

# 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.*

# Third Sunday after the Epiphany

January 21, 2024

11:00 a.m.

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

## AS WE GATHER

Can't somebody else do it? Those words and thoughts often come to our minds and out of our mouths when being asked to do something we'd rather not do. It happens in our work and jobs, it happens in homes and families, and it even happens within the church. It happened to Jonah when the Lord told him to go to Nineveh. Today we hear the second time God called to Jonah, telling him to again go to a place he'd rather not go. There are many times we hear things in Scripture we'd rather not hear when it comes to difficult things. Can't somebody else do it? Instead of that thought entering our minds, may we instead be reminded of God's continued promises and presence with us in whatever we do in faith, and wherever we are called to go—even to our own Ninevehs.

## PRELUDE

Partita on "Jesus Has Come"

setting by John A. Behnke

## 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

839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

### INVOCATION

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

**People:** Amen.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Leader:** Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**People:** Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

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

**People:** Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended You and sinned against Your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to Your promises in Christ Jesus.

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

**Leader:** God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by His death on the cross and freed us from death by His resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

## **HYMN OF CONFESSION**

**570** Just As I Am, Without One Plea

- 1** Just as I am, without one plea  
But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 2** Just as I am and waiting not  
To rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 5** Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 6** Just as I am; Thy love unknown  
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

*Text: Public domain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray:

**People: O Lord our God, Your Word summons us to discipleship. Give us grace to relinquish control of our lives, so that we may serve You only, faithfully fulfilling our part in Your plan for the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jonah 3:1–5, 10

*(Jonah goes to Nineveh.)*

<sup>1</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: <sup>2</sup> "Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you."

<sup>3</sup> Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very important city--a visit required three days. <sup>4</sup> On the first day, Jonah started into the city. He proclaimed: "Forty more days and Nineveh will be overturned." <sup>5</sup> The Ninevites believed God. They declared a fast, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

<sup>10</sup> When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 139

Leader: O LORD, you have searched me and you know me.

People: **You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.**

Leader: You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

People: **Before a word is on my tongue you know it completely, O LORD.**

Leader: You hem me in--behind and before; you have laid your hand upon me.

People: **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.**

Leader: Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

People: **If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.**

Leader: If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea,

People: **even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.**

Leader: If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,"

People: **even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you.**

Leader: For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

People: **I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.**

Leader: My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place.

People: **When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body.**

Leader: All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

People: **How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!**

## ANTHEM

“You Search, O God, the Reaches of My Heart”

L. Gauger/G. Hennig

*You search, O God, the reaches of my heart;  
You see what all my dreams and secrets are.  
You know before I leave what road I'll take;  
You know before I speak what I will say.  
I cannot hide behind a proud façade;  
You see that me behind the mask, O God.*

*You knit me cell by cell from spark of life;  
You bid my heart to beat, my voice to cry.  
You shaped and sculpted me, your work of art;  
You made me wonderful in ev'ry part.  
And then within Your book of days and years,  
You wrote the number of my summers here.*

*And if I dare to settle 'cross the sea,  
You'll find me there, Your love enfolding me.  
And if I stray into the clutch of night,  
You'll find me there, for You turn dark to light.  
One day my eyes will close to skies of blue,  
But when I wake, I'll find I'm still with You.*

## EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 7:29–31

*(Faithful living with time given)*

<sup>29</sup> What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; <sup>30</sup> those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; <sup>31</sup> those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.

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

**People:** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand*

**Leader:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

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

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

Mark 1:14–20

*(Jesus calls the first disciples.)*

<sup>14</sup> After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. <sup>15</sup> "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"

<sup>16</sup> As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." <sup>18</sup> At once they left their nets and followed him.

<sup>19</sup> When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. <sup>20</sup> Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

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

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

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## **HYMN**

856 O Christ, Who Called the Twelve

# 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.**

## 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.**

## OFFERING

*During the offering, please sign the Record of Fellowship found at the end of each pew*

“I Will Sing My Maker’s Praises”

setting by Ryan Meyer

*Please stand*

## OFFERTORY

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

## **PRAYER**

**Leader:** Almighty God, we thank You for teaching us the things You want us to believe and do. Help us by Your Holy Spirit to keep Your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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**

**Leader:** 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**

**685**     Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

## **POSTLUDE**

“Festive Postlude in D Major”

D.P. Smith

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading:

Deuteronomy 18: 15-20; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

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.	Adam Rouse
	8:30 a.m.	Jacob Anderson
	11:00 a.m.	Brett Arrasmith
Lectors:	8:30 a.m.	Carla Rainey
	11:00 a.m.	Ken Kreitner
Acolytes:	8:30 a.m.	Nyla Hill
	11:00 a.m.	Audrey Runser
Choir:	8:30 a.m.	Choral Singers
Soloist:	11:00 a.m.	Lynda Christian
Organist & Accompanist:	Ryan Meyer	
Elder of the Week:	Jon Rogers	

## Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran

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(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>
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Brett Arrasmith, Vicar	417-592-1854	<a href="mailto:vicar@chapelofthecross.org">vicar@chapelofthecross.org</a>
Ryan Meyer, Director of Music	839-0306	<a href="mailto:ryan.meyer@chapelofthecross.org">ryan.meyer@chapelofthecross.org</a>
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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*