

+ 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.*

# **Third Sunday of Easter**

**April 18 & 19, 2026**

**5:00 p.m. & 8:30 a.m.**

*Please note: The 8:30 a.m. worship service is live streamed and recorded.*

## **AS WE GATHER**

Christ is risen indeed! Not only did He show Himself to be alive, but those who saw Him also faithfully proclaimed Him as the Risen One. As a result of those proclamations many people repented of their sin and received the promised Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit moved powerfully among the members of the Church to enable them to trust in Jesus for salvation. However, salvation is not the end of the story for we find the Holy Spirit giving Christ's Church the power not only to honor and serve Him as the risen Christ, but He also gives them the ability to live for one another. May He do the same among us.

## **PRELUDE**

## **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

480 He's Risen, He's Risen

### INVOCATION

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

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Pastor: Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People: who has given us new life and hope by raising Jesus from the dead.**

Pastor: Rejoice, then.

**People: We shall be counted worthy when Christ appears.**

Pastor: God has claimed us as His own.

**People: He has called us from our darkness into the light of His day.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins before God and in the presence of one another.  
For our many sins, for our failures, for our doubts and fears,

People: **Forgive us, Lord. Merciful Father, give us pardon and peace and free us  
from our sin for the sake of Christ our Savior. 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. Thanks be to God!**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

“Gloria in Excelsis”



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: **O God, Your Son made Himself known to His disciples in the breaking of bread. Through the gift of faith open our eyes to behold Him in all His redeeming work, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## ✠ WORD ✠

### FIRST READING

Acts 2:14a, 36–41

*(Peter preaches to the people gathered in Jerusalem.)*

<sup>4</sup> Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

<sup>36</sup> "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."

<sup>37</sup> When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" <sup>38</sup> Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call."

<sup>40</sup> With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." <sup>41</sup> Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: I love the LORD, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.  
People: **Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.**

Pastor: The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came upon me;  
I was overcome by trouble and sorrow.  
People: **Then I called on the name of the LORD: "O LORD, save me!"**

Pastor: The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.  
People: **The LORD protects the simplehearted; when I was in great need, he saved me.**

Pastor: Be at rest once more, O my soul, for the LORD has been good to you.  
People: **For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling,**

Pastor: that I may walk before the LORD in the land of the living.  
People: **I believed; therefore I said, "I am greatly afflicted."**

Pastor: And in my dismay I said, "All men are liars."  
People: **How can I repay the LORD for all his goodness to me?**

Pastor: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.  
People: **I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people.**

*(Peter writes that we are redeemed by the blood of Christ.)*

<sup>17</sup> Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. <sup>18</sup> For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. <sup>20</sup> He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. <sup>23</sup> For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. <sup>24</sup> For,

"All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, <sup>25</sup> but the word of the Lord stands forever." And this is the word that was preached to you.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM** (8:30 a.m.)

“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

setting by S. Drummond Wolff

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

*Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine,  
Give His body for the feast, Christ the Victim, Christ the Priest.  
Alleluia!*

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

*Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;  
Thou hast opened paradise, And in Thee Thy saints shall rise.  
Alleluia!*

*Easter triumph, Easter joy! Sin alone can this destroy;  
From sin’s pow’r, do Thou set free, Souls newborn, O Lord, in Thee..  
Alleluia!*

*Hymns of glory, Songs of praise Father, unto Thee we raise:  
Risen Lord, all praise to Thee, With the Spirit ever be.  
Alleluia!*

*Public domain*

*Please stand*

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

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

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 24:13–35

*(Two witnesses learn from the Risen Lord at Emmaus.)*

<sup>13</sup> Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. <sup>15</sup> As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; <sup>16</sup> but they were kept from recognizing him.

<sup>17</sup> He asked them, "What are you discussing together as you walk along?"

They stood still, their faces downcast. <sup>18</sup> One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, "Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

<sup>19</sup> "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. <sup>20</sup> The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; <sup>21</sup> but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. <sup>22</sup> In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning <sup>23</sup> but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."

<sup>25</sup> He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup> As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

<sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

<sup>33</sup> They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together <sup>34</sup> and saying, "It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon." <sup>35</sup> Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **HYMN**

**476** Who Are You Who Walk in Sorrow

## **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*

*Please stand*

## OFFERTORY

### 484 Make Songs of Joy



1 Make songs of joy to Christ, our head; Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 O death, where is your dead - ly sting? Al - le - lu - ia!  
△ 6 For this be praised the Son who rose, Al - le - lu - ia!



He lives a - gain who once was dead! Al - le - lu - ia!  
As - sumed by our tri - um - phant King! Al - le - lu - ia!  
The Fa - ther, and the Ho - ly Ghost! Al - le - lu - ia!

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Tune: Public domain

## ✠ 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 and right that we should at all times and in all places give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who by His willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by His glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise Your holy name and join their glorious song:

## 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

467 Awake, My Heart, With Gladness

919 Abide, O Dearest Jesus

# SILENT PRAYER

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

*Dear Lord Jesus, we thank and praise You that You have again refreshed us with the gift of Your holy body and blood in this comforting sacrament. Bless our participation that we may depart from Your presence with peace and joy in the knowledge that we are reconciled to God. We ask this in Your 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.

Blessed are You, heavenly Father, for once again we have been served at Your Table through our receiving of the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord in this joyful Eastertide. Strengthen us through this Sacrament so that we continue to be Your rejoicing people who tell of Your love to all as we await Your eternal kingdom, where You live and reign with the Son 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

483 With High Delight Let Us Unite

## POSTLUDE

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading:

Acts 2:42-47; 1Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

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

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## Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Charles Wallace
Liturgists:	5:00 p.m. Ellory Glenn
	8:30 a.m. Theodore Laesch
	11:00 a.m. Theodore Laesch
Lector:	8:30 a.m. Russell Mains
Acolyte:	8:30 a.m. Plaseyh Hallowanger
Choir:	8:30 a.m. Choral Singers
Director:	Matt McEuen
Organist & Accompanist:	Stephanie Gibbs

## Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran

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### 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 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	314-355-0688	pastorlaesch@chapelofthecross.org
Ellory Glenn, Specific Ministry Pastor	314-369-8014	ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org
Charles Wallace, Vicar	985-852-7958	vicarchuck@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 & Pilots	KFUD Radio

*\* indicates special emphasis in 2026*

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