

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be always with you.

**And also, with You**

## CORPORATE DECLARATION OF UNITY

FCM's Purpose Statement

## BLESSING AND SENDING

### **Authorities we want to remember specifically in prayer this week:**

Commandant of the Marines – Gen. Eric M. Smith  
Chief of National Guard Bureau – Gen. Daniel R. Hokanson  
MO Natl. Guard Chief of Joint Staff – Colonel Gordon R. Meyer  
MO Natl. Guard Chief of Staff Army – Colonel Bradley Leonard  
St Charles County Police Chief – Kurt Frisz

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Leadership meeting:** Do not forget about today's meeting, immediately following corporate worship.



### **SAVE THE DATE**

Saturday, June 22, 2024, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Registration is \$15. Early bird registration received by May 21st is \$10. Registration includes continental breakfast and session materials. For more information and to sign up, go to the Events link on the website. Tell a friend!



## **FAITH COVENANT MINISTRIES**

LOVE | LIFE | LORDSHIP | LEADERSHIP

[faithcovenantstl.com](http://faithcovenantstl.com)

### Purpose Statement:

We exist to glorify God by serving as a conduit for the grace of God whereby faith the Love, Life, Lordship and Leadership of the Kingdom of Heaven is revealed and expanded to all nations.

### Mission Statement:

We desire to be a multi-cultural, multi-generational conduit of the grace of God to be used to fulfil our purpose, for the glory of God.

### Mailing address:

P.O. Box 430  
St. Charles, MO 63302  
636-373-9001

### Weekly Corporate Gatherings:

Sunday Worship Service- 10:00 AM  
Discipleship Groups (times vary)

### Staff:

Rev. Michael Hammond, Sr. - President & Senior Pastor  
Rose Hammond- Receptionist

Order of Worship  
Sunday, April 28, 2024

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

(**Congregation** responses spoken together appear in **bold** print.)

OPENING DECLARATION & PRAYER

Even though Jesus was rejected by some people, you are invited to come to him in trust and hope. Lord, guide and give us courageous faith. For he is the cornerstone, and this church will stand faithfully as a house of praise and service because of his love.

WORSHIP IN SONG (click the song title for a YouTube track)

[I Love to Praise Him](#)    [There Is A Praise](#)    [Praise Him](#)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

May the light of scripture open our eyes, may the words of scripture stir in our hearts, and may the truth of scripture fill our lives. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 22:4-17 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

**Congregation: Thank you, Lord for your Holy Word.**

(Quiet Reflection)

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 118 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God.

**Congregation: Thank you, Lord for your Holy Word.**

(Quiet Reflection)

WORSHIP IN SONG: HYMN OF THE MONTH

[Great is Thy Faithfulness](#) | View the lyrics [here](#)

SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 3:1-10; 14:1-12 (NASB95)

Leader: This is the Word of God

**Congregation: Thank you, Lord for your Holy Word**

(Quiet Reflection)

GOSPEL READING: John 3:16-21 (NAS95)

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

**People: Praise to You Lord Christ**

(following the reading)

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

**People: Praise to You Lord Christ**

SERMON: <https://www.facebook.com/fcmstl>

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

Let us confess our sins before Almighty God.

**Most merciful God,**

**we confess that we have sinned against you**

**in thought, word and deed,**

**by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

**These are our sins:**

(quiet confession of sins)

God, we have not loved you with our whole heart.

**We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

**have mercy on us and forgive us;**

**that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

## What Do You Make of This?

By: Oswald Chambers

1. We need a Savior because God \_\_\_\_\_ us one (and only one).

2. We need a Savior because the world is already \_\_\_\_\_.

3. We need a Savior because of the \_\_\_\_\_.

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. — [John 15:13](#)

Jesus doesn't ask us to die for him; he asks us to lay down our lives for him. When Peter said, "I will lay down my life for you" (John 13:37), he meant that he would give up every selfish pursuit and devote his energy, his life force, to following Jesus. Peter's sense of the heroic was magnificent. It would be a bad thing to be incapable of making the kind of declaration Peter made. The way we understand our duty depends on our own sense of the heroic. If we think heroism means falling on our sword, we think wrongly. It is much easier to die than to lay down our lives day in and day out with the sense that we are answering a higher calling.

For thirty-three years, Jesus laid down his life to do the will of his Father. John says that we should imitate our Lord; we should lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters (1 John 3:16). This isn't easy. To humble ourselves for others in this way goes against human nature. But we weren't made for brilliant moments alone. There was just one brilliant moment in the life of our Lord, and that was on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17). Before and after this moment, Jesus lived where we do—in the valley of the everyday.

*"I have called you friends"* (John 15:15). If we are friends of Jesus, we will deliberately and carefully lay down our lives for him. It is difficult—and thank God it is! Salvation is easy for us because it cost God so much. It is only right that putting salvation to work in our lives should be difficult. God saves us and gives us the Holy Spirit, then asks us to work out what he has worked in. He asks us to remain loyal to him, though everything around us would make us disloyal.

Remain loyal to your friend, and always remember that his honor is at stake in your life.