

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

Phone: 223-1001

Website: 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 or
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Janie Hague, **Director of Discipleship**

Office 223-1001: Email: lccdod@midconetwork.com

Connie Werner, **Secretary** cell 400.5852

Office 223-1001 / Email: churchsecretary@midconetwork.com

Art Wheeler, **Treasurer**

527-9582/ lcctreasurer@midconetwork.com

Robin Johnson, **Worship Coordinator**

Cell: 391.1082 / Email: theriver@midconetwork.com

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

2021 Church Council Members

Mike Geiermann, President mgeiermann12@gmail.com 471.5122

Cherie Krueger, Vice President cheriekrueger@gmail.com 226.7514

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The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

January 2, 2022

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
Second Sunday of Christmas

January 2, 2022

WE COME TOGETHER

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.

PRELUDE MUSIC Worship Team
*“Light Dawns on a Weary World”, “Children of the Heavenly Father”,
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: “The First Noel”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 147:12-20

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “He is Exalted” *Please Stand*

GOSPEL READING: John 1:[1-9] 10-18

Direct Your Dollars amount is up to \$150,000!. We are starting again. Thank you for continuing to bring in receipts. You may place them in the box in the narthex or in the plastic bin next to the secretary’s office.

The latest **directory** is out in the narthex. Take your copy.

The annual **Men’s Retreat** at Camp of the Cross is scheduled for the last weekend in January; January 28-30 or Friday night through Sunday morning. Register online at Camp of the Cross’s website. [Retreats — CCM \(campofthecross.com\)](http://Retreats—CCM(campofthecross.com))

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.

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response designated for “U.S. tornadoes” will be used entirely (100%) to assist those affected by tornadoes until the response is complete. Together, we can support those who are on the long road to recovery. Please give today. <https://community.elca.org/USTornadoRelief>

Book Club picks: THE GIRL WITH THE LOUDING VOICE by Abi Dare Jan 12
SOOLEY by John Grisham Feb. 9th

The Book Club meets the second Wednesday at 1:30 at LCC. 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 January 2, 2nd Sunday of Christmas,

Faith Simonieg-Associate to the Bishop for Stewardship

Committee Reports for the Annual Meeting will be due Jan 14, 2022.

Heat the Church Thank you for continuing this tradition by way of taking care of LCC's building.

Thank you to all who purchased the **poinsettia plants**. So that you may enjoy them also please take home your poinsettia plant today. There are white plastic bags on the table in the narthex.

Caramel Roll Sunday! The youth will be serving Caramel Rolls on Sunday January 9th after the 10am worship service. This is a fundraiser for youth to raise money to go to camp and on mission trips. There is a suggested minimum donation of \$3 per roll. Thank you for supporting our youth!

SERMON Bishop Schweitzer

SONG OF THE DAY: “What Child Is This?”

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH “Open Our Eyes”

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: “Away in a Manger”

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER *Please Stand*

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

BENEDICTION (spoken)

SENDING SONG: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE SONG: “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Reading Reflection

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

"THE RIVER" WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Director of Discipleship—Deacon Janie Hague

Scripture Reader—Deb Carpenter

Ushers— Joel & Suzanne Toso

Altar Guild—Jean Kraft, Donna Belisle, Cheryl Neu, Cherie Krueger

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, Christie Zainhofsky, Kris Wood, Brandon Heaton, Diane Stotz, Earl Larson, Betty Fetzer, Todd Wood, Joyce Wahl, Lisa Robinson, Carolyn Wegerle, Nancy Dockter, Donna Belisle, Pat Schmidt, Jim Mattheis, Barb Thomas, Sheila & Arvid Mugaas

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

Marlene Larson

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR of January 2

Today, January 2:

No church school 9:00am
The River 9:00am
Coffee Hour 11:00am
Living Water practice 5pm

Monday, January 3:

Office closed

Tuesday, January 4:

Wednesday, January 5:

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

Thursday, January 6:

AA Meeting 7:30pm

Friday, January 7:

Saturday, January 8:

Sunday, January 9:

The River 10:00am
Coffee Hour 11:00am

Men's Retreat Jan. 29-30 at COC

Annual Meeting scheduled for Jan. 30 immediately after the service. Potluck follows the meeting.