

Lutheran Church of the Cross  
1004 E Highland Acres Rd.  
Bismarck ND 58501

Phone: 223-1001

Website: [www.churchofthecross.org](http://www.churchofthecross.org)

Office Hours: 8a-4p Monday—Thursday; 8 to noon Friday

Summer Hours: Mon– Fri. 8:00am–noon

**Staff:**

Lisa Ahlness, **Pastor**

Cell: 220.9011 / Email: [lisaahlness@hotmail.com](mailto:lisaahlness@hotmail.com) or  
[lccpastor@midconetwork.com](mailto:lccpastor@midconetwork.com)

Janie Hague, **Director of Discipleship**

Office 223-1001: Email: [lccdod@midconetwork.com](mailto:lccdod@midconetwork.com)

Connie Werner, **Secretary** cell 400.5852

Office 223-1001 / Email: [churchsecretary@midconetwork.com](mailto:churchsecretary@midconetwork.com)

Art Wheeler, **Treasurer**

527-9582/ [lctreasurer@midconetwork.com](mailto:lctreasurer@midconetwork.com)

Robin Johnson, **Worship Coordinator**

Cell: 391.1082 / Email: [theriver@midconetwork.com](mailto:theriver@midconetwork.com)

Gerri Sarsten, **Organist**, Eve Kath, **Accompanist**

**2021 Church Council Members**

Mike Geiermann, President [mgeiermann12@gmail.com](mailto:mgeiermann12@gmail.com) 471.5122

Cherie Krueger, Vice President [cheriekrueger@gmail.com](mailto:cheriekrueger@gmail.com) 226.7514

Kylie Blanchard, Secretary [kylie.blanchard@hotmail.com](mailto:kylie.blanchard@hotmail.com) 391.0373

Krisi Kunz, [krisi\\_lynn00@hotmail.com](mailto:krisi_lynn00@hotmail.com) 426.4696

Mark Kunze, [mvkunze@gmail.com](mailto:mvkunze@gmail.com) 449.9262

Ron Borth, [cborth@midco.net](mailto:cborth@midco.net) 751.4235

Kari Harris, [dakotakid10@gmail.com](mailto:dakotakid10@gmail.com) 391.9467

# The River

A Blended Worship Service



*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

October 31, 2021  
10:00am

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS  
1004 E. Highland Acres Road  
Bismarck, ND

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**“The River” Worship Service**  
**October 31, 2021**

*WE COME TOGETHER*

**GATHERING MUSIC**

Worship Team

*You are invited to sing with the Worship Team as we gather for worship. All songs and worship liturgy will be projected on the screens for your use.*

*“Shout to the Lord”, “Blessed Be Your Name”, “I Will Call Upon the Lord”*

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**GATHERING SONG**      *“A Mighty Fortress is our God”*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**FIRST READING**    Deuteronomy 6:1-9

**RESPONSIVE READING** Psalm 119:1-8

**SECOND READING** Hebrews 9:11-14

*WE HEAR GOD’S WORD*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**      *“Thy Word”*                      *Please Stand*

**GOSPEL** Mark 12:28-34

**SERMON**                      Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**SONG OF THE DAY**              *“Who You Say I Am”*

**Lutherans show love with food.** Wednesdays and Sundays need some love! We love our fellowship times, and are grateful for all of you who host coffee hour after worship. Did you know we host a small dinner on Wednesdays from 5-5:50 pm, especially for families rushing to get here for worship/church school/confirmation? We plan for 25 people or so. Would you consider hosting a meal, or joining up with a friend to do so? Sign up sheet is on the coffee table. Or if your passion is baking consider signing up for treats on Sundays.

**Trunk or Treat** is today from 2-3 pm. Decorated trunks, trick or treaters, and potential runners are needed. Come have fun.

If any church member(s) still have the ability to secure a **Thrivent grant** this year please contact the church office.

**Direct Your Dollars** amount is up to \$106,000. \$44,000 to go!

The **library** has placed books in the narthex for giveaway. Browse and take please.

There is a **laundry basket** located out in the annex for our members to donate winter gear for those that go without. Collecting used or new hats, mittens, gloves, & scarves. Thank you for your contribution to our community! The basket will remain in the annex until warm weather arrives again.

**Heat the Church** starts Monday. A monthly calendar is available for contributors to pick a day(s) to help heat the church. November and March will be \$10 per day, and December, January, February will be \$25 per day. Choose the date(s) that have special meaning in the lives of your families. Donate in the memory of someone, or acknowledge a special event or purpose. Donations may be mailed or one may choose to use electronic giving. Thank you in advance for continuing this tradition by way of taking care of your church building.

**Book Club** picks: FIFTY WORDS FOR RAIN by Asha Lemmie                      Nov.  
THE GIRL WITH THE LOUDING VOICE by Abi Dare                      Dec  
ORDINARY GRACE by William Kent Kruger                      Jan.  
SOOLEY by John Grisham                      Feb.

The Book Club meets the second Wednesday at 1:30. If you enjoy reading come and participate.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Welcome to Lutheran Church of the Cross, and to “The River” Blended Worship Service this morning!** If you are visiting with us today, please take a moment to sign the guestbook in the narthex.

**Stewardship Reflection for October 31 Reformation Sunday Mark 12:28-34** he asked him, 'Which commandment is the first of all?' Jesus answered, 'The first is, "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these. Jesus answers the scribe's question by telling him of the two greatest commandments. Notice: the commandments are about love, not about rules. Do you sometimes think rules are the most important thing? Are you inclined to judge those who break the rules? Faith Simonieg-Associate to the Bishop for Stewardship, Generosity and Ministerial Transition, Western North Dakota Synod

The November Council Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, Nov. 16 at 6:30 p.m.** instead of the regularly scheduled second Thursday of the month.

The **cake and coffee** served today is in honor of the Confirmands Megan. Easton, Bayne, Maren, Jace, Ole, and Kayla.

**For All the Saints** banner is out in the narthex for you to add the names of loved ones who have passed.

**October Altar Focus:** Pillows and pillowcases for the homeless. We will continue to collect those items until we've won the pillow fight! (figuratively speaking of course)

**November Altar Focus:** Warm clothing, gloves, hats, mittens, boots, and out-wear plus teddy bears

**December Altar Focus:** Carrie's Kids

**AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**                      *“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”*

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY PRAYER**    *Please Stand*

*WE SHARE THE MEAL*

**PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL**

**LORD'S PRAYER**    (spoken)

**INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER**    *All are welcome*

**COMMUNION SONG**    *“Baptized and Set Free”*

**COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER**    *Please Stand*

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION**    *“The Lord Be With You”*

**SENDING SONG**    *“Shine a Little Light”*

**DISMISSAL**                      (The children are welcome to come and play instruments as we dismiss.)

**POSTLUDE**                      *“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”*

**TODAY'S READING REFLECTION**

Can we pray the way Bartimaeus prays? People try to hush him up because by addressing Jesus as “Son of David” he is making a politically dangerous claim that Jesus is the rightful king. Could our prayers ever be heard as a threat to unjust powers that be? Bartimaeus won't give up or go away quietly, but repeats his call for help more loudly. Do we ask so boldly? And are our prayers an honest answer to Jesus' question, “What do you want me to do for you?”

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

## “THE RIVER” WORSHIP MINISTERS

**Pastor**—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**Director of Discipleship**—Deacon Janie Hague

**Scripture Reader**—Art Wheeler

**Ushers**— Art Wheeler, Floy Marx

**Altar Guild**—Dawn Hultin, Heather Martin, Ruth Jensen, Suzanne Toso

**Faith & Care Coordinators**—Kay Koch, Barb Wilson

**River Worship Team**—

**Sound Board Technicians**—Terry Grenz, Lavern Hanson,

**Projection Team**— Jace Kunze, Mark Kunze, Jeff Thomas, Art Wheeler,

**Streaming Team**— Mike Collins, Tom Harris, Mark Kunze, Karen Will

**River Singers**— Deb Carpenter, Sally Grenz, Paul Gurholt, Kari Harris,

Doug Johnson, Robin Johnson, Cherie Krueger, AJ Marx, John Sailer,

Amanda Sagsveen, Barb Wilson

**Percussionist**— Kari Harris

**Accompanists**—Eve Kath Robin Johnson, Gerri Sarsen

### **Prayers, Births, Deaths, Concerns**

Please contact Connie in the church office if you have a prayer request, or if you will be entering the hospital and would like a pastoral visit.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

*(We encourage you to take this list home and pray for these people.)*

#### **For those struggling with health issues:**

Maxine Hill, Reece Fischer, Tracy Martinson, Ann Hillesland, Roger Bakke, Erwin and Linda Marson, Quinton and Arlene Wolff, Bonnie Spies, Lori Dvorak, Mary Weinberg, Al Samuelson, JoRae Sarsten; Bernice Walton, Nancy Dockter, Dale Heaton, Kim Schultz, Jean Schafer, Gary and LaVonne Hultin, John Behan, Bob Roesler, Cheryl Moore, Josey Hanson, Virginia Smith, LeRoy Tiffany, Cordella Thompson, Janis Sloka, Kerry Carpenter, Christie Zainhofsky, Dora Strand, Kris Wood, Brandon Heaton, Diane Stotz, Earl and Marlene Larson, Betty Fetzer, Todd Wood, Parker Sagsveen, Joyce Wahl, Lisa Robinson, AJ Marx, Carolyn Wegerle

#### **For those dealing with the death of a loved one—the families and friends of:**

Paul Fiske, Marlin Johnson, Lois Dolan, Donna Dohrmann

**Military Deployment:** MN 851 VEC deployed to Kuwait, ND 957th Engineer Co. deployed to southern border

## WEEKLY CALENDAR of October 31

**Today, October 31:**

Church School 9:00 am  
The River 10:00am  
Coffee Hour 11:00am  
Trunk or Treat 2 pm  
Living Water practice 5pm

**Monday, November 1:**

Needlework Group 9:30am

**Tuesday, November 2:**

Staff meeting 10:00am

**Wednesday, November 3:**

Supper 5:15pm  
Living Water Service 6:15pm  
Church School/Confirmation  
River Practice 7pm

**Thursday, November 4:**

Quilting 1pm  
AA Meeting 7:30pm

**Friday, November 5:**

**Saturday, November 6:**

**Sunday, November 7**

All Saint's, Veteran Recognition  
Carmel Rolls

### **Future Happenings**

November 10<sup>th</sup>

November 11<sup>th</sup>

November 16<sup>th</sup>

November 24<sup>th</sup>

Book Club, Youth Group  
Veteran's Day Office closed  
Church Council 6:30pm  
Joint Thanksgiving Service