

# CHAPEL OF THE CROSS

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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.*

# **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**October 1, 2023**

**11:00 a.m.**

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

## **AS WE GATHER**

One supposes that it was because, to the chief priests and elders of the people, Jesus looked to be just an ordinary man that they questioned His authority to challenge them as a teacher. “By what authority are You doing these things, and who gave You this authority?” The answer has everything to do with who Jesus is. Unless you believe that Jesus came “from heaven” and is the Christ, the Son of God, you will not understand that He acts and speaks by divine authority. Because He proved His authority over sin, death, and the devil by His suffering, death, and resurrection from the dead, we hear Him and believe His forgiveness spoken to us through His authorized ministers who speak in His name by His own command and promise. Rejoice in the authority of Jesus who, by the means of grace through His word and sacraments, forgives our sins and gives us new, eternal life.

## **PRELUDE**

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

arr. for handbells by Anna Laura Page

## **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**

**549** All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1</b> All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!<br/>Let angels prostrate fall;<br/>Bring forth the royal diadem<br/>And crown Him Lord of all.<br/>Bring forth the royal diadem<br/>And crown Him Lord of all.</p>             | <p><b>5</b> Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget<br/>The wormwood and the gall,<br/>Go, spread your trophies at His feet<br/>And crown Him Lord of all.<br/>Go, spread your trophies at His feet<br/>And crown Him Lord of all.</p> |
| <p><b>3</b> Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,<br/>Ye ransomed from the fall,<br/>Hail Him who saves you by His grace<br/>And crown Him Lord of all.<br/>Hail Him who saves you by His grace<br/>And crown Him Lord of all.</p> | <p><b>7</b> Oh, that with yonder sacred throng<br/>We at His feet may fall!<br/>We'll join the everlasting song<br/>And crown Him Lord of all.<br/>We'll join the everlasting song<br/>And crown Him Lord of all.</p>               |
| <p><b>4</b> Hail Him, ye heirs of David's line,<br/>Whom David Lord did call,<br/>The God incarnate, man divine,<br/>And crown Him Lord of all.<br/>The God incarnate, man divine,<br/>And crown Him Lord of all.</p>         |   |

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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: Since we have such a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus Christ our Lord, let us with confidence draw near to God, that we may receive mercy and find grace in time of need.

People: **Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your lovingkindness. In Your great mercy, wash away our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not remove us from Your presence; do not take Your Spirit away. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation, and sustain us with Your Spirit. Amen.**

Pastor: God is merciful and gracious, granting forgiveness through Jesus Christ to all who confess their sin. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sin, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

**People:** God of love, by Your grace we have come to hear Your Word. Grant that we may ever find in it our greatest treasure and hold fast to it as a lamp to our feet and a light to our path, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# ANTHEM

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

John Rutter

## ✘ WORD ✘

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

*(The prophet gives words of warning.)*

<sup>1</sup> The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup> "What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel:

" 'The fathers eat sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'?"

<sup>3</sup> "As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. <sup>4</sup> For every living soul belongs to me, the father as well as the son-- both alike belong to me. The soul who sins is the one who will die.

<sup>25</sup> "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear, O house of Israel: Is my way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? <sup>26</sup> If a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits sin, he will die for it; because of the sin he has committed he will die. <sup>27</sup> But if a wicked man turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he will save his life. <sup>28</sup> Because he considers all the offenses he has committed and turns away from them, he will surely live; he will not die. <sup>29</sup> Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Are my ways unjust, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust?"

<sup>30</sup> "Therefore, O house of Israel, I will judge you, each one according to his ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. <sup>31</sup> Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup> For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!"

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 25:1-10

Pastor: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; in you I trust, O my God.

People: **Do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

Pastor: No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame, but they will be put to shame who are treacherous without excuse.

People: **Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths;**

Pastor: guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

People: **Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old.**

Pastor: Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me, for you are good, O LORD.

People: **Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.**

Pastor: He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.

People: **All the ways of the LORD are loving and faithful for those who keep the demands of his covenant.**

## HYMN

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

## EPISTLE

Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

*(Christians are to look to the interests of others.)*

<sup>1</sup> If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, <sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.



<sup>14</sup> Do everything without complaining or arguing, <sup>15</sup> so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe <sup>16</sup> as you hold out the word of life--in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing. <sup>17</sup> But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. <sup>18</sup> So you too should be glad and rejoice with me.

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 first chapter.

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

## HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23-27

*(Jesus and the elders.)*

<sup>23</sup> Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. "By what authority are you doing these things?" they asked. "And who gave you this authority?"

<sup>24</sup> Jesus replied, "I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. <sup>25</sup> John's baptism--where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or from men?"

They discussed it among themselves and said, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, 'Then why didn't you believe him?'" <sup>26</sup> But if we say, 'From men'--we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet."

<sup>27</sup> So they answered Jesus, "We don't know." Then he said, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### HYMN

696 O God, My Faithful God

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1 O God, my faithful God,<br/>True fountain ever flowing,<br/>Without whom nothing is,<br/>All perfect gifts bestowing:<br/>Give me a healthy frame,<br/>And may I have within<br/>A conscience free from blame,<br/>A soul unstained by sin.</p> <p>2 Grant me the strength to do<br/>With ready heart and willing<br/>Whatever You command,<br/>My calling here fulfilling;<br/>That I do what I should<br/>While trusting You to bless<br/>The outcome for my good,<br/>For You must give success.</p> | <p>5 Let me depart this life<br/>Confiding in my Savior;<br/>By grace receive my soul<br/>That it may live forever;<br/>And let my body have<br/>A quiet resting place<br/>Within a Christian grave;<br/>And let it sleep in peace.</p> <p>6 And on that final day<br/>When all the dead are waking,<br/>Stretch out Your mighty hand,<br/>My deathly slumber breaking.<br/>Then let me hear Your voice,<br/>Redeem this earthly frame,<br/>And bid me to rejoice<br/>With those who love Your name.</p> |
|--|--|

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### 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*

*"O God, My Faithful God"*

setting by Paul Manz

*Please stand*

## OFFERTORY



**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

## 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

813 Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng

**1 Rejoice, O pilgrim throng!**  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;  
Your festal banner wave on high,  
The cross of Christ your king. (Refrain)

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

**3 With all the angel choirs,**  
With all the saints on earth  
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss,  
True rapture, noblest mirth. (Refrain)

**6 At last the march shall end;**  
The wearied ones shall rest;  
The pilgrims find their home at last,  
Jerusalem the blest. (Refrain)

**5 Still lift your standard high,**  
Still march in firm array,  
As pilgrims through the darkness wend  
Till dawns the golden day. (Refrain)

**7 Praise Him who reigns on high,**  
The Lord whom we adore:  
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
One God forevermore. (Refrain)

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## POSTLUDE

“Blessing and Honor”

setting by Mark Sedio

Prepare for next weekend’s worship by reading:

Isaiah 5:1-7; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

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:	Daniel Lepley
Liturgist:	Theodore Laesch
Lectors:	8:30 a.m. Carla Rainey 11:00 a.m. Matt Gahr
Acolytes:	8:30 a.m. Jonah Meyer, Grace Meyer 11:00 a.m. Zoe Laesch, Madison Arrasmith
Choirs:	8:30 a.m. Chapel Bells Choral Singers 11:00 a.m. Chapel Bells
Singers:	11:00 a.m. Lynda Christian & Denise Koch
Directors:	Jen Schmidt Ryan Meyer
Organist & Accompanist:	Ryan Meyer
Director of the Week:	Alan Freund
Elder of the Week:	Craig Schlichtmann

## 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 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	pastorlaesch@chapelofthecross.org
Ellory Glenn, Specific Ministry Pastor	369-8014	ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org
Brett Arrasmith, Vicar	417-592-1854	vicar@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.	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*