

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. 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 will be happy to show you where it is located.

Sunday School and Bible Study

We have an exciting Sunday School program 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 handout for Bible study locations. An usher 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 forward 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.

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.

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

February 19, 2023

11:00 a.m.

Please note: This worship service is live streamed and recorded.

AS WE GATHER

Today is the Transfiguration of our Lord, the culmination of the Epiphany season, where Jesus' face shone with the radiant light of God's glory, that His disciples might face the days ahead—where they would witness Jesus' suffering and death—strengthened and supported by this glorious vision. God's face still shines on us, as we make the transition to the season of Lent this week.

PRELUDE

"O Splendor of the Father's Light"

setting by Robert J. Powell

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND EXCHANGE OF PEACE

It is important to recognize that some people are especially susceptible to viruses that can be spread by contact and that some immune systems are very sensitive. Please understand that some may choose not to shake hands during the Exchange of Peace, but might simply greet you with a verbal greeting, a wave, or a smile.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

The congregation turns and faces the cross as the procession approaches the altar reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence of God.

Please stand

ENTRANCE HYMN

413 O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair

INVOCATION AND PSALM

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Exalt the Lord our God and worship at His holy mountain.

People: **For the Lord our God is holy.**

Pastor: The Lord reigns, let the nations tremble.

People: **He sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.**

Pastor: Great is the Lord in Zion; He is exalted over all the nations.

People: **Let them praise Your great and awesome name—He is holy.**

Pastor: The King is mighty, He loves justice—You have established equity; in Jacob You have done what is just and right.

People: **Exalt the Lord our God and worship at His footstool. He is holy.**

Pastor: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

People: **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Pastor: Exalt the Lord our God and worship at His holy mountain.

People: **For the Lord our God is holy.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: The glory of the Lord looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain.

People: The disciples fell facedown to the ground, terrified. But Jesus touched them and said, "Do not be afraid."

Pastor: We confess our sins to God in sincere repentance.

(Silence for reflection)

Pastor: Glorious and gracious God,

People: We are sinners, sinful from birth. We have not loved You with all of our heart, mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbor as much we have loved ourselves. Forgive us our sins for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Pastor: The Father spoke to Jesus and said: "This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased." God was well pleased with Jesus' perfect life and sacrificial death on the cross, and for His sake, forgives our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Jesus, and in His stead, I therefore announce the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF PRAISE

537 Beautiful Savior

1 Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

4 Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine!

3 Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.

Text: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: God of grace and glory, before Your Son turned His face to Jerusalem and Mount Calvary, on another mountain You revealed His glory. Sustain Your Church both by His glory and also by Your grace, and help us to reflect the glory of Your love to all; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

✘ WORD ✘

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 24:8–18

(The covenant that the Lord made is confirmed.)

⁸ Moses then took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, "This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

⁹ Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and the seventy elders of Israel went up ¹⁰ and saw the God of Israel. Under his feet was something like a pavement made of sapphire, clear as the sky itself. ¹¹ But God did not raise his hand against these leaders of the Israelites; they saw God, and they ate and drank.

¹² The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and commands I have written for their instruction."

¹³ Then Moses set out with Joshua his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God.

¹⁴ He said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we come back to you. Aaron and Hur are with you, and anyone involved in a dispute can go to them."

¹⁵ When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, ¹⁶ and the glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from within the cloud.

¹⁷ To the Israelites the glory of the LORD looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. ¹⁸ Then Moses entered the cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

414 'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here

EPISTLE

2 Peter 1:16–21

(Eyewitness news)

¹⁶ We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For he received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain. ¹⁹ And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

"The Light of God's Love"

Mark Burrows

*Look into my heart, what do you see?
God's light shining in me.*

*And I can reflect God's image, shine so bright,
It will chase away the darkest night.
It's a light that's brighter than a thousand stars above,
The light of God's love.*

*Deep down in your heart, you've got it too,
God's light shining in you.*

*And you can reflect God's image, shine so bright,
It will chase away the darkest night.
It's a light that's brighter than a thousand stars above,
The light of God's love.*

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

*And we can reflect God's image, shine so bright,
It will chase away the darkest night.
It's a light that's brighter than a thousand stars above,
The light of God's love.*

Please stand

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1–9

(The transfiguration)

¹ After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ² There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. ³ Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

⁴ Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters--one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah."

⁵ While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them. "Get up," he said. "Don't be afraid." ⁸ When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, "Don't tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN

415 Jesus on the Mountain Peak

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Sermon notes:

Please stand

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.

OFFERING

"Beautiful Savior"

setting by John A. Behnke

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

+ + + Special Intercessions + + +

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

Pastor: 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.**

FAREWELL TO ALLELUIA

On this day, alleluias are sung for the last time in the Church until the resurrection our Lord. Alleluia is not heard during Lent as we turn in penitence to the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ to be renewed in our baptismal faith. We restrain our praise until Easter Sunday, when all of Christendom joins in singing alleluias to our King.

Please turn towards the cross as it is carried out of the church, and remain facing it until the hymn is completed. This symbolizes our following Christ into the world as we leave.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

417 Alleluia, Song of Gladness

POSTLUDE

“A Trumpet Alleluia”

Franklin D. Ashdown

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading:

Micah 6:1-8; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

Find a devotional guide on the readings at www.chapelofthecross.org/walkingtogether

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Hymns used by permission. OneLicense.net #A-725523 Lutheran Service Builder License no. VVPKL-GBOIT-LYVDV-EKAFZ.*

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Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Ellory Glenn
Liturgist:	Theodore Laesch
Lectors:	11:00 a.m. Kristine Geisz
Acolytes:	8:30 a.m. Nathan Runser 11:00 a.m. Ethan Moss
Choir:	11:00 a.m. Sunday School Children
Instrumentalist:	Lynda Christian, oboe
Director:	Ryan Meyer
Organist & Accompanist:	Ryan Meyer
Elder of the Week:	Rich Langefeld

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 KFUD 850 AM Sundays at 4:00 p.m.
Live internet streaming at www.chapelofthecross.org Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

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

	<u>Home Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Theodore Laesch, Pastor	355-0688	pastorlaesch@chapelofthecross.org
Ellory Glenn, Specific Ministry Pastor	369-8014	ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org
Ryan Meyer, Director of Music	839-0306	ryan.meyer@chapelofthecross.org
Bill Rusnak, Director of Adult Ministry	200-9797	bill.rusnak@chapelofthecross.org
Clifford Bischoff, Pastoral Assistant	921-1107	pastorbischoff@chapelofthecross.org
Mary Laesch, Children and Family Ministry Coord.	355-0688	family@chapelofthecross.org

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:

*L.A.M.P. Lutheran Assoc. of Missionaries & Pilots	* Helping Hands Food Pantry	
*Lutheran Bible Translators	Friend of Moms	Food for the Poor
Concordia Seminary	Lutherans for Life	KFUD Radio
Day 3 Seeds	Apple of His Eye	
Chapel Summer Camp		

** indicates special emphasis in 2023*

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