

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.

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 21, 2025

11:00 a.m.

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

AS WE GATHER

How do God's people respond to His grace filled kindness to them? After listing the many blessings that God freely gives His people, Martin Luther writes in his response to the First Article of the Apostles' Creed. "For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him." Praising God is a sacred duty for His people. It is also a joyous duty. The Psalms are filled with exhortations to join in extensive and exuberant praise. Psalm 113 begins, "Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord!" That is what we do individually and together as both a duty and as a delight!

PRELUDE

Fantasia super "Komm, Heiliger Geist" (BWV 651)

J.S. Bach

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

874 O Splendor of God's Glory Bright

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

Leader: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

People: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Leader: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Leader: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

946 Glory to God, We Give You Thanks and Praise



1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
 △ 3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and earth - ly peace we sing.
 You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
 At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
 O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
 Who with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
 Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
 With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

People: **O Lord, keep Your church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; 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

Amos 8:4–7

(The coming day of bitter mourning)

⁴ Hear this, you who trample the needy and do away with the poor of the land, ⁵ saying,

"When will the New Moon be over that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath be ended that we may market wheat?"-- skimping the measure, boosting the price and cheating with dishonest scales, ⁶ buying the poor with silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, selling even the sweepings with the wheat.

⁷ The LORD has sworn by the Pride of Jacob: "I will never forget anything they have done.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 113

Leader: Praise the LORD. Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD.

People: Let the name of the LORD be praised, both now and forevermore.

Leader: From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised.

People: The LORD is exalted over all the nations, his glory above the heavens.

Leader: Who is like the LORD our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth?

People: He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes, with the princes of their people.

Leader: He settles the barren woman in her home as a happy mother of children.

People: Praise the LORD.

EPISTLE

1 Timothy 2:1-8

(Pray for all people.)

¹ I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone-- ² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶ who gave himself as a ransom for all men--the testimony given in its proper time. ⁷ And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle--I am telling the truth, I am not lying--and a teacher of the true faith to the Gentiles.

⁸ I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

852 O God of Mercy, God of Might

Please stand

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 16:1–15

(The parable of the dishonest manager)

¹ Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. ² So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'

³ "The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg-- ⁴ I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.'

⁵ "So he called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'

⁶ " 'Eight hundred gallons of olive oil,' he replied.

"The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred.'

⁷ "Then he asked the second, 'And how much do you owe?' "

'A thousand bushels of wheat,' he replied. "He told him, 'Take your bill and make it eight hundred.'

⁸ "The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. ⁹ I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings.

¹⁰ "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much. ¹¹ So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? ¹² And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own?

¹³ "No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and Money."

¹⁴ The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all this and were sneering at Jesus. ¹⁵ He said to them, "You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of men, but God knows your hearts. What is highly valued among men is detestable in God's sight.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN

738 Lord of All Hopefulness

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Sermon Notes:

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

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.

OFFERING

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

"Holy Spirit, Light Divine"

Healey Willan

Please stand

OFFERTORY

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

PRAYER

Leader: Blessed Lord, You have given us Your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by Your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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

Leader: 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

825 Rise, Shine, You People

POSTLUDE

“Dear Christians, One and All Rejoice”

arr. Benjamin Kolodziej

Prepare for next weekend’s worship by reading:

Amos 6:1-7; 1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

Find a devotional guide on the readings at www.chapelofthecross.org/walkingtogether

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Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Theodore Laesch	
Liturgists:	5:00 p.m.	Jacob Anderson
	8:30 a.m.	Charles Wallace
	11:00 a.m.	Jacob Anderson
Lectors:	8:30 a.m.	Sandy Otto
	11:00 a.m.	Milo Lombard
Acolytes:	8:30 a.m.	Lucie Hill
	11:00 a.m.	Nate Runser
Choir:	8:30 a.m.	Choral Singers
Director:	Matt McEuen	
Organists:	5:00 p.m.	Rev. Scott Schilbe
	8:30 a.m.	Benjamin Kolodziej
Accompanist:	Kathleen Stahlhut	
Elder of the Week:	Stan Schwede	

Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran

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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 KFUE 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
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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:

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

** indicates special emphasis in 2025*

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