

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. Please take home one of our Welcome Brochures which are located in the pews and on the podium in the Commons Area. 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. During the Sunday 9:45 a.m. Discipleship Hour, the nursery is staffed for children ages 0-2. An usher or greeter will be happy to show you where it is located.

Sunday School and Bible Study

We have an exciting Sunday School program called Kingdom Quest 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 and hallway posters for Bible study locations. An usher or greeter 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 to the Communion rail 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.

Refreshments

Please join us before and after the Discipleship Hour for coffee and donuts in the Lower Level Commons.

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.

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 22, 2019

8:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

As baptized children of God we gather today in His presence to be blessed by Him. As sinful human beings, the first time we knew the grace of God was when He came to us, either in the waters of Baptism or through the preached Gospel. Today, as forgiven sinners, we gather for worship—and God, our Immanuel, comes to us once more to bless us with His gifts of forgiveness and life.

PRELUDE

Variations on “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

setting by John A. Behnke

The congregation turns and faces the cross as the procession approaches the altar reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence of God.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Please stand

ENTRANCE HYMN

341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

Leader: Christ is here with us as our Immanuel!

People: **Our God is with us, to save us from our sins.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: Because we are in the presence of our holy God, we are moved to confess our sins because we cannot hide our sinfulness from Him.

People: **Almighty God, You are our Immanuel! You come among us because You love us and want to forgive all our sins. We confess to You that we have sinned by what we have thought, what we have said, and what we have done. You have shown us Your love in Christ, yet often we have failed to be an example to others of Your love. For these and all our sins we ask for Your forgiveness, in and through Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

Leader: Take heart, God is with us! Christ shows God has not abandoned His people in their sin, but He comes to save us today as our Immanuel. In Word and Sacrament, Christ is present to forgive us and assure us of eternal life. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I announce the grace of God to you and in the place and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I 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!**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Romans 1:5; Psalm 24:1

Leader: Paul wrote, "We have received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith"

(Sung) **O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord'rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Leader: David wrote, "The earth is the LORD's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it"

Let us pray.

O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation, mightily ordering all things:

People: Come and teach us the way of wisdom.

(Sung) **O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Public domain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

People: **Open our eyes to see Your presence among us, O Immanuel, that we look forward in faith to follow where You have led the way; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

EXCHANGE OF PEACE

WELCOME

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 7:10–17

(Although a newborn will be called Immanuel, yet the King of Assyria shall destroy Judah.)

¹⁰ Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹ "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights."

¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test."

¹³ Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of men? Will you try the patience of my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He will eat curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right. ¹⁶ But before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste. ¹⁷ The LORD will bring on you and on your people and on the house of your father a time unlike any since Ephraim broke away from Judah--he will bring the king of Assyria."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY

Psalm 24

- Leader: The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;
- People: **for he founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters.**
- Leader: Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place?
- People: **He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.**
- Leader: He will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God his Savior.
- People: **Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, O God of Jacob.**
- Leader: Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- People: **Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.**
- Leader: Lift up your heads, O you gates; lift them up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- People: **Who is he, this King of glory? The LORD Almighty-- he is the King of glory.**

EPISTLE

Romans 1:1-7

(Paul writes that his readers are loved by God and called to be saints.)

¹ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God-- ² the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures ³ regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, ⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. ⁵ Through him and for his name's sake, we received grace and apostleship to call people from among all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith. ⁶ And you also are among those who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

(continue on next page)

⁷ To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Please stand

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18–25

(Joseph is instructed to name Mary's son Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.)

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"--which means, "God with us."

²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE WORD

356 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

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.

OFFERING

"Emmanuel"

setting by Michael W. Smith/Lloyd Larson

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

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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

362 O Sing of Christ

POSTLUDE

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

setting by Ryan Meyer

Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Jim Marriott	
Liturgists:	5:00 p.m.	Clifford Bischoff
	8:30 a.m.	Theodore Laesch
	11:00 a.m.	Theodore Laesch
Lectors:	8:30 a.m.	Kirk Mueller
	11:00 a.m.	Ernest & Sandra Roberts
Acolytes:	8:30 a.m.	Jacob Laesch
	11:00 a.m.	Diego Dominguez
Organist:	Ryan Meyer	
Radio Announcer:	Leon Steinbrueck	
Elder of the Week:	David Stahlhut	

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading:
Isaiah 63:7-14; Galatians 4:4-7; Matthew 2:13-23

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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 6:00 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
Ellory Glenn, Vicar	369-8014	ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org
James Marriott, Vicar	(972) 741-5978	james.marriott@chapelofthecross.org
David Funke, Director of Adult Ministry	355-2568	dave.funke@chapelofthecross.org
Ryan Meyer, Director of Music	839-0306	ryan.meyer@chapelofthecross.org
Bill Rusnak, Director of Family 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

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:

Lutherans for Life*	Helping Hands Food Pantry*	Hope Seeds*
Hope Center of Ferguson	Concordia Seminary	Apple of His Eye
Sidewalk Sunday School	Eric & Linda Funke in Tanzania	Friend of Moms
Chapel Summer Camp	KFUD Radio	

** indicates special emphasis in 2019*

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