

# CHAPEL OF THE CROSS

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LUTHERAN



FAITH • HOPE • LOVE

# Third Sunday in Lent

March 6 & 7, 2021

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

## AS WE GATHER

When the Israelites were encamped by Mount Sinai, just out of slavery in Egypt and far from the Promised Land, God wisely gave them the Ten Commandments. They are engraved in our historic churches and capitol buildings. Their perfect demands require a Savior for us. Jesus was so jealous for God's Law that He cleansed the temple before cleansing us of our sin by giving the temple of His body. In His wisdom, God did what we could not: He kept His own Law for us and then chose us to be the Body of Christ today. None of us has kept the commandments; we and our spiritual ancestors reflect our weaknesses in faith and action. But in the process, God's wisdom shows forth: When we are weak, He is strong. Today is a day to boast about God's grace and His Son, Christ crucified, the power and wisdom of God.

## PRELUDE

"Largo in G Major"

G. F. Handel

## WELCOME

✂ PREPARATION ✂

OPENING HYMN

428 Cross of Jesus, Cross of Sorrow (sung by soloist)

- 1 *Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow,  
Where the blood of Christ was shed,  
Perfect Man on thee did suffer,  
Perfect God on thee has bled!*
  
- 2 *Here the King of all the ages,  
Throned in light ere worlds could be,  
Robed in mortal flesh is dying,  
Crucified by sin for me.*
  
- 3 *O mysterious condescending!  
O abandonment sublime!  
Very God Himself is bearing  
All the sufferings of time!*
  
- 4 *Cross of Jesus, cross of sorrow,  
Where the blood of Christ was shed,  
Perfect Man on thee did suffer,  
Perfect God on thee has bled!*

*Public domain*

*Please stand*

## 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.**

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

(sung by soloist)

*Lord, have mercy; have mercy, O Lord.*

*Christ, have mercy; have mercy, O Lord.*

*Lord, have mercy; have mercy, O Lord.*

*Music: Avon Gillespie*

*Music © 1987, GIA Publications, Inc.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

O Lord, You gave the Law so that even in our sin we might know Your will for our lives, and You gave us Your only Son to cleanse our lives of sin. For His sake, forgive us and renew us, so that we may serve You faithfully; 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

Exodus 20:1–17

*(The Ten Commandments)*

<sup>1</sup> And God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup> "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

<sup>3</sup> "You shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup> "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

<sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup> but showing love to a thousand [generations] of those who love me and keep my commandments.

<sup>7</sup> "You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup> "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. <sup>9</sup> Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>10</sup> but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. <sup>11</sup> For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

<sup>12</sup> "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup> "You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup> "You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup> "You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup> "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

<sup>17</sup> "You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

Corinthians 1:18-31

*(The foolish wisdom of God)*

<sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup> For it is written:

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."

<sup>20</sup> Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup> For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup> Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, <sup>23</sup> but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup> but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup> For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength.

<sup>26</sup> Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup> But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. <sup>28</sup> He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things--and the things that are not--to nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no one may boast before him. <sup>30</sup> It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God--that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.

<sup>31</sup> Therefore, as it is written: "Let him who boasts boast in the Lord."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

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

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

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

John 2:13–22

<sup>13</sup> When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> In the temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. <sup>15</sup> So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup> To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market!"

<sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me."

<sup>18</sup> Then the Jews demanded of him, "What miraculous sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?"

<sup>19</sup> Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days."

<sup>20</sup> The Jews replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" <sup>21</sup> But the temple he had spoken of was his body. <sup>22</sup> After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

**Leader:** 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**

### **ANTHEM**

*"The Perfect Wisdom of Our God"*

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

*The perfect wisdom of our God  
Revealed in all the universe  
All things created by His hand  
And held together at His command  
He knows the myst'ries of the seas  
The secrets of the stars are His  
He guides the planets on their way  
And turns the earth through another day*

*The matchless wisdom of His ways  
That mark the path of righteousness  
His word a lamp unto my feet  
His Spirit teaching and guiding me  
And O the mystery of the cross  
That God should suffer for the lost  
So that the fool might shame the wise  
And all the glory might go to Christ*

*(continued on next page)*

*O grant me wisdom from above  
To pray for peace and cling to love  
And teach me humbly to receive  
The sun and rain of Your sovereignty  
Each strand of sorrow has a place  
Within this tapestry of grace  
So through the trials I choose to say  
Your perfect will in Your perfect way*

*"The Perfect Wisdom of Our God" Keith Getty | Stuart Townend*

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## **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.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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**

**850**    God of Grace and God of Glory

- 1**        **God of grace and God of glory,  
          On Your people pour Your pow'r;  
Crown Your ancient Church's story;  
          Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
          For the facing of this hour,  
          For the facing of this hour.**
  
- 2**        **Lo, the hosts of evil round us  
          Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
          Free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
          For the living of these days,  
          For the living of these days.**
  
- 3**        **Cure Your children's warring madness;  
          Bend our pride to Your control;  
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
          Rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
          Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,  
          Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.**

*(continued on next page)*

4       **Save us from weak resignation**  
          **To the evils we deplore;**  
**Let the gift of Your salvation**  
          **Be our glory evermore.**  
**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,**  
          **Serving You whom we adore,**  
          **Serving You whom we adore.**

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## **POSTLUDE**

“God of Grace”

setting by Paul Manz

Prepare for next weekend’s worship by reading:

Numbers 21:4-9; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

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:	James Marriott
Liturgists:	5:00 p.m.      Jediah McClellan
	8:30 a.m.      Theodore Laesch
	11:00 a.m.     Jake Bellinghausen
Singers:	5:00 p.m.      Mark Petersen
	8:30 a.m.      Mark Petersen
	11:00 a.m.     Nate Laesch
Instrumentalist:	Lynda Christian, English Horn
Organist & Accompanist:	Ryan Meyer

## Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran

11645 Benham Road, St. Louis, MO 63136  
(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 8:30 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>
James Marriott, Pastoral Assistant - Youth	(972) 741-5978	<a href="mailto:james.marriott@chapelofthecross.org">james.marriott@chapelofthecross.org</a>
Ellory Glenn, Vicar	369-8014	<a href="mailto:ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org">ellory.glenn@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:

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		

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