



A Place where heaven and earth meet,
where people encounter God's generosity
and healing presence.

www.thebeachchurch.com

Pastor Jim Coyl

The Beach Church Podcast

Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

Celebration of the Ascension of the Lord

Welcome

Call to Worship - Inspired by: John 17:1-11

Leader: Lift up your hearts to the Lord. Jesus prayed, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you."

People: We come to glorify God and to rejoice in the gift of eternal life through Christ.

Leader: Jesus prayed for those the Father had given him, that they may be protected and made one.

People: We gather as one body, united in the love and truth of God.

Leader: Come, then, into the joy of Christ's presence, for he watches over his people with grace and mercy.

People: We worship in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hymn

Scripture Reading Acts 1:1-14

1:1 In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and teach

1:2 until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. 1:3 After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. 1:4 While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me;

1:5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." 1:6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?"

1:7 He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." 1:9 When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

1:10 While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. 1:11 They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." 1:12

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. 1:13 When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and

Judas son of James. 1:14 All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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Sermon “Looking Around” Jim Coyl

Pastoral Payer and the Lord’s Prayer

Hymn

Benediction

Gone from our sight - Always with us.

Jesus’ prayer in John 17 and his ascension in Acts 1 are deeply connected. In John 17:1-11, Jesus prays for his disciples as he prepares to return to the Father. He asks that they may be protected, united, and faithful in carrying forward his mission. Then, in Acts 1:1-11, we see that return fulfilled as Christ ascends into heaven, entrusting his followers with the work of witnessing “to the ends of the earth.”

These passages remind us that Jesus did not abandon his disciples when he ascended. Instead, he continued to guide them through his prayers, his promises, and the power of the Holy Spirit. The same is true for us today. Christ reigns with the Father, intercedes for his people, and calls the Church to live faithfully in the world.

As we worship and serve this week, may we remember that we are part of the same mission entrusted to those first disciples: to bear witness to the living Christ with unity, hope, and joy.

Daily Lectionary Readings

Monday, May 18, 2026: Psalm 99; Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24; 1 Peter 4:1-6;

Tuesday, May 19, 2026: Psalm 99; Numbers 16:41-50; 1 Peter 4:7-11;

Wednesday, May 20, 2026: Psalm 99; 1 Kings 8:54-65; John 3:31-36;

Thursday, May 21, 2026: Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:1-9a; Acts 2:1-11;

Friday, May 22, 2026: Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:16-25; Romans 8:14-17;

Saturday, May 23, 2026: Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 20:1-21; Matthew 5:1-12;

New Prayer Opportunity at The Beach Church

Every Wednesday, the sanctuary will be open from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM for a special time of Quiet Prayer & Sacred Stillness.

This weekly gathering offers a peaceful space to: Sit in quiet prayer and reflection - Light a prayer candle - Receive pastoral care...

Join Pastor Coyl for an opening prayer or guided meditation. Whether you can stay for just a few minutes or the full two hours, you are welcome. No need to sign up — simply come as you are.

In the midst of the busyness and distractions of daily life, we invite you to step into sacred space, seek stillness, and deepen your spiritual connection with God.

Peace awaits you every Wednesday morning at The Beach Church. We look forward to praying with you.