



*Come Lord Jesus,  
Be Our Guest,  
Let Thy Gift to us be  
Blessed!*

*Come Thou Blessed  
Holy Spirit Come!*

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH – May 14, 2023 – PAGE 2  
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! 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 or an usher when you have them completed, otherwise give them to the ushers at the time the offering is collected.

**THE MEANING OF THE TWO PICTURES IN THE BULLETIN:** The two pictures at the top of the bulletin are the church's logo and the LCMC logo (Lutheran Congregations in Missions for Christ). The church's logo is the descent of the Holy Spirit into 'Our Savior' at the time of His Baptism.

**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, Peggy Sue, for information.

**DEDICATION OF OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH: MAY 21, 2023 REV. DONALD FRANCIS, PREACHER**

**We Serve Today:**

Reader: Steve Benz

Offering: David Colburn

Communion: Peggie Sue Dygert, Fran Thibideau,

Greeter: Cheri Usowicz

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**SERVICE OF THE WORD: SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME:** *Pre-Service Music, Welcome, and Announcements*

Pastor: We begin our worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **AMEN**

**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 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.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN: R192 BECAUSE HE LIVES**

**GATHERING LITANY** – (responsive in **bold**)

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe,  
**for in Your wisdom You have formed us.**

You feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

**We bless You and praise Your Holy Name forever.**

You set free those who are bound.

**We bless You and praise Your Holy name forever.**

You raise up those whose courage falters.

**We bless You and praise Your Holy name forever.**

You provide for our every need.

**Accept our grateful praises.**

You have called us from all peoples.

**We bless You and praise Your Holy name forever.**

You bless your people with peace.

**We bless You and praise Your loving grace.**

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe,  
**for in Your wisdom You have formed us.**

**OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES CREED**

**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 into hell. 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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**THE PRAYER OF THE DAY** (Unison):

**Direct us, O Lord, in all our actions by Your gracious favor, and further us with Your continual help that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in Your name, we may glorify Your Holy Name and finally by Your mercy receive eternal life, Alleluia.**

**May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may know the hope to which God has called us, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Alleluia and Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Acts 17:16-31** ESV (Responsive)

### Paul in Athens

Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbling wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

#### Paul Addresses the Areopagus

So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

**The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.**

And He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward Him and find Him.

**Yet He is actually not far from each one of us, for, " 'In Him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, " 'For we are indeed His offspring.' Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now He commands all people everywhere to repent, because He has fixed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom He has appointed; and of this He has given assurance to all by raising Him from the dead."**

**READING OF THE PSALM 66:8-20** ESV (Spoken responsively whole verse by whole verse)

Praise our God, all peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard;  
He has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.

**For you, God, tested us; you refined us like silver.**

You brought us into prison and laid burdens on our backs.

**You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but**

**you brought us to a place of abundance.**

I will come to Your temple with burnt offerings and fulfill my vows to You—vows my lips promised and my mouth spoke when I was in trouble.

**I will sacrifice fat animals to You and an offering of rams; I will offer bulls and goats.**

Come and hear, all you who fear God; let me tell you what He has done for me. I cried out to Him with my mouth; His praise was on my tongue.

**If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and has heard my prayer.**

Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld his love from me!

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**EPISTLE READING: I Peter 3:13-22** NKJV (Responsive)

Suffering for Right and Wrong

And who *is* he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good. But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, *you are* blessed. "And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled." **But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; having a good conscience,** that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. For *it is* better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.

Christ's Suffering and Ours

**For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,** by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine long suffering waited in the days of Noah, while *the* ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. There is also an anti type which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, Who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

**THE GOSPEL LESSON:** *(All please stand for reading)*

**John 14:15-21** ESV

Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of

truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. You know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in Me, and I in you. Whoever has My commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”

**GOSPEL HYMN: R67 HOLY GROUND**  
**SONG FOR MEDITATION – 230 O WORD OF GOD INCARNATE**

George Stern and Pastor Steve instruments

**SERMON:** Rev. Steve Dygert, + STS

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

**C: Amen**

**SERMON HYMN: R227 GRACIOUS SPIRIT, DWELL WITH ME** vs 1,4,5

**13. 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.*

**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 our Lord. Amen**

**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:**

**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: R57 ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS NAME**

**THE AARONIC BENEDICTION: Numbers 6: 24-26**

**LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH:**

**Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me  
Let there be peace on earth  
The peace that was meant to be  
With God as our father  
Brothers all are we  
Let me walk with my brother  
In perfect harmony**

**Let peace begin with me  
Let this be the moment now  
With every step I take  
Let this be my solemn vow  
To take each moment  
And live each moment  
In peace eternally  
Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me!**

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

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