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.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023 11:00 a.m.

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

AS WE GATHER

Each Sunday in Lent brings us closer to Holy Week and closer to the foot of the cross. In a sense, we are annual pilgrims traveling on the way of and to the cross. Each year is slightly different from the one that has come before on that cross way. According to the liturgical year in the Church, we are closer today to the death of Christ and His glorious resurrection than we were a week ago. And, according to our earthly lives, we are drawing closer to our own individual death and resurrection. Along this way, we intersect with the cross, which serves as a sign for our lives at all times. May we each be blessed in our pilgrimage!

PRELUDE

"My Song is Love Unknown"

arranged by Peter P. Stearns

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

819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

- Sing praise to God, the highest good,
 The author of creation,

 The God of love who understood
 Our need for His salvation.

 With healing balm our souls He fills
 And ev'ry faithless murmur stills:
 To God all praise and glory!
- 3 We sought the Lord in our distress;
 O God, in mercy hear us.
 Our Savior saw our helplessness
 And came with peace to cheer us.
 For this we thank and praise the Lord,
 Who is by one and all adored:
 To God all praise and glory!
- 4 He never shall forsake His flock,
 His chosen generation;
 He is their refuge and their rock,
 Their peace and their salvation.
 As with a mother's tender hand,
 He leads His own, His chosen band:
 To God all praise and glory!

5 All who confess Christ's holy name,
Give God the praise and glory.
Let all who know His pow'r proclaim
Aloud the wondrous story.
Cast ev'ry idol from its throne,
For God is God, and He alone:
To God all praise and glory!

Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our

sins to God our Father, imploring Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Leader: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

People: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Leader: Almighty God, merciful Father:

People: I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and

iniquities with which I have offended You and for which I justly

deserve Your punishment. But I am sorry for them, and repent of them,

and pray for Your boundless mercy.

For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being; forgive my sins, give me Your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.

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Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and

for His sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on

them the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

KYRIE

Leader: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

(Congregation sings refrain)



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

Leader: For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world,

and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us

pray to the Lord. (refrain)

Leader: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common

welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord. (refrain)

Leader: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to

the Lord. (refrain)

Leader: For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to

the Lord. (refrain)

Leader: For these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord.

(refrain)

Leader: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord. (refrain)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray.

People: O God, by the suffering and death of Your Son You redeemed this

fallen world. Grant eternal joy to Your faithful people, whom You have delivered from the danger of everlasting death, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one

God, now and forever. Amen.

₩ WORD ₩

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 37:1-14

(*Life is restored in the valley of the dry bones.*)

¹ The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone know."

⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! ⁵ This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶ I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD."

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

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⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these slain, that they may live."

¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet--a vast army.

¹¹ Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: O my people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴ I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.' "

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

"Psalm 130: I Will Wait for You"

Getty, Kauflin & Townend

Out of the depths I cry to You In darkest places I will call Incline Your ear to me anew And hear my cry for mercy Lord

Were You to count my sinful ways How could I come before Your throne Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze I stand redeemed by grace alone I will wait for You I will wait for You On Your word I will rely I will wait for You surely wait for You Till my soul is satisfied

So put Your hope in God alone Take courage in His power to save Completely and forever won By Christ emerging from the grave

His steadfast love has made a way And God Himself has paid the price That all who trust in Him today Find healing in His sacrifice

I will wait for You I will wait for You Through the storm and through the night I will wait for You surely wait for You For Your love is my delight

11

EPISTLE Romans 8:1–11

(Life in the Spirit through Christ)

¹ Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

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⁵ Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. ⁶ The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; ⁷ the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. ⁸ Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

⁹ You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. ¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL John 11:17-27, 38-45

(The sign of the raising of Lazarus from the dead)

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

¹⁸ Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother.

²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. ²¹ "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask."

- ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."
- ²⁴ Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."
- ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; ²⁶ and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"
- ²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."
- ³⁸ Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. ³⁹ "Take away the stone," he said.
- "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."
- ⁴⁰ Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?"
- ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that you sent me."
- ⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "Take off the grave clothes and let him go."
- ⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, put their faith in him.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN

741 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

- 1 Jesus Christ, my sure defense
 And my Savior, now is living!
 Knowing this, my confidence
 Rests upon the hope here given,
 Though the night of death be fraught
 Still with many an anxious thought.
- 2 Jesus, my Redeemer, lives; Likewise I to life shall waken. He will bring me where He is; Shall my courage then be shaken? Shall I fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His members dead?
- 3 No, too closely I am bound
 By my hope to Christ forever;
 Faith's strong hand the Rock has found,
 Grasped it, and will leave it never;
 Even death now cannot part
 From its Lord the trusting heart.

Text: Public domain

(Organ alone)

- 6 Then take comfort and rejoice,
 For His members Christ will cherish.
 Fear not, they will hear His voice;
 Dying, they will never perish;
 For the very grave is stirred
 When the trumpet's blast is heard.
- 7 Laugh to scorn the gloomy grave
 And at death no longer tremble;
 He, the Lord, who came to save
 Will at last His own assemble.
 They will go their Lord to meet,
 Treading death beneath their feet.
- 8 O, then, draw away your hearts
 From all pleasures base and hollow;
 Strive to share what He imparts
 While you here His footsteps follow.
 As you now still wait to rise,
 Fix your hearts beyond the skies!

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please stand

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.

OFFERING

"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

setting by Thomas Geishen

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.

▼ 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.

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. **People:** And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People:** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give

You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord who brought the gift of salvation to all people by His death on the tree of the cross so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree, would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise Your holy name and join their

glorious song:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim Shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the heights, Sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes In the name of Christ the Lord!

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.

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.

AGNUS DEI

Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, All our sins You take away; Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Grant us mercy, Lord, we pray.

Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, All our sins You take away; Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

If you wish to take communion in the pew, please raise your hand when the communion assistant comes down the aisle.

When the wine is distributed, individual glasses will be offered first, then the common cup. Communicants may take whichever is preferred. If taking the individual glass, please keep the glass visible so that the communion assistant with the common cup will know who has already communed.

Non-alcoholic wine is available in the center of the communion tray for those who have a sensitivity to the alcohol in wine.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

430 My Song is Love Unknown

752 Be Still, My Soul; the Lord is on Your Side

SILENT PRAYER

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

Lord Jesus, we have gathered together in Your house to be guests at Your table. We thank and praise You that You have nourished us with Your body and blood and have covered our sinful hearts with the pure garment of Your perfect righteousness. As You have drawn close to us and shown us Your love and forgiveness, in the same way, help us to drawn close and love one another. Keep us in the true Christian faith so that we glorify You with our lives until that time that You call us to be guests at Your heavenly table. In Your name we pray, Amen.

Please stand

PRAYER

Pastor: Almighty God, You provide the true bread from heaven, Your Son, Jesus

Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of His body and blood may abide in Him and He in us, that we may be filled

with the power of His endless life, 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.

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

"Toccata in C Major"

R. Paul Herbert

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:1-27:66

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

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I Will Wait For You (Psalm 130)" CCLI Song # 7118914 Jordan Kauflin | Keith Getty | Matthew Merker | Stuart Townend © 2018 Getty Music Publishing (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Jordan Kauflin Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Matthew Merker Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Townend Songs (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)
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Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Ellory Glenn	
Liturgist:	Bill Rusnak	
Lectors:	8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Denise Koch John Zvirgzdins
Acolytes:	8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Anna Zvirgzdins Jonah Meyer
Choir:	11:00 a.m.	Joyful Noise
Instrumentalists:	Glenn Lackey, percussion Matt McEuen, guitar	
Director:	Ryan Meyer	
Organist & Accompanist:	Ryan Meyer	
Elder of the Week:	David Stahlhut	

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 KFUO 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 1^{st} and 3^{rd} and 5^{th} Sundays of the month at 8:30 a.m., the 2^{nd} and 4^{th} and 5^{th} Sundays of the month at 11:00 a.m., and the 1^{st} and 3^{rd} and 5^{th} 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

Concordia Seminary Friend of Moms Food for the Poor Day 3 Seeds Lutherans for Life KFUO Radio

Chapel Summer Camp Apple of His Eye

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

^{*} indicates special emphasis in 2023