

# CHAPEL OF THE CROSS

---

## LUTHERAN



FAITH • HOPE • LOVE

**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 of Easter**

**May 10, 2020**

## **AS WE GATHER**

Jesus is alive! Our hearts need not be troubled nor afraid; He has shown us the Father's love. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. As God's chosen people, we continue to celebrate our resurrected Lord.

## **PRELUDE**

Variations on "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness"      setting by Anne Krentz Organ

## **WELCOME**

✘ PREPARATION ✘

OPENING HYMN

797 Praise the Almighty

- 1 Praise the Almighty, my soul, adore Him!  
Yes, I will laud Him until death;  
With songs and anthems I come before Him  
As long as He allows me breath.  
From Him my life and all things came;  
Bless, O my soul, His holy name.  
Alleluia, alleluia!
  
- 2 Trust not in rulers; they are but mortal;  
Earthborn they are and soon decay.  
Vain are their counsels at life's last portal,  
When the dark grave engulfs its prey.  
Since mortals can no help afford,  
Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia!
  
- 3 Blessèd, oh, blessèd are they forever  
Whose help is from the Lord Most High,  
Whom from salvation can nothing sever,  
And who in hope to Christ draw nigh.  
To all who trust in Him, our Lord  
Will aid and counsel now afford.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

4 Penitent sinners, for mercy crying,  
Pardon and peace from Him obtain;  
Ever the wants of the poor supplying,  
Their faithful God He will remain.  
He helps His children in distress,  
The widows and the fatherless.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

5 Praise, all you people, the name so holy  
Of Him who does such wondrous things!  
All that has being, to praise Him solely,  
With happy heart its amen sings.  
Children of God, with angel host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!  
Alleluia, alleluia!

*Public domain*

## INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.

People: **Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.**

*(1 Peter 2:9-10)*

Pastor: As God's people, we make confession, seeking mercy.

*(silence for reflection and confession)*

Merciful God,

People: **we confess to You that we are by nature sinful, living in darkness. We have gone our own way, listened to lies instead of the truth, and sought to live life on our own terms. Forgive us our many sins of thought, word, and action, for the sake of Jesus. Amen.**

Pastor: God has called you out of the darkness of sin into His wonderful light. He has shown you the way, spoken the truth, and given you new life in Jesus. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, 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!**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

467 Awake, My Heart, with Gladness (vv. 1-3)

- 1 Awake, my heart, with gladness,  
See what today is done;  
Now, after gloom and sadness,  
Comes forth the glorious sun.  
My Savior there was laid  
Where our bed must be made  
When to the realms of light  
Our spirit wings its flight.
- 2 The foe in triumph shouted  
When Christ lay in the tomb;  
But lo, he now is routed,  
His boast is turned to gloom.  
For Christ again is free;  
In glorious victory  
He who is strong to save  
Has triumphed o'er the grave.
- 3 This is a sight that gladdens—  
What peace it doth impart!  
Now nothing ever saddens  
The joy within my heart.  
No gloom shall ever shake,  
No foe shall ever take  
The hope which God's own Son  
In love for me has won.

*Public domain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor:: The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, Your Son, Jesus Christ, is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Help us to be faithful to Him to death and to receive life eternal. He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

## ✠ WORD ✠

### FIRST READING

Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

*(Stephen chosen, the first martyr)*

<sup>1</sup> In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. <sup>2</sup> So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. <sup>3</sup> Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them <sup>4</sup> and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." <sup>5</sup> This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism.

<sup>6</sup> They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

<sup>7</sup> So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

<sup>8</sup> Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, did great wonders and miraculous signs among the people. <sup>9</sup> Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)--Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia. These men began to argue with Stephen, <sup>2</sup> To this he replied: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me!



<sup>51</sup> "You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit! <sup>52</sup> Was there ever a prophet your fathers did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him-- <sup>53</sup> you who have received the law that was put into effect through angels but have not obeyed it."

<sup>54</sup> When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup> But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup> "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." <sup>57</sup> At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, <sup>58</sup> dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their clothes at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup> While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." <sup>60</sup> Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Leader: Praise the LORD.

**People: Praise the LORD, O my soul.**

Leader: I will praise the LORD all my life;

**People: I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.**

Leader: Do not put your trust in princes,

**People: in mortal men, who cannot save.**

Leader: When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;

**People: on that very day their plans come to nothing.**

Leader: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

**People: whose hope is in the LORD his God,**

Leader: the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them

**People: the LORD, who remains faithful forever.**

Leader: He upholds the cause of the oppressed

**People: and gives food to the hungry.**

Leader: The LORD sets prisoners free, the LORD gives sight to the blind,

**People: the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down, the LORD loves the righteous.**

Leader: The LORD watches over the alien and sustains the fatherless and the widow,

**People: but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.**

Leader: The LORD reigns forever,

**People: your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD.**

*(A living stone and a holy people)*

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, <sup>3</sup> now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup> As you come to him, the living Stone--rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him-- <sup>5</sup> you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." <sup>7</sup> Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone," <sup>8</sup> and, "A stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the message--which is also what they were destined for. <sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## ANTHEM

*"A Chosen, Precious Cornerstone"*

Starke/Schalk

*A chosen, precious cornerstone In Zion laid, as flesh and bone,  
Incarnate God Most High; This stone the builders would reject,  
God's will obeyed as God's Elect  
For us ordained to die, For us ordained to die!*

*For Jesus is that saving Name The One of worth to rightly claim  
Redemption gained for all: Fulfilling God the Father's plan,  
Christ came to earth as God and man,  
Undoing Adam's Fall, Undoing Adam's Fall.*

*All those once lost, condemned, alone, God's grace would claim and make His own:  
Washed clean, renewed, restored; As living stones, born from above,  
Built on that Name whose name is Love,  
On Jesus Christ our Lord, On Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Now none who trust Christ's holy Name Shall stumble or be put to shame  
They walk in wondrous light! Made royal priests, a chosen race,  
A people for the praise of grace  
That called them out of night, That called them out of night.*

*To God the Father, who is known Through God the Son, true Cornerstone,  
All laud and praise afford, With God the Spirit honor be,  
The Three in One, the One in Three,  
Thrice-holy, gracious Lord, Thrice-holy gracious Lord!*

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

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

## HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:1-14

*(I am the way, the truth, and the life.)*

<sup>1</sup> "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. <sup>2</sup> In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup> And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. <sup>4</sup> You know the way to the place where I am going."

<sup>5</sup> Thomas said to him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"

<sup>6</sup> Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup> If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

<sup>8</sup> Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

<sup>9</sup> Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? <sup>10</sup> Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. <sup>11</sup> Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. <sup>12</sup> I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup> And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. <sup>14</sup> You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it."

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## HYMN OF THE WORD

633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing (vv. 1, 3, 5 - 8)

1 **At the Lamb's high feast we sing  
Praise to our victorious King,  
Who has washed us in the tide  
Flowing from His pierced side.  
Alleluia!**

3 **Where the paschal blood is poured,  
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;  
Israel's hosts triumphant go  
Through the wave that drowns the foe.  
Alleluia!**

5 **Mighty Victim from the sky,  
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;  
You have conquered in the fight,  
You have brought us life and light.  
Alleluia!**

*Organ alone:*

6 *Now no more can death appall,  
Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise,  
And Your saints in You shall rise.  
Alleluia!*

7 **Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
Newborn souls in You to be.  
Alleluia!**

8           **Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, Your name we praise.  
Alleluia!**

*Public domain*

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

### **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.**

## 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.**



## CLOSING HYMN

660 Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

- 1 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
Ye soldiers of the cross.  
Lift high His royal banner;  
It must not suffer loss.  
From vict'ry unto vict'ry  
His army He shall lead  
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished,  
And Christ is Lord indeed.
  
- 2 Stand up, stand up for Jesus;  
The trumpet call obey;  
Stand forth in mighty conflict  
In this His glorious day.  
Let all His faithful serve Him  
Against unnumbered foes;  
Let courage rise with danger  
And strength to strength oppose.
  
- 3 Stand up, stand up for Jesus;  
Stand in His strength alone.  
The arm of flesh will fail you,  
Ye dare not trust your own.  
Put on the Gospel armor;  
Each piece put on with prayer.  
Where duty calls or danger,  
Be never wanting there.

*(continued on next page)*

4       **Stand up, stand up for Jesus;  
          The strife will not be long;  
This day the din of battle,  
          The next the victor's song.  
The soldiers, overcoming,  
          Their crown of life shall see  
And with the King of Glory  
          Shall reign eternally.**

*Public domain*

## **POSTLUDE**

*“Carillon”*

René Vierne

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading:  
Acts 17:16-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

*Scriptures taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. [www.zondervan.com](http://www.zondervan.com) Hymns used by permission. OneLicense.net #A-725523 LSB Hymn License.net, Lutheran Service Builder.*

*Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2. Copyright © 2019 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

## Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Theodore Laesch
Lector:	James Marriott
Choir:	Choral Singers (“virtual choir”)
Singers:	John Schmidt Jen Schmidt Meagan Purcell Allison Schmidt
Instrumentalist:	Jen Schmidt, flute
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 6:00 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>
Ellory Glenn, Vicar	369-8014	<a href="mailto:ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org">ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org</a>
James Marriott, Vicar	(972) 741-5978	<a href="mailto:james.marriott@chapelofthecross.org">james.marriott@chapelofthecross.org</a>
David Funke, Director of Adult Ministry	355-2568	<a href="mailto:dave.funke@chapelofthecross.org">dave.funke@chapelofthecross.org</a>
Ryan Meyer, Director of Music	839-0306	<a href="mailto:ryan.meyer@chapelofthecross.org">ryan.meyer@chapelofthecross.org</a>
Bill Rusnak, Director of Family Ministry	200-9797	<a href="mailto:bill.rusnak@chapelofthecross.org">bill.rusnak@chapelofthecross.org</a>
Clifford Bischoff, Pastoral Assistant	921-1107	<a href="mailto:pastorbischoff@chapelofthecross.org">pastorbischoff@chapelofthecross.org</a>
Norman Meyer, Pastoral Assistant	499-4032	<a href="mailto:pastormeyer@chapelofthecross.org">pastormeyer@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	Eric & Linda Funke in Tanzania	Lutherans for Life
Chapel Summer Camp	KFUD Radio	

*\* indicates special emphasis in 2020*

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