

# CHAPEL OF THE CROSS

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## 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.*

# Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 5, 2023

11:00 a.m.

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

## AS WE GATHER

The Epiphany season continues to illuminate the miracle of Christmas shining its light forward to the goal and purpose of Christ's coming to us in the flesh. That purpose is the salvation of the world through the forgiveness of our sins. That forgiveness can and will happen only through the sacrifice on Christ's cross. As often as we Christians have heard this Gospel and believe it, however, the more often we tend to forget that this knowledge, this faith, remains a hidden mystery to the world, which ignores, rejects, or explains away "Jesus Christ and Him crucified." Many really don't get it! Yet, here through the Divine Word and Sacraments, God the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, enlightens minds and hearts to a spiritual epiphany.

## PRELUDE

"This Little Light of Mine"

arr. by Mark Hayes

## 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

650 Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

### INVOCATION

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

**People:** Amen.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:** If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**People:** If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

**Pastor:** Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**People:** Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against You in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved You with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve Your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with His innocent suffering and death. Trusting in Him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

**Pastor:** Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave His life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

To God on High be Glory



- 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

**People:** Almighty God, You called us out of darkness into light so that we will show forth Your praise in all the world, shine in our hearts, 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

Isaiah 58:3–9a

*(True fasting, true faith)*

<sup>3</sup> 'Why have we fasted,' they say, 'and you have not seen it? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you have not noticed?' "Yet on the day of your fasting, you do as you please and exploit all your workers. <sup>4</sup> Your fasting ends in quarreling and strife, and in striking each other with wicked fists. You cannot fast as you do today and expect your voice to be heard on high. <sup>5</sup> Is this the kind of fast I have chosen, only a day for a man to humble himself? Is it only for bowing one's head like a reed and for lying on sackcloth and ashes? Is that what you call a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD?

<sup>6</sup> "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? <sup>7</sup> Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter-- when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

<sup>8</sup> Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the LORD will be your rear guard. <sup>9</sup> Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I.

**Lector:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

Psalm 112

Pastor: Praise the LORD. Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who finds great delight in his commands.

**People: His children will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

Pastor: Wealth and riches are in his house, and his righteousness endures forever.

**People: Even in darkness light dawns for the upright, for the gracious and compassionate and righteous man.**

Pastor: Good will come to him who is generous and lends freely, who conducts his affairs with justice.

**People: Surely he will never be shaken; a righteous man will be remembered forever.**

Pastor: He will have no fear of bad news; his heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

**People: His heart is secure, he will have no fear; in the end he will look in triumph on his foes.**

Pastor: He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor, his righteousness endures forever; his horn will be lifted high in honor.

**People: The wicked man will see and be vexed, he will gnash his teeth and waste away; the longings of the wicked will come to nothing.**

*(God's wisdom revealed by the Spirit)*

<sup>1</sup> When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. <sup>2</sup> For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup> I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. <sup>4</sup> My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.

<sup>6</sup> We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. <sup>7</sup> No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. <sup>8</sup> None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup> However, as it is written:

"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him" —

<sup>10</sup> but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit.

The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. <sup>11</sup> For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup> We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



# ANTHEM

"Eye has Not Seen"

Marty Haugen

*Refrain:*

*Eye has not seen, ear has not heard,  
What God has ready for those who love Him;  
Spirit of love, come give us the mind of Jesus,  
Teach us the wisdom of God.*

*When pain and sorrow weigh us down,  
Be near to us, O Lord,  
Forgive the weakness of our faith,  
And bear us up within Your peaceful Word. (refrain)*

*Our lives are but a single breath,  
We flower and we fade,  
Yet all our days are in Your hands,  
So we return in love what Love has made. (refrain)*

*To those who see with eyes of faith,  
The Lord is ever near,  
Reflected in the faces  
Of all the poor and lowly of the world. (refrain)*

*Please stand*

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

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

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 5:13–20

*(The fulfillment of the Law)*

<sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

<sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup> "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup> I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **HYMN**

**411** I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

# 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

“O God of Mercy, God of Might”

setting by Mark Sedio

*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.**

*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**

**578** Thy Strong Word did Cleave the Darkness

## **POSTLUDE**

Toccata on “Great Day”

setting by Adolphus Hailstork

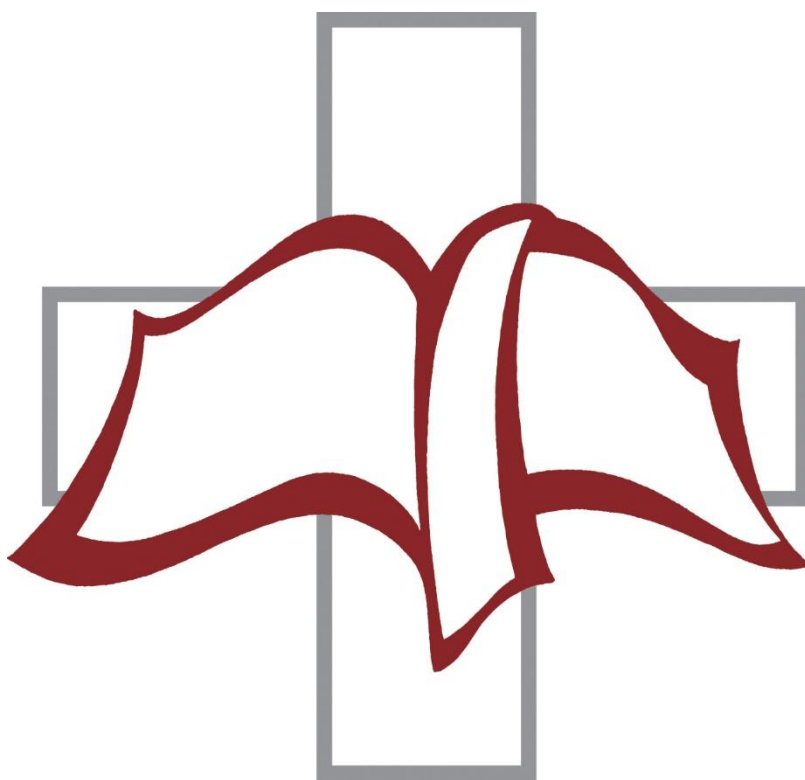
Prepare for next weekend’s worship by reading:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; 1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

Find a devotional guide on the readings at [www.chapelofthecross.org/walkingtogether](http://www.chapelofthecross.org/walkingtogether)

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## Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Theodore Laesch	
Liturgists:	5:00 p.m.	Jacob Anderson
	8:30 a.m.	Bill Rusnak
	11:00 a.m.	Theodore Laesch
Lectors:	8:30 a.m.	Connie Scott
	11:00 a.m.	Marilyn Kreitner
Acolytes:	8:30 a.m.	Aniya Cleveland
	11:00 a.m.	Anna Zvirgzdins
Soloist:	8:30 a.m.	Mark Petersen
	11:00 a.m.	Mark Petersen
Organist & Accompanist:	Ryan Meyer	
Elder of the Week:	Paul Brameier	
Director of the Week:	Patrice Skellett	

## Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran

11645 Benham Road, St. Louis, MO 63136

(314) 741-3737

[www.chapelofthecross.org](http://www.chapelofthecross.org)

Email: [office@chapelofthecross.org](mailto: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](http://www.chapelofthecross.org) Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

*Holy Communion is celebrated the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month at 8:30 a.m.,  
the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month at 11:00 a.m.,  
and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> 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	<a href="mailto:pastorlaesch@chapelofthecross.org">pastorlaesch@chapelofthecross.org</a>
Ellory Glenn, Specific Ministry Pastor	369-8014	<a href="mailto:ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org">ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org</a>
Ryan Meyer, Director of Music	839-0306	<a href="mailto:ryan.meyer@chapelofthecross.org">ryan.meyer@chapelofthecross.org</a>
Bill Rusnak, Director of Adult Ministry	200-9797	<a href="mailto:bill.rusnak@chapelofthecross.org">bill.rusnak@chapelofthecross.org</a>
Clifford Bischoff, Pastoral Assistant	921-1107	<a href="mailto:pastorbischoff@chapelofthecross.org">pastorbischoff@chapelofthecross.org</a>
Mary Laesch, Children and Family Ministry Coord.	355-0688	<a href="mailto:family@chapelofthecross.org">family@chapelofthecross.org</a>

## 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

\*Lutheran Bible Translators

Concordia Seminary

Day 3 Seeds

Chapel Summer Camp

\* Helping Hands Food Pantry

Friend of Moms

Lutherans for Life

Apple of His Eye

Food for the Poor

KFUD Radio

*\* indicates special emphasis in 2023*

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