

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.

First Sunday in Advent

November 28, 2020

5:00 p.m.

AS WE GATHER

Living with the unknown can be an uncomfortable feeling for many people. But today we are faced with the reality that our Lord's return will happen, but we do not know when. However, just as God's people awaited His first coming at His birth in Bethlehem, God's people today prepare themselves for His return, and heed the Words of Jesus to watch and be ready.

PRELUDE

"Lift Up Your Heads"

setting by John A. Behnke

WELCOME

✂ PREPARATION ✂

OPENING HYMN

334 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You (vv.1, 5-6) (sung by soloist)

- 1 O Lord, how shall I meet You,
How welcome You aright?
Your people long to greet You,
My hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy,
Your lamp within my breast
To do in spirit lowly
All that may please You best.
- 5 Sin's debt, that fearful burden,
Cannot His love erase;
Your guilt the Lord will pardon
And cover by His grace.
He comes, for you procuring
The peace of sin forgiv'n,
His children thus securing
Eternal life in heav'n.
- 6 He comes to judge the nations,
A terror to His foes,
A light of consolations
And blessèd hope to those
Who love the Lord's appearing.
O glorious Sun, now come,
Send forth Your beams so cheering,
And guide us safely home.

Public domain

Please stand

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

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

People: **Amen.**

Leader: Oh, that You would rend the heavens and come down.

People: **O God, we wait for You to enter into our lives.**

Leader: As a fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil,

People: **we ask that You would set us on fire with a burning passion for You.**

Leader: Come down and make Your name known.

People: **Help us to truly know You, O Lord, and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

Leader: We prepare for Your coming.

People: **Alert and watchful, we confidently await Your promised help.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: As we wait for and watch for Your coming, O Lord, we are aware of our sinfulness and our need for repentance.

People: **All of us have become like one who is unclean. All our righteous acts are like filthy rags. We often wander from Your ways. Our hearts are sometimes hardened against You. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We deserve Your punishment, but we seek Your forgiveness. In the name of Jesus, and because of His sacrifice for us, Lord God, forgive us our sin.**

Leader: 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.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

"Advent Candlelight Carol" (sung by soloist)

Page/Shafferman

*Advent candle burning bright through the night,
shine your light of hope
telling people everywhere:
Soon the Savior comes, soon He will be here!
People gather and prepare
in the night with the light of hope.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

✘ WORD ✘

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 64:1–9

(Rend the heavens and come down)

¹ Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you! ² As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! ³ For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. ⁴ Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him. ⁵ You come to the help of those who gladly do right, who remember your ways. But when we continued to sin against them, you were angry. How then can we be saved? ⁶ All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away. ⁷ No one calls on your name or strives to lay hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us and made us waste away because of our sins. ⁸ Yet, O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹ Do not be angry beyond measure, O LORD; do not remember our sins forever. Oh, look upon us, we pray, for we are all your people.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 80:1-7

Leader: Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock;
you who sit enthroned between the cherubim,

People: **shine forth before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.**

Leader: Awaken your might; come and save us.

People: **Restore us, O God; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved.**

Leader: O LORD God Almighty, how long will your anger smolder against the prayers of your people?

People: **You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have made them drink tears by the bowlful.**

Leader: You have made us a source of contention to our neighbors, and our enemies mock us.

People: **Restore us, O God Almighty; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved.**

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:3–9

(Thanksgiving)

³ Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵ For in him you have been enriched in every way--in all your speaking and in all your knowledge-- ⁶ because our testimony about Christ was confirmed in you. ⁷ Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. ⁸ He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

"Lift Up Your Eyes"

Judy Gresham

*Lift up your eyes and look for him
Jesus the coming saviour-king
Born to redeem the world from sin
Bringing his peace to all*

*Now if you walk in darkest night
Look for his dawn that's breaking bright
Nothing shall ever stop this light
Bringing new hope to all*

Chorus

*Oh lift up your eyes see the King
Worship the saviour come praise him
Jesus the Lord of all
Oh once in a manger he lay
Now lifted high he is reigning
Jesus the Lord of all*

*Soon you will see him come again
Not as the child of Bethlehem
But the returning King to reign
Glorious Lord of all*

*Lift up your eyes and look for him
Jesus the coming saviour-king
Now in your heart make room for him
Worship him Lord of all*

CCLI Song # 7032359 Judy Gresham

© Judy Gresham - RESOUNDworship.org (Admin. by Jubilate Hymns Ltd)

For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

CCLI License # 11301522

Please stand

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

(Jesus urges us to watch for His coming)

²⁴ "But in those days, following that distress,

" 'the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; ²⁵ the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.'

²⁶ "At that time men will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.

²⁸ "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. ³⁰ I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

³² "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Be on guard! Be alert ! You do not know when that time will come.

³⁴ It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch.

³⁵ "Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back--whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn. ³⁶ If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. ³⁷ What I say to you, I say to everyone: 'Watch!' "

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

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.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

+++ Special Intercessions +++

Each concluding: **Leader:** Lord, in Your mercy, **People:** **hear our prayer.**

Leader: 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

Leader: 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

348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

- 1 **The King shall come when morning dawns
 And light triumphant breaks,
 When beauty gilds the eastern hills
 And life to joy awakes.**

- 2 **Not as of old a little child,
 To bear and fight and die,
 But crowned with glory like the sun
 That lights the morning sky.**

- 3 **Oh, brighter than the rising morn
 When Christ, victorious, rose
 And left the lonesome place of death
 Despite the rage of foes.**

4 **Oh, brighter than that glorious morn
 Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes
 And we shall see His face.**

5 **The King shall come when morning dawns
 And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
 Come quickly, King of kings!**

Public domain

POSTLUDE

Toccata on “Savior of the Nations, Come”

setting by Paul Manz

Prepare for next weekend’s worship by reading:
Isaiah 40:1-11; 2 Peter: 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8

*Scriptures taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserve worldwide. 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 B, Quarter 1. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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
Singers:	5:00 p.m.	Nate Laesch
	8:30 a.m.	Ellory Glenn
	11:00 a.m.	Nate Laesch
Organist & Accompanist:	Ryan Meyer	

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 KFUD 850 AM Sundays at 4:00 p.m.
Live internet streaming at www.chapelofthecross.org Sundays at 8:30 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
James Marriott, Pastoral Assistant - Youth	(972) 741-5978	james.marriott@chapelofthecross.org
Ellory Glenn, Vicar	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
Norman Meyer, Pastoral Assistant	499-4032	pastormeyer@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:

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		

** indicates special emphasis in 2020*

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