

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.

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 27, 2022 11:00 a.m.

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

AS WE GATHER

No parable more fully describes the profound character of God's mercy than the prodigal son and the waiting father. We are the rebels who begin to think we deserve our heavenly Father's kindness and who demand from Him what is not our right to claim. But instead of disowning us, He meets us with joy, welcomes us with His forgiveness, restores our tattered righteousness with the robe of Christ's holiness, and sets His Table before us. This is what happens every week as the Lord reclaims us from our sins, restores joy to our heavy hearts, reminds us of His baptismal promise, and feeds our body and soul with the body and blood of His Son. This is the source of our holy joy and this is the peace that passes all understanding.

PRELUDE

"What Wondrous Love is This"

arr. for Handbells by Sondra Tucker

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

686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

- Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace; Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise. While the hope of endless glory Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me ever to adore Thee; May I still Thy goodness prove.
- Here I raise my Ebenezer, Hither by Thy help I've come;
 And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, Safely to arrive at home.
 Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wand'ring from the fold of God;
 He, to rescue me from danger, Interposed His precious blood.
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm constrained to be; Let that grace now like a fetter Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts above.
- 4 Oh, that day when freed from sinning, I shall see Thy lovely face; Clothed then in the blood-washed linen, How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace! Come, my Lord, no longer tarry; Take my ransom'd soul away; Send Thine angels soon to carry Me to realms of endless day.

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INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: People:	If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
Pastor:	Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
People:	Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
Pastor:	Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As an ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People:	Amen.

ANTHEM

"Lord, from Sorrows Deep I Call"

Matt Papa & Matt Boswell

Lord from sorrows deep I call, when my hope is shaken. Torn and ruined from the fall, hear my desperation. For so long I've pled and prayed, "God come to my rescue." Even so the thorn remains. Still my heart will praise You.

Storms within my troubled soul, questions without answers. On my faith these billows roll. God, be now my shelter. Why are you cast down my soul? Hope in Him who saves you. When the fires have all grown cold, cause this heart to praise You.

Should my life be torn from me, every worldly pleasure. When all I possess is grief, God, be then my treasure. Be my vision in the night. Be my hope and refuge. 'Til my faith is turned to sight, Lord, my heart will praise You.

Oh, my soul, put your hope in God. My help, my rock, I will praise Him. Sing, oh sing, through the raging storm. "You're still my God, my salvation."

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Heavenly Father, You are the giver of all good gifts and have given us Your own Son to be our Savior and Redeemer. Deliver us from our sin and restore to us the joy of our salvation, that having received such mercy, we need not surrender to despair anymore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray. Amen.

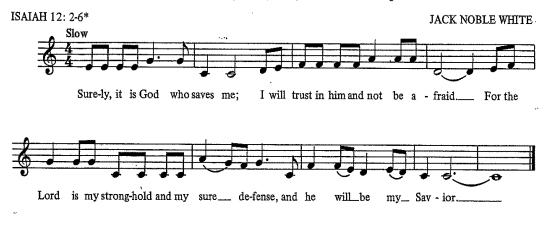
₩ WORD ₩

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 12:1-6

(Surely God is my Savior.)

The congregation is asked to join the choir singing this refrain after each verse is sung:



Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation. And on that day you shall say, give thanks to the Lord and call upon His name. (Refrain)

Make His deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that His Name is exalted. Sing the praises of the Lord, for He has done great things, and this is known in all the world. (Refrain)

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, For the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel. (Refrain sung twice)

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PSALM Pastor: People:	Psalm 32 Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.
Pastor:	When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.
People:	For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.
Pastor: People:	Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD" and you forgave the guilt of my sin.
Pastor:	Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found; surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him.
People:	You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.
Pastor:	I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you.
People:	Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.
Pastor:	Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD's unfailing love surrounds the man who trusts in him.
People:	Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

EPISTLE

(If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.)

¹⁶ So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. ²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Lector:This is the Word of the Lord.People:Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Pastor:The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.People:Glory to You, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

(My son was dead and now he is alive again.)

¹ Now the tax collectors and "sinners" were all gathering around to hear him. ² But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³ Then Jesus told them this parable:

"There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³ "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need.

¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired men.' ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹ "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

²² "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

²⁸ "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!'

³¹ " 'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours.
³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' "

Pastor:This is the Gospel of the Lord.People:Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN

571 God Loved the World So that He Gave

- God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save, That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive.
- 2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith, Who was made flesh and suffered death; All then who trust in Him alone Are built on this chief cornerstone.
- God would not have the sinner die;
 His Son with saving grace is nigh;
 His Spirit in the Word declares
 How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.
- Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
 Forgives all sins which you have done;
 And, justified by Jesus' blood,
 Your Baptism grants the highest good.

- 5 If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer: Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.
- Δ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One! To You, O blessèd Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

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PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Sermon Notes:

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

"Were You There/There is a Balm in Gilead"

arr. by Brant Adams

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.

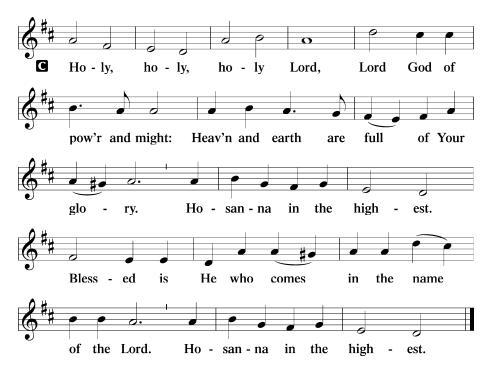
SACRAMENT 🕷

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, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS



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

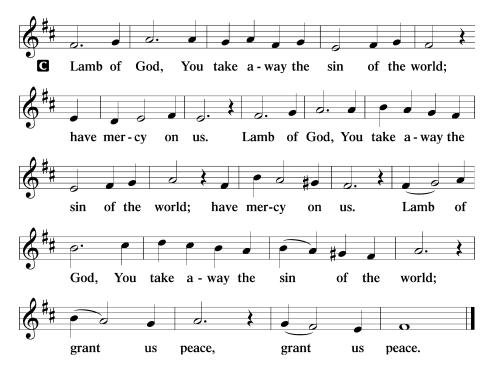
Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me.

> 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



A "continuous communion table" will be the method of distribution this day. Communicants will come forward down the center aisle at the direction of the usher. You will receive the wafer from the pastor at the center and then proceed to the right or left (depending on which side of the church you are sitting) to receive the wine. You will then return to your pew. As is our custom, communion will be brought to people in the pews who have difficulty walking to the chancel. If you wish to take communion in the pew, please raise your hand when the communion assistant comes down the aisle. Also young children will receive a word of blessing.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

569 In Adam We have All been One

- In Adam we have all been one, One huge rebellious man;
 We all have fled that evening voice That sought us as we ran.
- We fled Thee, and in losing Thee We lost our brother too;
 Each singly sought and claimed his own;
 Each man his brother slew.
- But Thy strong love, it sought us still And sent Thine only Son
 That we might hear His Shepherd's voice And, hearing Him, be one.
- 4 O Thou who, when we loved Thee not, Didst love and save us all, Thou great Good Shepherd of mankind, O hear us when we call.

 5 Send us Thy Spirit, teach us truth; Thou Son, O set us free
 From fancied wisdom, self-sought ways, To make us one in Thee.

 Δ 6 Then shall our song united rise To Thine eternal throne, Where with the Father evermore And Spirit Thou art one.

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542 When I Behold Jesus Christ

 When I behold Jesus Christ, True God who died for me, I wonder much at His love As He hung on the tree. (Refrain)

ref What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this? You showed Your love, Jesus, there To me on Calvary. What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this? You showed Your love, Jesus, there To me on Calvary.

 For me You gave all Your love, For me You suffered pain;
 I find no words, nothing can Your selflessness explain. (Refrain)

- You had no sin, holy Lord, But You were tortured, tried;
 On Golgotha there for all My sins You bled and died. (Refrain)
- What love is this? Greater love No one has ever known.
 My life with God— this I owe To You, and You alone. (Refrain)

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574 Before the Throne of God Above

- Before the throne of God above
 I have a strong, a perfect plea:
 A great High Priest, whose name is Love,
 Who ever lives and pleads for me.
- My name is graven on His hands, My name is written on His heart;
 I know that while in heav'n He stands No tongue can bid me thence depart.
- When Satan tempts me to despair, And tells me of the guilt within, Upward I look, and see Him there Who made an end of all my sin.
- Because the sinless Savior died, My sinful soul is counted free;
 For God, the just, is satisfied To look on Him and pardon me.

- 5 Behold Him there! The risen Lamb! My perfect, spotless righteousness, The great unchangeable I AM, The King of glory and of grace!
- 6 At one with Him, I cannot die, My soul is purchased by His blood; My life is hid with Christ on high, With Christ, my Savior and my God.

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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:	Let us pray.
Decel	God of love, through Your Son You have restored us to You as Your own sons and daughters, forgiven all our sins, and delivered us to everlasting life. By the guidance of Your Word and Spirit, keep us in this holy faith and fear, that we may learn submission to You and our hearts may rest in Your peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, one Lord, 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

543 What Wondrous Love is This

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!
 What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
 What wondrous love is this
 That caused the Lord of bliss
 To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
 To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down, When I was sinking down, sinking down, When I was sinking down Beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb,
Who is the great I AM,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing His love for me,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
And through eternity I'll sing on.

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POSTLUDE

"What Wondrous Love is This"

setting by Ryan Meyer

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading: Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; Luke 20:9-20 Find a devotional guide on the readings at www.chapelofthecross.org/walkingtogether

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Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Jedidiah McClellan		
Liturgist:	Clifford Bischoff		
Lectors:	8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Judy Kooi Audrey Luedtke	
Acolytes:	8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Jonah Meyer Ethan Moss	
Choirs: Chapel Bells Choral Singe Joyful Noise		rs	
Instrumentalists:	Bud Shultz, clarinet Glenn Lackey, percussion Matt McEuen, guitar Meagan Purcell, violin		
Director:	Ryan Meyer		
Organist:	Ryan Meyer		
Accompanist:	Carolyn Rusnak		

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 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

	Home Phone	<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
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	d. 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
Helping Hands Food Pantry
Sidewalk Sunday School
Chapel Summer Camp

*Christian Friends of New Americans Concordia Seminary Lutherans for Life Apple of His Eye *Food for the Poor Friend of Moms KFUO Radio 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