

# 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.*

# Tenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 2, 2026

1100 a.m.

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

## AS WE GATHER

After a meal, does your family pray Psalm 136:1, “Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever”? That short prayer is not just a reminder to say “thank You” to God, who provides daily bread for our bodies. It also repeats why God provides, specifically, because of “His steadfast love.” In fact, if you pray that entire psalm, it lists the many ways God provides for all our needs of body and soul. The rich Hebrew word translated “steadfast love” reflects not only God’s general attitude but also His mighty acts and deeds to provide for His people’s entire lives and well-being. Jesus’ provision of food for the people in the wilderness (Matthew 14) as well as “our daily bread” call to the mind of faith His ultimate gift of love, the forgiveness of our sins. As the prophet Isaiah speaks of the “rich food” God provides “that your soul may live” (Isaiah 55:2–3), so the humble Meal of bread and wine in the Sacrament of the Altar causes us to remember the greatest work of our Lord’s steadfast love on the cross. At the altar, we receive the very substance of God’s steadfast love that enlivens and strengthens a steadfast faith that will endure until we are welcomed to the great and promised heavenly feast of eternal life.

## PRELUDE

“I Leave All Things to God’s Direction”

David Cherwien

## 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

**648**    Glorious Things of You Are Spoken

### INVOCATION

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

**People:**        **Amen.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:**        God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of Your people, turning us from our sin to live for You alone. Give us the power of Your Holy Spirit that, attentive to Your word, we may confess our sins, receive Your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People:**        **Amen.**

**Pastor:**        Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection or self-examination*

**Pastor:**        Gracious God,

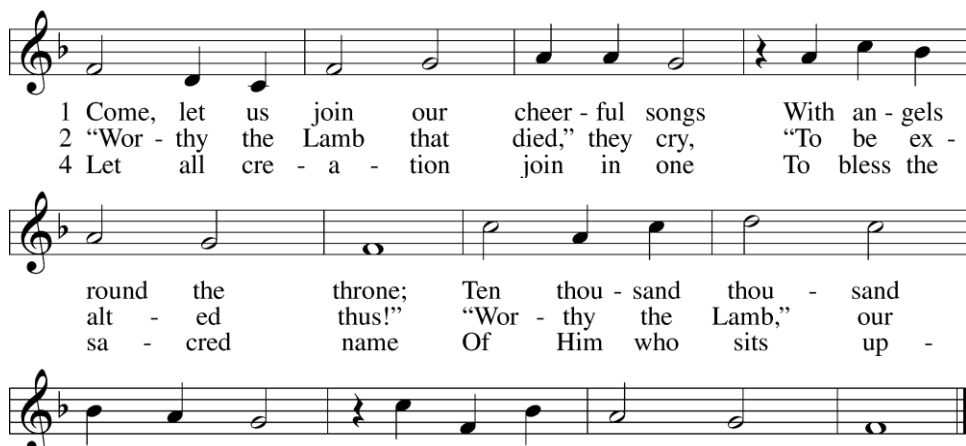
**People:**        **have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Pastor:**        Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**People:**        **Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

812 Come , Let us Join Our Cheerful Songs



1 Come, let us join our cheer - ful songs With an - gels  
2 "Wor - thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "To be ex -  
4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one To bless the  
round the throne; Ten thou - sand thou - sand  
alt - ed thus!" "Wor - thy the Lamb," our  
sa - cred name Of Him who sits up -  
are their tongues, But all their joys are one.  
lips re - ply, "For He was slain for us!"  
on the throne And to a - dore the Lamb.

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:** Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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 55:1-5

*(The compassion of the Lord)*

<sup>1</sup> "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. <sup>2</sup> Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare. <sup>3</sup> Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David. <sup>4</sup> See, I have made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander of the peoples. <sup>5</sup> Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations that do not know you will hasten to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendor."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

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

### PSALM

Psalm 136:1-9

Pastor: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.

**People:** **"His love endures forever."**

Pastor: Give thanks to the God of gods.

**People:** **"His love endures forever."**

Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord of lords:

**People:** **"His love endures forever."**

Pastor: to him who alone does great wonders,

**People:** **"His love endures forever."**

Pastor: who by his understanding made the heavens,

**People:** **"His love endures forever."**

Pastor: who spread out the earth upon the waters,

**People:** **"His love endures forever."**

Pastor: who made the great lights—  
**People:** "His love endures forever."

Pastor: the sun to govern the day,  
**People:** "His love endures forever."

Pastor: the moon and stars to govern the night;  
**People:** "His love endures forever."

## EPISTLE

Romans 9:1–5

*(Paul expresses great love for his fellow Jews)*

<sup>1</sup> I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit— <sup>2</sup> I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. <sup>3</sup> For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, those of my own race, <sup>4</sup> the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption as sons; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. <sup>5</sup> Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand*

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

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

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 14:13–21

*(Jesus' compassion on a great crowd)*

<sup>13</sup> When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

<sup>15</sup> As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food."

<sup>16</sup> Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

<sup>17</sup> "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.

<sup>18</sup> "Bring them here to me," he said. <sup>19</sup> And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. <sup>20</sup> They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. <sup>21</sup> The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

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

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## HYMN

719 I Leave All Things to God's Direction

## 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*



*Scan to give online*

**"I Leave All Things to God's Direction"**

**Kevin Hildebrand**

*Please stand*

## OFFERTORY

**783            Take My Life and Let It Be**

- 1    Take my life and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**
  
- 4    Take my silver and my gold,  
Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect and use  
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.**
  
- 6    Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
At Thy feet its treasure store; Take  
Myself, and will be  
Ever, only, all for Thee.**

Text: Public domain

## 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

917 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

## POSTLUDE

"Prelude in A Minor"

Johann Sebastian Bach

Prepare for next weekend's worship by reading:

Job 38:4-18; Romans 10:5-17; Matthew 14:22-33

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

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## Serving at Chapel

|            |                 |              |
|------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Preacher:  | Justin Goodrich |              |
| Liturgist: | Ellory Glenn    |              |
| Lectors:   | 8:30 a.m.       | Denise Koch  |
|            | 11:00 a.m.      | Ken Kreitner |
| Acolytes:  | 8:30 a.m.       | Lucie Hill   |
|            | 11:00 a.m.      | Logan Hill   |
| Organist:  | Timothy Mars    |              |

## Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran

11645 Benham Road, St. Louis, MO 63136

(314) 741-3737

[www.chapelofthecross.org](http://www.chapelofthecross.org)

Email: [office@chapelofthecross.org](mailto: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](http://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      | <a href="mailto:pastorlaesch@chapelofthecross.org">pastorlaesch@chapelofthecross.org</a>     |
| Ellory Glenn, Specific Ministry Pastor           | 314-369-8014      | <a href="mailto:ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org">ellory.glenn@chapelofthecross.org</a>     |
| Justin Goodrich, Vicar                           | 586-399-0058      | <a href="mailto:vicarjustin@chapelofthecross.org">vicarjustin@chapelofthecross.org</a>       |
| Timothy Mars, Director of Music                  | 308-241-2012      | <a href="mailto:timothy.mars@chapelofthecross.org">timothy.mars@chapelofthecross.org</a>     |
| Bill Rusnak, Director of Adult Ministry          | 314-200-9797      | <a href="mailto:bill.rusnak@chapelofthecross.org">bill.rusnak@chapelofthecross.org</a>       |
| Clifford Bischoff, Pastoral Assistant            | 314-921-1107      | <a href="mailto:pastorbischoff@chapelofthecross.org">pastorbischoff@chapelofthecross.org</a> |
| Mary Laesch, Children and Family Ministry Coord. | 314-355-0688      | <a href="mailto:family@chapelofthecross.org">family@chapelofthecross.org</a>                 |

## 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<br>& 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*