

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.

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023

11:00 a.m.

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

AS WE GATHER

The Last Day may come soon, but in the meantime, many people are neglecting to use their abilities and opportunities for God's purposes. Zephaniah writes that it will be a day of wrath and mourning. But for those who have realized God's blessings over the years, as Psalm 90 recalls, though the times are mean, each day is an opportunity to "encourage one another and build one another up" (1 Thessalonians 5:11). Today is an opportunity to hear God's very gracious Word, "well done!" and be strengthened to respond by using the talents He has loaned to us.

PRELUDE

"Come, People of the Risen King"

Getty, arr. by Lloyd Larson

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

“Come, Thou Fount, Come, Thou King”

**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;
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of Thy redeeming love.**

**I was lost in utter darkness
'Til You came and rescued me;
I was bound by all my sin when
Your love came and set me free;
Now my soul can sing a new song,
Now my heart has found a home;
Now Your grace is always with me,
And I'll never be alone.**

Chorus:

**Come, Thou Fount, come, Thou King,
Come, Thou precious Prince of Peace;
Hear Your bride, to You we sing;
Come, Thou Fount of our blessing.
Come, Thou Fount, come, Thou King,
Come, Thou precious Prince of Peace;
Hear Your bride, to You we sing;
Come, Thou Fount of our blessing.**

O, to grace, how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let Thy goodness, 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, Lord, take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above. (chorus)

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 say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
People: **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: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our 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. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

520 Give to Our God Immortal Praise!

1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and
2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save From guilt and
3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; The King of

truth are all his ways; Won - ders of grace to
dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to
kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er

God be - long; Re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
God be - long; Re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
shall en - dure When lords and kings are known no more!

The image shows a three-system musical score for a hymn. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first system contains the first three lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next three lines. The third system contains the final three lines, which end with a double bar line.

*Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748
Tune: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793*

DUKE STREET
L M

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: **Heavenly Father, Your Son died for the sins of the whole world. Embolden us to share His love with everyone we meet until the day we hear His gracious blessing, "Well done, good and faithful servant"; 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

Zephaniah 1:7-16

(A day of wrath is coming.)

⁷ Be silent before the Sovereign LORD, for the day of the LORD is near. The LORD has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated those he has invited. ⁸ On the day of the LORD's sacrifice I will punish the princes and the king's sons and all those clad in foreign clothes. ⁹ On that day I will punish all who avoid stepping on the threshold, who fill the temple of their gods with violence and deceit.

¹⁰ "On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will go up from the Fish Gate, wailing from the New Quarter, and a loud crash from the hills. ¹¹ Wail, you who live in the market district; all your merchants will be wiped out, all who trade with silver will be ruined. ¹² At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps and punish those who are complacent, who are like wine left on its dregs, who think, 'The LORD will do nothing, either good or bad.' ¹³ Their wealth will be plundered, their houses demolished. They will build houses but not live in them; they will plant vineyards but not drink the wine.

¹⁴ "The great day of the LORD is near-- near and coming quickly. Listen! The cry on the day of the LORD will be bitter, the shouting of the warrior there. ¹⁵ That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness, ¹⁶ a day of trumpet and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the corner towers.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM HYMN

733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past (Psalm 90:1-12)

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

(Encourage one another to live in God's light.)

¹ Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ² for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

⁴ But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief.

⁵ You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. ⁹ For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifty chapter.

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14–30

(God gives talents, expecting them to be used for His purposes.)

¹⁴ "Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

¹⁹ "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.'

²¹ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

²² "The man with the two talents also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.'

²³ "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'

²⁴ "Then the man who had received the one talent came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'

²⁶ "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.'

²⁸ " 'Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. ²⁹ For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

ANTHEM

“God So Loved the World”

Critz, Getty & Boswell

*God so loved the world,
He gave His only Son,
Once born in Bethlehem,
Christ, the King, Christ, the King,
Our Savior, heaven sent,
Christ the King.*

*God so loved the world,
He gave His only Son,
This gift is yours and mine.
Will you come, will you come,
Where hope and mercy shine;
Will you come?*

Chorus:

*For all who will believe
Will not perish, but live;
For all who will believe in the Son.
For all who will believe
Will not perish, but live;
For all who will believe, life has come.*

CCLI Song # 7080419 Jordan Critz | Keith Getty | Kristyn Getty | Matt Boswell
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CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN

508 The Day is Surely Drawing Near

- 1 The day is surely drawing near
When Jesus, God's anointed,
In all His power shall appear
As judge whom God appointed.
Then fright shall banish idle mirth,
And flames on flames shall ravage earth
As Scripture long has warned us.
- 2 The final trumpet then shall sound
And all the earth be shaken,
And all who rest beneath the ground
Shall from their sleep awaken.
But all who live will in that hour,
By God's almighty, boundless pow'r,
Be changed at His commanding.
- 3 The books are opened then to all,
A record truly telling
What each has done, both great and small,
When he on earth was dwelling,
And ev'ry heart be clearly seen,
And all be known as they have been
In thoughts and words and actions.
- 6 May Christ our intercessor be
And through His blood and merit
Read from His book that we are free
With all who life inherit.
Then we shall see Him face to face,
With all His saints in that blest place
Which He has purchased for us.
- 7 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
But hasten our salvation;
We often tremble on our way
In fear and tribulation.
O hear and grant our fervent plea:
Come, mighty judge, and set us free
From death and ev'ry evil.

Text: Public domain

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

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.

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.

OFFERING

During the offering, please sign the Record of Fellowship found at the end of each pew

"Take My Life and Let it Be"

setting by Jan Bender

Please stand

PRAYER

Pastor: Almighty God, we thank You for teaching us the things You want us to believe and do. Help us by Your Holy Spirit to keep Your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

660 Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

POSTLUDE

“Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”

setting by John Behnke

Prepare for next weekend’s worship by reading:

Ezekiel 34:11-16; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28; Matthew 25:31-46

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

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“Come Thou Fount, Come Thou King” CCLI Song # 4775010

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Serving at Chapel

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Preacher: | Theodore Laesch | |
| Liturgists: | 5:00 p.m. | Jedidiah McClellan |
| | 8:30 a.m. | Adam Rouse |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Ellory Glenn |
| Lectors: | 8:30 a.m. | Bill Westbrook |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Milo Lombard |
| Acolytes: | 8:30 a.m. | Audrey Runser |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Nathan Runser |
| Soloist: | 8:30 a.m. | Ted Laesch |
| Choirs: | 11:00 a.m. | Joyful Noise |
| | | Sunday School Children |
| Instrumentalists: | Marilyn Kreitner, piano | |
| | Glenn Lackey, percussion | |
| | Matt McEuen, guitar | |
| | Meagan Purcell, violin | |
| Organist & Accompanist: | Ryan Meyer | |
| Elder of the Week: | Jerry Bowen | |

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 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 |
| Ellory Glenn, Specific Ministry Pastor | 369-8014 | ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org |
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| 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

*Lutheran Bible Translators

Concordia Seminary

Day 3 Seeds

Chapel Summer Camp

* Helping Hands Food Pantry

Friend of Moms

Lutherans for Life

Apple of His Eye

Food for the Poor

KFUE Radio

** indicates special emphasis in 2023*

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