Your sanctuary with lowliness and devotion. May they always come before You with clean thoughts and pure hearts, with bodies undefiled and minds sanctified. May they always perform a service acceptable to You, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** Wings of the Dove – Dean Carson

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**THE PRAYERS:** Let us pray: *(Prayer Response)* Lord in your Mercy: **You hear our prayers!**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER:** KJV

**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 forever. Amen**

**PREPARATION OF THE TABLE: Pr. Steve**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION:** *Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 11:23-25 (ESV)*

On the night He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ, took bread, and after giving thanks, He broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said; "Take and eat; this is My body, given for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same manner, after supper He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to the them saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the new testament in My blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of Me."

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. *1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 11:26*

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER:**

**Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again!**

**THE DISTRIBUTION, THE COMMUNION BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN:** *R-316 The Churches One Foundation vs 4,5,6*

**Closing Hymn - R63 – HE IS EXALTED**

**Benediction Pr. Don**

May You, O Lord our God, make this house Your abiding place from this day forth, and let Your ministers be clothed with salvation, let Your saints rejoice in goodness all their days, as the blessings of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit rest and abide upon them. Amen.

**THE DISMISSAL** P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord! C. **Thanks be to God!!**

**Pastor Steve Dygert**

**WEBSITE: [oslc-lcmc.com](http://oslc-lcmc.com)**

**Pastor's cell phone 260.417.3304**

**Sermon archive – [oslc-lcmc.com](http://oslc-lcmc.com)**