

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.

Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022

11:00 a.m.

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

AS WE GATHER

How then shall we live? What a profound question for Christians to consider midway through Lent! The Lord has shown His mercy to us, forgiven our sins, and delivered us from death. Then what? What is the focus of our lives? The call of the Readings for this Sunday points us to the repentance that bears the good fruit of God's kingdom. Like trees that have failed to produce good fruit, the Lord has tended us with His Word, with the warning of the Law and the promise of the Gospel. But if the tree remains unfruitful, the tree will have to be cut down. It is a hard word to hear, but God remains merciful, and most of all, He seeks that we bear the good fruits of faith and repentance in our daily lives.

PRELUDE

"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

setting by John Behnke

WELCOME

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

✘ PREPARATION ✘

Please stand

ENTRANCE HYMN

609 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

- 1** Jesus sinners doth receive;
Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live
And from God and heaven wander!
Here is hope for all who grieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

- 2** We deserve but grief and shame,
Yet His words, rich grace revealing,
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim;
Here our ills have perfect healing.
Firmly in these words believe:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

- 4** I, a sinner, come to Thee
With a penitent confession.
Savior, mercy show to me;
Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

- 7** Jesus sinners doth receive;
Also I have been forgiven;
And when I this earth must leave,
I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to Him I cleave:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

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BAPTISM

Abigail Ruth Curley

The daughter of Jason and Jennifer Curley

Sponsors: Darcey Case and Patrick Anderson

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.

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 and ordained 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. Thanks be to God!**

✘ WORD ✘

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 33:7–20

(The Lord seeks not the death of the sinner but that he turn from his wickedness and live.)

⁷ "Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸ When I say to the wicked, 'O wicked man, you will surely die,' and you do not speak out to dissuade him from his ways, that wicked man will die for his sin, and I will hold you accountable for his blood. ⁹ But if you do warn the wicked man to turn from his ways and he does not do so, he will die for his sin, but you will have saved yourself.

¹⁰ "Son of man, say to the house of Israel, 'This is what you are saying: "Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?"'

¹¹ Say to them, 'As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?'

¹² "Therefore, son of man, say to your countrymen, 'The righteousness of the righteous man will not save him when he disobeys, and the wickedness of the wicked man will not cause him to fall when he turns from it. The righteous man, if he sins, will not be allowed to live because of his former righteousness.' ¹³ If I tell the righteous man that he will surely live, but then he trusts in his righteousness and does evil, none of the righteous things he has done will be remembered; he will die for the evil he has done.

¹⁴ And if I say to the wicked man, 'You will surely die,' but he then turns away from his sin and does what is just and right-- ¹⁵ if he gives back what he took in pledge for a loan, returns what he has stolen, follows the decrees that give life, and does no evil, he will surely live; he will not die. ¹⁶ None of the sins he has committed will be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he will surely live.

¹⁷ "Yet your countrymen say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' But it is their way that is not just. ¹⁸ If a righteous man turns from his righteousness and does evil, he will die for it. ¹⁹ And if a wicked man turns away from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he will live by doing so. ²⁰ Yet, O house of Israel, you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' But I will judge each of you according to his own ways."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 85

Pastor: You showed favor to your land, O LORD;

People: You restored the fortunes of Jacob.

Pastor: You forgave the iniquity of your people and covered all their sins.

People: You set aside all your wrath and turned from your fierce anger.

Pastor: Restore us again, O God our Savior, and put away your displeasure toward us.

People: Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger through all generations?

Pastor: Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

People: Show us your unfailing love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

Pastor: I will listen to what God the LORD will say; he promises peace to his people, his saints-- but let them not return to folly.

People: Surely his salvation is near those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Pastor: Love and faithfulness meet together; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

People: Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven.

Pastor: The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest.

People: Righteousness goes before him and prepares the way for his steps.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

(God is faithful; He will not allow you to be tempted beyond your ability.)

¹ For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers, that our forefathers were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. ² They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. ³ They all ate the same spiritual food ⁴ and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered over the desert.

⁶ Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. ⁷ Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry." ⁸ We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did--and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. ⁹ We should not test the Lord, as some of them did--and were killed by snakes. ¹⁰ And do not grumble, as some of them did--and were killed by the destroying angel. ¹¹ These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. ¹² So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! ¹³ No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

762 There is a Time for Everything (congregation joins on verse 4)

- 1 *There is a time for ev'rything, A time for all that life may bring:
A time to plant, a time to reap, A time to laugh, a time to weep,
A time to heal, a time to slay, A time to build where rubble lay,
A time to die, a time to mourn, A time for joy and to be born,*
- 2 *A time to hold, then be alone, A time to gather scattered stone,
A time to break, a time to mend, A time to search and then to end,
A time to keep, then throw away, A time to speak, then nothing say,
A time for war till hatreds cease, A time for love, a time for peace.*
- 3 *Eternal Lord, Your wisdom sees And fathoms all life's tragedies;
You know our grief, You hear our sighs — In mercy, dry our tear-stained eyes.
From evil times, You bring great good; Beneath the cross, we've safely stood.
Though dimly now life's path we trace, One day we shall see face to face.*

**Δ 4 Before all time had yet begun,
You, Father, planned to give Your Son;
Lord Jesus Christ, with timeless grace,
You have redeemed our time-bound race;
O Holy Spirit, Paraclete,
Your timely work in us complete;
Blest Trinity, Your praise we sing—
There is a time for ev'rything!**

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

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 13:1-9

(Unless you repent, you also will perish.)

¹ Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. ² Jesus answered, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? ³ I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. ⁴ Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them--do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish."

⁶ Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it, but did not find any. ⁷ So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?'

⁸ "'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' "

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN

760 What God Ordains is Always Good

- 1 What God ordains is always good:
 His will is just and holy.
As He directs my life for me,
 I follow meek and lowly.
 My God indeed
 In ev'ry need
Knows well how He will shield me;
To Him, then, I will yield me.

- 2 What God ordains is always good:
 He never will deceive me;
He leads me in His righteous way,
 And never will He leave me.
 I take content
 What He has sent;
His hand that sends me sadness
Will turn my tears to gladness.

- 4 What God ordains is always good:
 He is my friend and Father;
He suffers naught to do me harm
 Though many storms may gather.
 Now I may know
 Both joy and woe;
Someday I shall see clearly
That He has loved me dearly.

(continued on next page)

**6 What God ordains is always good:
This truth remains unshaken.
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine,
I shall not be forsaken.
I fear no harm,
For with His arm
He shall embrace and shield me;
So to my God I yield me.**

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PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Sermon Notes:

OFFERING

"Aria"

Charles Callahan

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

809 Great is Thy Faithfulness

- 1 **Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be. (Refrain)**

- ref **Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

- 2 **Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (Refrain)**

- 3 **Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Refrain)**

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POSTLUDE

“Hymn to Joy”

Michael Burkhardt

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading:

Isaiah 12:1-6; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3; 11-32

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

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Serving at Chapel

Preacher & Liturgist:	Theodore Laesch	
Lectors:	8:30 a.m.	Carla Rainey
	11:00 a.m.	Tonja Cleveland
Acolytes:	8:30 a.m.	Audrey Runser
	11:00 a.m.	Aniya Cleveland
Singer:	11:00 a.m.	Matt McEuen
Organist & Accompanist:	Milo Lombard	

Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran

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(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 KFUE 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
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James Marriott, Pastoral Assistant - Youth	(972) 741-5978	james.marriott@chapelofthecross.org
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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:

*Day 3 Seeds	*Christian Friends of New Americans	*Food for the Poor
Helping Hands Food Pantry	Concordia Seminary	Friend of Moms
Sidewalk Sunday School	Lutherans for Life	KFUE Radio
Chapel Summer Camp	Apple of His Eye	Hope Center for Families

** indicates special emphasis in 2021-2022*

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