



Service of Dedication

Atonement Chapel and Meeting Room

Luther Springs Camp & Retreat Center

Saturday, January 22, 2022

2:00 PM

Hawthorne, Florida



Dedication of a Church Building: Service of Dedication

Atonement Chapel and Meeting Room

Gathering Music

Welcome, announcements, introductions, and greetings from

NovusWay Ministries

Florida-Bahamas Synod, ELCA

Denhard Construction Group, LLC

Atonement Lutheran Church, Orlando, FL

Faith Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, FL

Procession

The presiding minister begins...

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

The assisting minister addresses the assembly.

Sisters and brothers: With gratitude for the building of Atonement Chapel and Meeting Room we are gathered to dedicate it for the worship of almighty God and for the building up of the body of Christ. From this day forward let it be a place for the gathering of the people of God, a place for proclaiming the gospel through word and sacrament, a place for bringing life and hope to us and to this community.

The presiding minister receives the keys to the building from the builder; the minister hands the keys to the Luther Springs Site Director who unlocks and opens the door.

The presiding minister says:

Peace be to this house, and to all who enter here.

Amen.

Entrance Psalm

Psalm 122 (in unison)

1 I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD!” 2 Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. 3 Jerusalem – built as a city that is bound firmly together. 4 To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD. 5 For there the thrones for judgement were set up, the thrones of the house of David. 6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you. 7 Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.” 8 For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, “Peace be within you.” 9 For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good. (NRSV, 1989)

The assembly enters the Chapel in procession singing.

Song: Sanctuary

Dedication of the Place of Baptism

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

The presiding minister may place a hand upon the baptismal basin.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that new life may be given to all those who are baptized in this place, which today we set apart.

The presiding minister continues the thanksgiving.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Dedication of the Place of the Word

The ministers move to the place of the word. The presiding minister leads the assembly in giving thanks.

Let us give thanks for the gift of God's word. We give you thanks, O God, for you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. You called your people Israel to proclaim freedom from captivity, a pathway home from exile, and wisdom for life with you. Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to proclaim forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, and the way of your self-giving love.

The presiding minister may place a hand on the pulpit/lectern.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; from this pulpit/ambo that we set apart today, 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.

Amen.

Dedication of the Place of the Meal

The ministers move to the place of the meal. The presiding minister leads the assembly in giving thanks.

Let us give thanks for the gift of the Lord's supper. We give you thanks, O God, that in holy communion you refresh us through the bread of life in Jesus Christ, strengthen us in faith toward you, and nourish us in fervent love for one another.

The presiding minister may place a hand on the altar/table. The minister may also trace the five crosses customarily inscribed on it.

Bless all who come to this table of the Lord, and sanctify all who receive the body and blood of Christ at this altar, which today we set apart. Give all who taste this holy feast grace to live in faith and love throughout our lives, until at last we all behold you face to face at the heavenly banquet where your saints and angels praise you forever. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

The ministers move to a place in the midst of the assembly. The presiding minister concludes.

Let us give thanks for the body of Christ, for God's house of living stones.

We give you thanks, O God, for you transcend the boundaries of space and time, yet you are willing to make your home in human hearts. We are the temple of your presence, and this building is the house of your church. Gather us in this place to share with others the promise of baptism, to hear your word, to be nourished by the body and blood of your Son, and to praise your name with all the company of heaven. Send us from this place to be the body of Christ in the world, to proclaim your love in word and deed, to invite others into the promise of baptism, and to glorify your name in our daily living. Pour out the abundance of your blessing on us and on this place, which we dedicate to your glory and honor and to the service of all people in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

Song: Now the Green Blade Rises

ELW 379

Prayer of the Day

The assisting minister prays.

Let us pray.

Most High God, whom the heavens cannot contain, we give you thanks for the gifts of those who have built this house of prayer to your glory; we praise you for the fellowship of those who by their use will make it holy; and we pray that all who seek you here may find you and be filled with joy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading	Jeremiah 29:11-13
Second Reading	Colossians 2:1-7
Gospel	Luke 24:13-35
Sermon	The Revs. Jefferson Cox and Julie Frank
The assembly is seated. Silence for reflection follows the sermon.	

Song: Canticle of the Turning

The assembly stands.

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 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.

Prayers of Intercession

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;
 and 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.

Blessing

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

Sending Song : A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

ELW 504

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding: The Rev. Dr. Leonard H. Bolick, Bishop Emeritus, North Carolina Synod, ELCA;
Acting Interim Executive Director, NovusWay Ministries

Assisting: Deacon Sue Mendenhall, Luther Springs Program Director
The Rev. Rob Rose, Assistant to the Bishop, Florida-Bahamas Synod, ELCA
The Rev. Danith Kilts, concluding Pastor, Faith Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, FL

Preaching: The Rev. Jefferson Cox, Pastor, Grace Lutheran Church, Clearwater, FL
The Rev. Julie AW Frank, Chaplain with Orlando Health at Dr. Phillips and Health
Central Hospitals

Accompanying: Daniel Reichert, The Rev. Julie Frank,

Videographer: Erik Mathre

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #27824. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Hymns used with permission under ONE LICENSE #738836-A and Luther Springs CCLI License #3232996. All rights reserved.

THE ATONEMENT CHAPEL AND MEETING ROOM ROSE FROM THREE CLOSINGS

Out of multiple closings came a glorious rising! The Atonement Chapel and Meeting Room literally rose out of the ground at Luther Springs during the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic. Construction crews from Denhard Construction Group, LLC of Orlando built the facility while the camp was closed and empty.

Chad Denhard offered his crew the opportunity to work while Luther Springs and much of Florida was closed. Happy to have work, skilled workers were on site throughout the “stay-at-home” period for much of America. Social distancing was not a problem with few people around.



Atonement Lutheran Church, Orlando closed on Reformation Sunday 2015 after 61 years of ministry. A Spirit-led decision came as the congregation prepared to close. From the sale of the congregation's property would come a legacy gift for Luther Springs. “While our ministry here is ending,” Atonement Pastor Jeff Cox told the congregation at the Closing Service, “Atonement is being re-formed for ministry at Luther Springs. Through the years more people will be touched by worship there than we had and opportunity here.”

The idea for making a legacy gift was first shared with Pr. Cox by Pr. Julie Frank, a Mission Possible Campaign volunteer and longtime friend of Luther Springs. Prs. Frank and Cox both served in 2015 as chaplains at Dr. Phillips Hospital in Orlando and met in the hospital hallway one day. Pr. Cox reported Atonement’s decision to close and the search for a suitable legacy for their ministry. Pr. Frank shared the Mission Possible chapel project with Pr. Cox who made the recommendation to the congregation council to make a legacy gift to Luther Springs. The congregation approved the recommendation the following Sunday.

From the sale of the property, Atonement made a legacy gift of \$200,347 for the privilege of naming the Mission Possible Campaign chapel project. Atonement also gifted several stained-glass windows from the original Atonement church, paraments, communion ware, Bibles, ELW and With One Voice hymnals, and other furnishings needed for worship in the Atonement Chapel. Iron benches, bookcases, and other items also came to Luther Springs.



Faith Lutheran Church, Jacksonville, closed in 2017. In early 2019 the congregation sold their property to a community ministry, Inspire to Rise. A phone call from Mr. Fred Luethy, Treasurer of the congregation and Transition Team, to NovusWay’s Pastor Setzler in early January 2019 brought news of the sale of the property.

Mr. Luethy said the congregation wanted to make a legacy gift to Luther Springs of \$100,000 to aid this ministry with children.

Faith designated half of the gift to assist with the increased cost of the construction of Atonement Chapel. Construction costs for Atonement Chapel increased about 5% a year from the time the campaign budget was prepared in 2014 until construction began in 2020, an increase of \$100,000 over

campaign projections. Faith's gift funded half of the increase in construction costs of Atonement Chapel.

Faith directed the other \$50,000 to camper scholarships, always a great need. Annual fund gifts each year reduce the cost of every program for every participant. Additional contributions for scholarships are often needed. No one is ever turned away from any program. To meet this need NovusWay distributes \$100,000-\$125,000 in scholarship support to nearly 500 participants of all ages each year.

To create a legacy for Faith's ministry, NovusWay used \$10,000 of the \$50,000 to establish an endowed Faith Lutheran Church, Jacksonville Camper Scholarship. Faith's legacy now provides scholarship support for a significant number of campers each year in perpetuity.

WE GIVE GOD THANKS for the many other donors whose Mission Possible Campaign giving completed funding needed for the Chapel's construction. We are especially grateful for the generosity of major donors to this project: Kent and Donna Richter, Tavares; Don and Barbara Rathbun, Melbourne; Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Largo; and Saint Timothy Lutheran Church, Tarpon Springs.



