

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.

First Sunday After Christmas

December 29, 2019

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

Sometimes we forget that the Christmas season lasts twelve days. The Sunday after Christmas can easily get lost and end up being a letdown after the crowds and enthusiasm of Christmas Eve. Today we consider the role of the Holy Family in caring for and protecting our Lord. He was forced into Egypt to escape Herod's wrath, but even this was not beyond God's foreknowledge. We are called to be bold disciples and to give witness to all that God has accomplished through His Son, Jesus Christ. This season is a time of great celebration but it is also a time of bold witness as we tell everyone what He has done!

PRELUDE

"Let All Together Praise Our God"

Charles W. Ore

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

389 Let All Together Praise Our God

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: 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.**

Leader: 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.**

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.

People: **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn
(tune: O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright)

**Rejoice, rejoice this happy morn,
A Savior unto us is born,
The Christ, the Lord of glory!
His lowly birth at Bethlehem
The angels from on high proclaim
And sing redemption's story!
My soul,
Extol
God's great favor;
Bless him ever
For salvation;
Give him praise and adoration!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Merciful God, through the prophets you prepared the way for our salvation. Give us willing hearts to listen to their warnings and turn from our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ, who live and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

EXCHANGE OF PEACE

During this cold and flu season, it is important to recognize that some people are especially susceptible to the viruses that can be spread by contact and that some immune systems are very sensitive. Please understand that some people 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.

WELCOME

✘ WORD ✘

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 63:7–14

(I will recount the steadfast love of the Lord.)

⁷ I will tell of the kindnesses of the LORD, the deeds for which he is to be praised, according to all the LORD has done for us-- yes, the many good things he has done for the house of Israel, according to his compassion and many kindnesses. ⁸ He said, "Surely they are my people, sons who will not be false to me"; and so he became their Savior. ⁹ In all their distress he too was distressed, and the angel of his presence saved them. In his love and mercy he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. ¹⁰ Yet they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit. So he turned and became their enemy and he himself fought against them.

¹¹ Then his people recalled the days of old, the days of Moses and his people-- where is he who brought them through the sea, with the shepherd of his flock? Where is he who set his Holy Spirit among them, ¹² who sent his glorious arm of power to be at Moses' right hand, who divided the waters before them, to gain for himself everlasting renown, ¹³ who led them through the depths? Like a horse in open country, they did not stumble; ¹⁴ like cattle that go down to the plain, they were given rest by the Spirit of the LORD. This is how you guided your people to make for yourself a glorious name.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY

Psalm 111

Leader: Praise the LORD. I will extol the LORD with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

People: **Great are the works of the LORD; they are pondered by all who delight in them.**

Leader: Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.

People: He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and compassionate.

Leader: He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

People: He has shown his people the power of his works, giving them the lands of other nations.

Leader: The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

People: They are steadfast for ever and ever, done in faithfulness and uprightness.

Leader: He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever-- holy and awesome is his name.

People: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.

EPISTLE

Galatians 4:4–7

(When the fullness of time came, God sent His Son.)

⁴ But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, ⁵ to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. ⁶ Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "'Abba", Father." ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

“The First Nowell”

Please stand

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

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 2:13–23

(Herod murders the Holy Innocents of Bethlehem and they become the first martyrs for the sake of the Lord.)

¹³ When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." ¹⁴ So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵ where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son." ¹⁶ When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. ¹⁷ Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: ¹⁸ "A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

¹⁹ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt ²⁰ and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead." ²¹ So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, ²³ and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: "He will be called a Nazarene."

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE WORD

370 What Child is This

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.

OFFERING

“Prayer”

John Leavitt

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.**

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

In the Lord's Supper we receive Christ's body and blood in and with the bread and wine. The two great blessings of the Lord's Supper are the forgiveness of sins and strength to live an improved Christian life. In response to the Lord's command we are to examine ourselves privately prior to partaking of the Sacrament. There are three basic questions on 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 truly sorry for my sins? 2) Do I believe Jesus Christ is my Savior? 3) Do I promise with God's help to live a Christian life? If you agree with the above statement, we invite you to the Sacrament.

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; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS



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



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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

- 384** Of the Father's Love Begotten
393 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
546 O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild

Please stand

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give You thanks, almighty God, for the many and various ways You have made known Your mercy through the ages, but most especially that now You have made Your saving will and purpose known through Your Son. As You have so richly fed us with His own body and blood in this Sacrament, keep us, we pray, in faith and direct our humble obedience to Your Word, that we be found faithful when He returns in glory to complete all that He has begun in us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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.

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

367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

POSTLUDE

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

Jeffrey Blersch

Prepare for next weekend’s worship by reading:
1 Kings 3:4-15; Ephesians 1:3-14; Luke 2:40-52

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Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Clifford Bischoff	
Liturgists:	5:00 p.m.	Ellory Glenn
	8:30 a.m.	Dave Funke
	11:00 a.m.	Ellory Glenn
Lectors:	8:30 a.m.	Adrienne Burton
	11:00 a.m.	Ken Gerler
Acolytes:	8:30 a.m.	Joel Marriott
	11:00 a.m.	Aniya Cleveland
Soloist:	Ellory Glenn	
Organist:	Carolyn Rusnak	
Accompanist:	Carolyn Rusnak	
Radio Announcer:	Mike Powell	

Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran

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(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
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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*