

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.

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

October 11, 2026

11:00 a.m.

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

AS WE GATHER

Scripture reminds us that every Sunday is a “little” Easter, a celebration of resurrection and new life in Christ Jesus. God alone lifts the veil of death and forever sets before us — former prodigals, rebels, and sinners — a heavenly feast of eternal nourishment where the Lamb of God is the heavenly host, guest, and feast! It is a wedding banquet beyond compare!

PRELUDE

“The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us”

John Eggert

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

818 In Thee Is Gladness

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: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

692 Praise to You and Adoration

1 Praise to You and ad - o - ra - tion, Bless - ed Je - sus,
2 Hold me ev - er in Your keep - ing; Com - fort me in
Son of God, Who, to serve Your own cre - a - tion, Came to
pain and strife. In my laugh - ter and my weep - ing Be with
share our flesh and blood. Guide me that I nev - er may
me through - out my life. Give me great - er love for You,
From Your fold or pas - tures stray, But with zeal and
And my faith and hope re - new In Your birth, Your
joy ex - ceed - ing Fol - low where Your steps are lead - ing.
life, and pas - sion, In Your death and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Almighty God, You invite us to trust in You for our salvation. Deal with us not in the severity of Your judgment but by the greatness of Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

✕ WORD ✕

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 25:6–9

(A feast for all peoples)

⁶ On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine-- the best of meats and the finest of wines. ⁷ On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; ⁸ he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. The LORD has spoken. ⁹ In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 23

¹The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

EPISTLE

Philippians 4:4–13

(Exhortation and encouragement)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things. ⁹ Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me--put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰ I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at last you have renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you have been concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

"The Lord Is My Shepherd"

Paul Bouman

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;

For you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;

You have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Please stand

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 22:1–14

(The parable of the wedding feast)

¹ Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

⁴ "Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.'

⁵ "But they paid no attention and went off--one to his field, another to his business. ⁶ The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

⁸ "Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹ Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' ¹⁰ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹² 'Friend,' he asked, 'how did you get in here without wedding clothes?' The man was speechless.

¹³ "Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

¹⁴ "For many are invited, but few are chosen."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN

514 The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please stand

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.**

OFFERING

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



Scan to give online

"In Christ Alone"

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

Please stand

OFFERTORY

789

Praise and Thanksgiving

1 Praise and thanks - giv - ing, Fa - ther, we of - fer For all things
2 Bless, Lord, the la - bor We bring to serve You That with our
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing Food for Your chil - dren, By Your wise

liv - ing, Cre - at - ed good: Har - vest of sown fields, Fruits of the
neigh - bor We may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, We would work
guid - ing Teach us to share One with an - oth - er, So that, re -

or - chard, Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood.
with You, Har - vest - ing, mill - ing For dai - ly bread.
joic - ing With us, all oth - ers May know Your care.

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✠ SACRAMENT ✠

The Lord's Supper is a gift Christ gives to His Church. In it, He offers His true Body and Blood, in, with, and under the bread and wine. When received in faith, it brings forgiveness, new life, and salvation. In response to God's command in Scripture, we are to examine ourselves prior to partaking of the Sacrament. There are five basic questions by 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 a baptized believer? 2) Do I believe I am a sinner and am truly sorry for my sins? 3) Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin? 4) Do I promise with God's help to turn from sin and live a God-pleasing life? 5) Do I believe in the true teachings of God's Word, namely that the Body and Blood of Jesus are truly present, powerful, and effective in the Sacrament? Any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a differing confession and yet desire to receive the sacrament are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.(see Matthew 26:26-29; 28:19-20; 1 Corinthians 10:16; 11:17- 34)

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

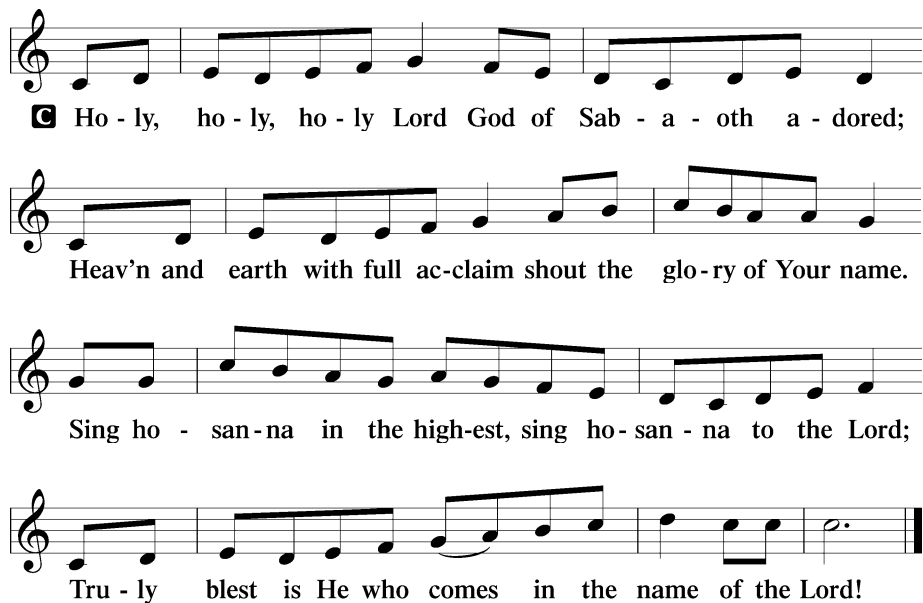
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS (*Holy, holy, holy*)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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.

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.

AGNUS DEI (*Lamb of God*)

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

If you wish to take communion in the pew, please raise your hand when the communion assistant comes down the aisle.

When the wine is distributed, individual glasses will be offered first, then the common cup. Communicants may take whichever is preferred. If taking the individual glass, please keep the glass visible so that the communion assistant with the common cup will know who has already communed.

Non-alcoholic wine is available in the center of the communion tray for those who have a sensitivity to the alcohol in wine.

Children and those who cannot yet commune are invited to come forward and kneel at the rail with arms crossed to receive a blessing.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

- 710** The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want
- 683** Jesus, Thy Boundless Love To Me
- 435** Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

SILENT PRAYER

You may pray the following prayer as we give thanks to God for His good gifts:

Lord God of mercy, I give You thanks for the body and blood of Your Son; for the Word by which You give me forgiveness; for Your promises by which You give me life. May the gifts of Your heavenly banquet fortify me against the Evil One and strengthen me in the face of the world. Help me to live as one who hungers for Your grace, who thirsts after righteousness, who longs to taste of Your goodness, that I may sit at Your table at the heavenly feast which has no end. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Please stand

NUNC DIMITTIS (Song of Simeon)

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, for Your gift of forgiveness and deliverance from the fear of death won for us by the sacrifice of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and for strengthening our faith and hope by this Sacrament. Help us to live faithfully in that hope of eternal life in the ways of Your mercy and love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: 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

830 Spread the Reign of God the Lord

POSTLUDE

“In Thee Is Gladness”

Timothy Mars

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading:

Isaiah 45:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

Find a devotional guide on the readings at <https://chapelofthecross.org/devotions>

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Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Theodore Laesch	
Liturgists:	5:00 p.m.	Matthew Laird
	8:30 a.m.	Justin Goodrich
	11:00 a.m.	Ellory Glenn
Lectors:	8:30 a.m.	Adrienne Burton
	11:00 a.m.	Tonja Cleveland
Acolytes:	8:30 a.m.	Plaseyh Hallowanger
	11:00 a.m.	Eve Zvirgzdins and Juris Zvirgzdins
Soloists:	5:00 p.m.	Denise Koch
	8:30 a.m.	Denise Koch
	11:00 a.m.	Matt McEuen
Organist:	Timothy Mars	
Pianist:	Marilyn Kreitner	
Elder of the Week:	Joe Miano	

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 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	314-355-0688	pastorlaesch@chapelofthecross.org
Ellory Glenn, Specific Ministry Pastor	314-369-8014	ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org
Justin Goodrich, Vicar	586-399-0058	vicarjustin@chapelofthecross.org
Timothy Mars, Director of Music	308-241-2012	timothy.mars@chapelofthecross.org
Bill Rusnak, Director of Adult Ministry	314-200-9797	bill.rusnak@chapelofthecross.org
Clifford Bischoff, Pastoral Assistant	314-921-1107	pastorbischoff@chapelofthecross.org
Mary Laesch, Children and Family Ministry Coord.	314-355-0688	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:

*Friend of Moms	*Lutheran Early Response Teams	*Helping Hands Food Pantry
Lutheran Chaplains	Lutheran Heritage Foundation	Lutherans for Life
Concordia Seminary	Friends of New Americans	Shoebox Ministry
Day 3 Seeds	L.A.M.P. Lutheran Assoc. of Missionaries	KFUD Radio
	& Pilots	

** indicates special emphasis in 2026*

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