CHAPEL OF THE CROSS

LUTHERAN



FAITH · HOPE · LOVE

Welcome to Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran!

To Our Visitors

We offer you a very warm welcome to Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran! We are happy to have you worshipping with us and hope that your worship here today and the Word of God that is shared will assist you in the week ahead. If you are looking for a church home, we hope that you would prayerfully consider making Chapel of the Cross that home. Please take home one of our Welcome Brochures which are located in the pews and on the podium in the Commons Area. May God bless your week!

Nursery

If you need to take your infant or toddler out of the worship service, the nursery is available for your use. The worship service is broadcast to the nursery. An usher or greeter will be happy to show you where it is located.

Sunday School and Bible Study

We have an exciting Sunday School program called Enduring Faith for children age 2 and up. We also offer Bible studies for youth and adults at 9:45 a.m. Sunday School rooms are in the Lower Level. Check the Chapel Weekly for Bible study locations. An usher or greeter will be happy to take you to the appropriate place.

Holy Communion

Holy Communion is celebrated regularly and often here at Chapel of the Cross. If you have questions about Holy Communion and what we as a church believe about it, please speak with the Pastor before the service. Children are invited to come to the Communion rail with their parents for a blessing.

Sound Enhancement Devices

If you are hearing impaired there are sound enhancement devices available. Please ask an usher for a personal receiver.

Refreshments

Please join us before and after the Discipleship Hour for coffee and donuts in the Lower Level Commons.

The Mission of Chapel of the Cross

Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran exists to show the love of Jesus to the people of North County and beyond so that all may have a living relationship with Christ.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020

№ PREPARATION **№**

AS WE GATHER

Long before Jesus' death and resurrection, God made clear to His people that death would not have the last word. As Ezekiel was inspired to write of the dry bones of death having life breathed into them, it would foreshadow the future for God's people through the One who conquered death and grave once for all. In a world of death and decay, we are sustained in our journey now until the resurrection of all flesh through Jesus Christ, our life-giving Lord and Savior.

WELCOME

HYMN

686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

- Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
 Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
 Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
 Call for songs of loudest praise.
 While the hope of endless glory
 Fills my heart with joy and love,
 Teach me ever to adore Thee;
 May I still Thy goodness prove.
- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer,
 Hither by Thy help I've come;
 And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
 Safely to arrive at home.
 Jesus sought me when a stranger,
 Wand'ring from the fold of God;
 He, to rescue me from danger,
 Interposed His precious blood.
- Oh, to grace how great a debtor
 Daily I'm constrained to be;
 Let that grace now like a fetter
 Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
 Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
 Prone to leave the God I love.
 Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
 Seal it for Thy courts above.

4 Oh, that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen,
How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry;
Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry
Me to realms of endless day.

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INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ♥ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins,

People: O Lord, who could stand?

Leader: But with You there is forgiveness;

People: therefore You are feared.

Leader: O almighty God, merciful Father,

People: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities

with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor

sinful being.

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Leader: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and

ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy

Spirit.

People: Amen.

KYRIE

Leader: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of

God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let

us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

Almighty God, in whom is life now and forever, through Your Son's suffering and death You have given us victory over all we ever need fear in sin, eternal death, and the power of the devil. Breathe into our bones and our souls Your life-giving Word, that we rejoice in Your forgiveness and serve You and others in love and faithfulness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

₩ WORD **₩**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

(The Valley of dry bones)

¹ The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone know."

⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! ⁵ This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶ I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD."

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

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⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet--a vast army.

¹¹ Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: O my people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴ I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.' "

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 130

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD; ² O Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

³ If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? ⁴ But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared.

⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope. ⁶ My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning.

⁷ O Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. ⁸ He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

EPISTLERomans 8:1-11
(Life in the Spirit)

¹ Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

⁵ Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶ The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; ⁷ the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸ Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. ¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 11th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL John 11:17-27, 38-53

(Jesus is the resurrection and the life)

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

¹⁸ Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. ²¹ "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

- ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."
- ²⁴ Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."
- ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; ²⁶ and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"
- ²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."
- ³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ "Take away the stone," he said.
- "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."
- 40 Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"
- ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."

⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, put their faith in him. ⁴⁶ But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. ⁴⁷ Then the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the Sanhedrin.

"What are we accomplishing?" they asked. "Here is this man performing many miraculous signs. ⁴⁸ If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and then the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation."

⁴⁹ Then one of them, named Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, spoke up, "You know nothing at all! ⁵⁰ You do not realize that it is better for you that one man die for the people than that the whole nation perish."

⁵¹ He did not say this on his own, but as high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the Jewish nation, ⁵² and not only for that nation but also for the scattered children of God, to bring them together and make them one. ⁵³ So from that day on they plotted to take his life.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE WORD

430 My Song is Love Unknown

- 1 My song is love unknown,
 My Savior's love to me,
 Love to the loveless shown
 That they might lovely be.
 Oh, who am I
 That for my sake
 My Lord should take
 Frail flesh and die?
- 2 He came from His blest throne
 Salvation to bestow;
 But men made strange, and none
 The longed-for Christ would know.
 But, oh, my friend,
 My friend indeed,
 Who at my need
 His life did spend!
- 3 Sometimes they strew His way
 And His sweet praises sing;
 Resounding all the day
 Hosannas to their King.
 Then "Crucify!"
 Is all their breath,
 And for His death
 They thirst and cry.

- They rise and needs will have
 My dear Lord made away;
 A murderer they save,
 The Prince of Life they slay.
 Yet cheerful He
 To suff'ring goes
 That He His foes
 From thence might free.
- 7 Here might I stay and sing,
 No story so divine!
 Never was love, dear King,
 Never was grief like Thine.
 This is my friend,
 In whose sweet praise
 I all my days
 Could gladly spend!

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PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all

people according to their needs.

+++ Special Intercessions +++

Each concluding: Leader: Lord, in Your mercy, People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we

pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

People: Amen.

HYMN

543 What Wondrous Love is This

- What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
 What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
 What wondrous love is this
 That caused the Lord of bliss
 To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
 To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!
- When I was sinking down, sinking down, When I was sinking down, sinking down,
 When I was sinking down
 Beneath God's righteous frown,
 Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
 Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.
- To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
 To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
 To God and to the Lamb,
 Who is the great I AM,
 While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
 While millions join the theme, I will sing.
- And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
 And when from death I'm free,
 I'll sing His love for me,
 And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
 And through eternity I'll sing on.

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Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:1-27:66

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Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Theodore Laesch
Liturgists:	Theodore Laesch
Lector:	Ellory Glenn
Soloist:	Denise Koch
Organist:	Ryan Meyer

Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran

11645 Benham Road, St. Louis, MO 63136 (314) 741-3737 www.chapelofthecross.org Email: office@chapelofthecross.org

Worship and Christian Education

Saturday - 5:00 p.m. Sunday - 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Worship Service broadcast on KFUO 850 AM Sundays at 6:00 p.m. Live internet streaming at www.chapelofthecross.org Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

Holy Communion is celebrated the 1^{st} and 3^{rd} and 5^{th} Sundays of the month at 8:30 a.m., the 2^{nd} and 4^{th} and 5^{th} Sundays of the month at 11:00 a.m., and the 1^{st} and 3^{rd} and 5^{th} Saturdays of the month at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday school for children, Sunday Bible classes for adults and youth – 9:45 a.m.

Chapel Ministry Staff

	Home Phone	<u>E-mail</u>
Theodore Laesch, Pastor	355-0688	pastorlaesch@chapelofthecross.org
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Missions

Chapel of the Cross supports the ministry of the English District and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod as well as the Lutheran High School Association. We also assist the following ministries and organizations:

Day 3 Seeds*	Hope Center for Families*	A
Helping Hands Food Pantry	Concordia Seminary	F
Sidewalk Sunday School	Eric & Linda Funke in Tanzania	L
Chapel Summer Camp	KFUO Radio	

Apple of His Eye* Friend of Moms Lutherans for Life

Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran is affiliated with the English District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

^{*} indicates special emphasis in 2020