

CHAPEL OF THE CROSS

LUTHERAN



FAITH • HOPE • LOVE

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.

Second Sunday after Christmas

January 2 & 3, 2021

5:00 p.m. & 8:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

Christmas may seem to be a long time coming and then over with quickly, but Christians are called to carry the holy joy of our Savior's birth throughout the year. The prophet reminds us that we have been clothed with the righteousness of Christ so that we show forth that holy vesture and joy through all the days of our lives.

PRELUDE

"Two French Carols"

arranged by Brant Adams

WELCOME

✘ PREPARATION ✘

OPENING HYMN

523 O Word of God Incarnate (sung by soloist)

- 1 O Word of God incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky:
We praise You for the radiance
That from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps,
Shines on from age to age.
- 2 The Church from You, dear Master,
Received the gift divine;
And still that light is lifted
O'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass
That, all life's voyage through,
Mid mists and rocks and quicksands
Still guides, O Christ, to You.
- 3 O make Your Church, dear Savior,
A lamp of burnished gold
To bear before the nations
Your true light as of old!
O teach Your wand'ring pilgrims
By this their path to trace
Till, clouds and darkness ended,
They see You face to face!

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Please stand

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins,
People: **O Lord, who could stand?**

Pastor: But with You there is forgiveness;
People: **therefore You are revered.**

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination)

Pastor: Merciful Father, we confess that we are sinful and unclean. We stand in need of Your mercy. Our only hope is in the forgiveness and salvation You provide.
People: **We confess, O Lord, that we have sinned, in thought, word, and deed, by our own fault and none other. We deserve only condemnation and punishment for our sin. But we call upon Your mercy through you Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, to forgive our sins, restore us to Your presence, and teach us to amend our sinful ways. Guide us with Your Spirit to learn the joy of Your commands, to walk in Your ways, and show forth in our lives the holiness and righteousness that belong to Your children by baptism and faith. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God has had mercy on you and has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
People: **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

391 Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn (sung by soloist)

1 *Rejoice, rejoice this happy morn,
A Savior unto us is born,
The Christ, the Lord of glory!
His lowly birth in Bethlehem
The angels from on high proclaim
And sing redemption's story!
My soul, extol
God's great favor;
Bless Him ever
For salvation;
Give Him praise and adoration!*

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same 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

1 Kings 3:4–15

(Solomon prays to God for the gift of wisdom.)

⁴ The king went to Gibeon to offer sacrifices, for that was the most important high place, and Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."

⁶ Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day.

⁷ "Now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. ⁸ Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. ⁹ So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

¹⁰ The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. ¹¹ So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, ¹² I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. ¹³ Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for--both riches and honor--so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings. ¹⁴ And if you walk in my ways and obey my statutes and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life." ¹⁵ Then Solomon awoke--and he realized it had been a dream.

He returned to Jerusalem, stood before the ark of the Lord's covenant and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then he gave a feast for all his court.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(We are gifted with God's spiritual blessings)

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will-- ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace ⁸ that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding. ⁹ And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰ to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment--to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

¹¹ In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹² in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. ¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession--to the praise of his glory.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

410 Within the Father's House

- 1 *Within the Father's house*
 The Son has found His home,
 And to His temple suddenly
 The Lord of life has come.
- 2 *The doctors of the Law*
 Gaze on the wondrous child
 And marvel at His gracious words
 Of wisdom undefiled.
- 3 *Yet not to them is giv'n*
 The mighty truth to know,
 To lift the earthly veil that hides
 Incarnate God below.
- 4 *The secret of the Lord*
 Escapes each human eye,
 And faithful pond'ring hearts await
 The full epiphany.
- 5 *Lord, visit Thou our souls*
 And teach us by Thy grace
 Each dim revealing of Thyself
 With loving awe to trace
- 6 *Till we behold Thy face*
 And know as we are known
 Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 Coequal Three in One.

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Please stand

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:40–52

(The boy Jesus is found in the temple at Jerusalem.)

⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.

⁴¹ Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. ⁴³ After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him.

⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers.

⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

⁴⁹ "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁵¹ Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

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.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

In the Lord's Supper we receive Christ's body and blood in and with the bread and wine. The two great blessings of the Lord's Supper are the forgiveness of sins and strength to live an improved Christian life. In response to the Lord's command we are to examine ourselves privately prior to partaking of the Sacrament. There are three basic questions on which we should examine ourselves, all of which we should be able to answer in the affirmative if we are to partake of the Sacrament worthily: 1) Am I truly sorry for my sins? 2) Do I believe Jesus Christ is my Savior? 3) Do I promise with God's help to live a Christian life? If you agree with the above statement, we invite you to the Sacrament.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me.

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: Drink of it, all of you; this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

After the Words of Institution are spoken, the bread and wine (sealed in a plastic chalice) will be distributed to communicants in the pew. Non-alcoholic elements have the letters "NA" written on the top of the chalice.

Please wait to open the sealed chalice until after the bread and wine has been distributed to everyone. When all have received the bread and wine, we will all take the body of blood of Christ together at the same time.

The ushers will collect the used communion cup when you are dismissed to leave after the closing hymn.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

"Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn"

arranged by Allan Mahnke

SILENT PRAYER

You may pray the following prayer as we give thanks to God for His good gifts:

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen

Please stand

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

Blessed are You, heavenly Father, for You have once again fed and nourished us at Your Table through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Strengthen and support us, Your pilgrim people, so that we grow in wisdom and serve You and our neighbor. Keep us in Your care in the year that is beginning, and bring us at last to Your eternal kingdom, where You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: 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.**

CLOSING HYMN

384 Of the Father's Love Begotten

- 1** **Of the Father's love begotten
 Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
 He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
 And that future years shall see
 Evermore and evermore.**

- 2** **Oh, that birth forever blessèd,
 When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
 Bore the Savior of our race,
And the babe, the world's Redeemer,
 First revealed His sacred face
 Evermore and evermore.**

- 3** **This is He whom seers in old time
 Chanted of with one accord,
Whom the voices of the prophets
 Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the long-expected;
 Let creation praise its Lord
 Evermore and evermore.**

4 O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him;
 Angel hosts, His praises sing.
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him
 And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
 Ev'ry voice in concert ring
 Evermore and evermore.

5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
 And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
 And unending praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
 And eternal victory
 Evermore and evermore. Amen.

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POSTLUDE

“Once in Royal David’s City”

setting by Jeffrey Blersch

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading:
Genesis 1:1-5; Romans 6:1-11; Mark 1:4-11

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Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	James Marriott
Liturgists:	5:00 p.m. James Marriott
	8:30 a.m. James Marriott
	11:00 a.m. Adam Rouse
Soloists:	5:00 p.m. Lynda Christian
	8:30 a.m. John Schmidt
	11:00 a.m. Lynda Christian
Instrumentalist:	Bud Shultz, clarinet
Organist & Accompanist:	Carolyn Rusnak

Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran

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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 8:30 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
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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:

Day 3 Seeds*	Hope Center for Families*	Apple of His Eye*
Helping Hands Food Pantry	Concordia Seminary	Friend of Moms
Sidewalk Sunday School	Lutherans for Life	KFUD Radio
Chapel Summer Camp		

** indicates special emphasis in 2020*

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