

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

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

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Staff:

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

2021 Church Council Members

Mike Geiermann, President mgeiermann12@gmail.com 471.5122

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The River

A Blended Worship Service



“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

November 21, 2021
10:00am

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
November 21, 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.

“For the Fruit of All Creation”, “Give Thanks”, “For All Good Things”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: “Counting on God”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING Joel 2:21-27

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 100

SECOND READING 1 Timothy 2:1-7

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Jesus Messiah”

Please Stand

GOSPEL READING Matthew 6:25-33

SERMON

Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Direct Your Dollars amount is up to \$129,000. \$21,000 to go! Merry Go Round Preschool donated \$14,500 in receipts this week. They were collecting for another non profit which isn’t doing it anymore. They agreed to continue to collect for us. Thank you Merry Go Round.

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. Kathryn Spilman takes the donated items and distributes them.

Heat the Church 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: ORDINARY GRACE by William Kent Krueger Dec
THE GIRL WITH THE LOUDING VOICE by Abi Dare Jan
SOOLEY by John Grisham Feb.

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

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service next week at Faith Lutheran Church, Wednesday, November 24 7pm. Joint prayer service with United Christ of Christ, St. George’s Episcopal, LCC and Faith Lutheran. The theme centers around homelessness. Sister Kathleen Atkinson and Rachel Monge are the featured speakers. The new pillows and gently used bed sheets being collected are for this project.



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 November 21th Christ the King Sunday, John 18:33-37 *“What is the truth?” Pilate asked.* Today, it can be difficult to find the truth among all the news and alternative facts. There are many voices competing for our attention. The truth is that God is love, God loves the world so much that he sent his own Son to save it. Pray that you recognize the voice of truth, for the grace to seek and listen to God’s voice. *Faith Simonieg-Associate to the Bishop for Stewardship*

November Altar Focus: Warm clothing, gloves, hats, mittens, boots, and out-wear plus teddy bears. Bring the teddy bears in to the sanctuary.

December Altar Focus: Carrie’s Kids and Good Gifts. The tree is set up and the jean ornaments are on the tree for you to choose which size of jeans you wish to purchase. Thank you for your continued support with the annual project.

The first week in December out in the narthex will be a the **printed directory** for you to take home. Do we have all of your changes? Have you moved, stopped using your landline, changed email addresses, added children, or pets? (just kidding!) Make the necessary changes in the old directory **this week** so that the new directory can be the most up to date as is possible. You’ll find the directory on the round table with the Dan’s Supermarket receipts. Thank you.

The **poinsettia order blanks** are in the back of the church and out in the narthex. Please fill out your order and place it in the offering plate or in the secretary’s plastic bin next to the office door.

Advent Dinners: We are starting something new this year. Confirmation students will be serving meals before each Wednesday Service in Advent. Stop in the fellowship hall between 5:15 and 6:00pm for some hot soup and support a good cause. A free will offering will be taken to help raise funds for camp scholarships, since this is a fundraiser. The Menu is: **December 1st:** Cabbage Roll Soup with sweet rolls **Dec 8th:** Chicken Wild Rice soup with sweet rolls **Dec 15^h:** Beef Barley Soup with rolls **Dec 22nd:** Rustic Italian Tortellini soup with rolls

There are seven wardrobe boxes of **pillows** /bedding collected so far! Two more wardrobe boxes await pillows. Thank you for your help with this project.

SONG OF THE DAY *“Let All Things Now Living”*

APOSTLES’ CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH *“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”*

OFFERING/OFFERTORY PRAYER *Please Stand*

WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

LORD’S PRAYER *“Lord’s Prayer” by Joel Gilbertson*

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

COMMUNION SONG *“Give Me a Grateful Heart”*

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER *Please Stand*

BENEDICTION *“Each Day”*

SENDING SONG *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*

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

POSTLUDE SONG: *“Counting on God”*

TODAY’S READING REFLECTION

Today’s readings reflect two of the strains that go into the celebration of a national day of thanksgiving: gratitude for abundant harvest (Joel) and civic prayer for a peaceable common life (1 Timothy). The core meaning of Thanksgiving for many of us—a home feast for extended family and friends—is not reflected in the readings; but it is reflected weekly in the church’s meal of thanksgiving (eucharist).

What we wish for both these thanksgiving meals is that they will go deeper than celebration of one another and our own blessings, to recognize in our true Host one who wants everyone brought to the table.

“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— John & Jean Kraft

Altar Guild—Cherie Krueger, Ruth Jensen, Donna Belisle, Pam Hanson

Faith & Care Coordinators—Myrtice & John Behan, Kim & Mike Humann

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, Tom Wade, Barb Wilson

Percussionist— Kari Harris

Accompanists—Eve Kath, Robin Johnson, Gerri Sarsten

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, Al Samuelson, JoRae Sarsten; Bernice Walton, Dale Heaton, 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, Nancy Dockter

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

Mary Weinberg, Paul Fiske, Marlin Johnson, Lois Dolan

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR of November 21

Today, November 21:

Kids Worship 9:00 am

The River 10:00am

Coffee Hour 11:00am

Living Water practice 5pm

Monday, November 22:

Needlework Group 9:30am

Knitting 1pm

Tuesday, November 23:

Staff meeting 10:00am

Wednesday, November 24:

No church activities here

Thanksgiving Service @

Faith Lutheran w/Sister Kathleen

Atkinson and Rachel Monge

Thursday, November 25:

Thanksgiving

Office closed

AA Meeting 7:30pm

Friday, November 26:

Office closed

NO Wired Word 1:30pm

Saturday, November 27:

Sunday, November 28:

NO Church School 9:00 am

The River 10:00am

Coffee Hour 11:00am

Living Water practice 5pm

Christmas Program Dec. 19th during worship