

Lutheran Church of the Cross  
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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:**

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

**2022 Church Council Members**

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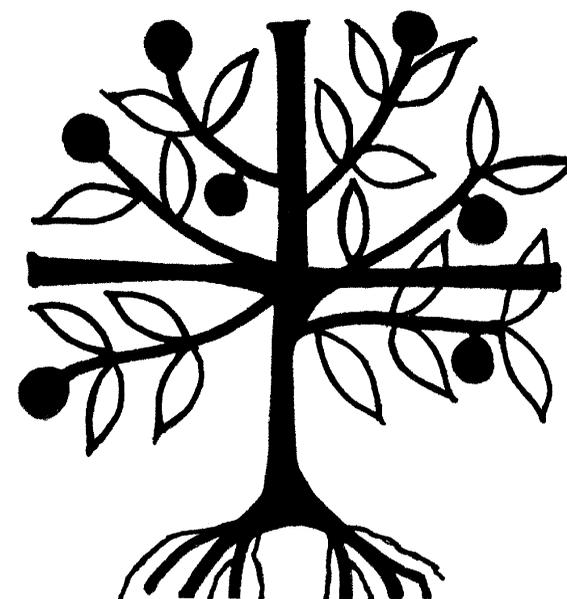
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# The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

March 20, 2022

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**“The River” Worship Service**  
**Third Sunday in Lent**  
**March 20, 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  
*“We Remember, We Believe”, “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”,  
“Come As You Are”*

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**GATHERING SONG:** “Great is the Lord”

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

*WE HEAR GOD’S WORD*

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 55:1-9

**RESPONSIVE READING:** Psalm 63:1-8

**SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** “Praise the Name of Jesus” *Please Stand*

**GOSPEL READING:** Luke 13:1-9

**SERMON** Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**Church Basement Ladies**, A Celebration of the church basement kitchen and the women who work there, features four distinct characters and their relationships as they organize the food and the problems of a rural Minnesota church. From the elderly matriarch of the kitchen to the young bride-to-be learning the proper order of things, the book and music give us a touching, funny look at their lives as we see them handle a record breaking Christmas dinner, the funeral of a dear friend, a Hawaiian Easter Fundraiser, and a steaming hot July wedding. They stave off potential disasters, share and debate recipes, instruct the young, and keep the pastor on due course while thoroughly enjoying, (and tolerating) each other. Funny and down to earth, audiences will recognize these ladies as they begin to see the church year unfold from below the house of God. This is most certainly true! Show Times are Wednesday, April 6 at 2pm and 7:30pm.

Tickets prices are \$25—\$35. Tickets can be purchased at <https://www.bismarckeventcenter.com/events/2022/church-basement-ladies#buy>

The show is at the Belle Mehus Auditorium.

**Youth Group Series “Who are we now? - Making sense of change”**

The last two years have brought about a lot of loss and change with the pandemic that has impacted everyone. How do we make meaning of our experience and find a way to move forward? This series is designed to process the changes the pandemic has brought to us, and give us tools to find hope and move forward.

**Lesson 1: I am: Who am I now? Who are we now?** March 16th 8-9 pm OR Sunday March 20th from 4-5pm.

**Lesson 2: Loss and Grief: What have we lost and gained from this experience?** March 23rd 8-pm OR Sunday March 27th 4-5 pm.

**Lesson 3: Equipped to be Resilient: How do we stay deeply rooted and move forward through change?** March 30th 8-9pm OR April 3rd 4-5pm.

**Lesson 4: Renewed in Hope Each Day: Where is God calling us?** Offered April 6th 8-9pm OR April 10th 4-5pm.

**March Altar Focus – Sweet Deal for CAR** The Altar Focus will continue until Easter – April 17. We will be collecting donations for our sister church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Central African Republic (CAR). You will find tubes of mini M & M’s at the back of the church throughout Lent. The tube makes a perfect little “bank” – it will hold \$14 in quarters, or rolled up bills or checks, or other change as well. Please fill up the tube with your offering of choice for CAR, and drop it in the offering plate. Your gifts help fund roofs for schools and salaries for teachers, a women’s center, motorbikes to help pastors and evangelists travel around the rough territory, and a clinic. All of these are immensely helpful in a country torn by war. In 2020, we as a congregation were able to send \$1000 to help CAR. Last year, it increased by 50% to \$1521.86! How much can we do this year? Watch for more information about CAR during Lent, and thank you for your generosity!

## **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.

**Book Club** picks: April 13th is “The Midnight Library” by Matt Haig  
The Book Club meets the second Wednesday at 1:30 at LCC. If you enjoy reading, come and participate.

**Lutheran Church of the Cross** has an opening for the Worship and Music Coordinator position. For more information contact the office.

**WOMEN’S RETREAT 2022** All women (all ages) are welcome to gather for the weekend or Saturday only. April 29 through May 1, 2022 at Lutheran Camp of the Cross, near Garrison, ND.

“Who are we now? - Making sense of change” discussion led by Janie Hague. The last two years have brought about a lot of loss and change with the pandemic that has impacted everyone. How do we make meaning of our experience and find a way to move forward? This series is designed to process the changes the pandemic has brought to us, and give us tools to find hope and move forward. For those staying the full weekend: 4 PM on Friday, April 29 - May 1, Sunday back home about 1 PM. Cost: \$140. For two nights in Retreat Center, 2 breakfasts and one dinner at camp. Saturday for the day: April 30 8 AM to 6 PM \$40. Includes breakfast and dinner. We will snack through lunchtime and take a short break to enjoy the setting. For more information contact Sally Grenz: call 701-390- 3049 or e-mail [Sallygrenz@hotmail.com](mailto:Sallygrenz@hotmail.com)

“We appreciate the prayers said for us while traveling. We stayed healthy and feel very blessed.” Toso family

Hattie Martinson, one of LCC’s charter members is celebrating her 90th birthday April 12.

Candy donations needed for the Easter egg story hunt. Please drop donations off in front of Janie’s office.

**Youth Group/Family Fun Activities March 25:** 7pm to 12am Mock-in: Youth grades 6-8 are invited to join youth from Church of the Cross and other local churches for a mock-in. We will meet at Good Shepherd at 7pm. The event will be very similar to a lock in. Talk to Janie if you have any questions.

**SONG OF THE DAY:** *“The Well of Salvation”*

**APOSTLE’S CREED**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** *“I Love You, Lord”*

**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:** *“His Glory Appears”*

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

**BENEDICTION** Spoken

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

**DISMISSAL**

**POSTLUDE SONG:** *“Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”*

All children are welcomed to come to the front and play instruments during the Worship Team’s postlude song.”

### ***Reading Reflection***

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God’s invitation to attentiveness: “Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.” The landowner’s ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener’s readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

## “THE RIVER” WORSHIP MINISTERS

**Pastor**—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**Director of Discipleship**—Deacon Janie Hague

**Scripture Reader**—Mavis Pommerer

**Ushers**—

**Altar Guild**—Jean Kraft, Sarah Dahl, Sharon Narum, Cherie Krueger

**Faith & Care Coordinators**—Mavis Pommerer and Molly Traynor

**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 and other concerns:**

Maxine Hill, Reece Fischer, Tracy Martinson, Ann Hillesland, Roger Bakke, Erwin and Linda Marson, Quinton and Arlene Wolff, Bonnie Spies, Lori Dvorak, JoRae Sarsten; Bernice Walton, Jean Schafer, Gary and LaVonne Hultin, John Behan, Bob Roesler, Cheryl Moore, Josey Hanson, Virginia Smith, Cordella Thompson, Christie Zainhofsky, Diane Stotz, Earl Larson, Lisa Robinson, Carolyn Wegerle, Jim Mattheis, Barb Thomas, Shiela & Arvid Mugaas, Jean Kraft, Diane Klein, Nicole Eckroth, Mary Schuler, Gladys Bain, Nancy Dockter, Kerry Carpenter, Todd Wood

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

Sherry Tang, LeRoy Tiffany

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

## WEEKLY CALENDAR of March 20

**Today, March 20:**

Church School 9:00am

The River 10:00am

Coffee Hour 11:00am

Health Care Directives 11:15

Youth Grp Series 4-5pm

Living Water practice 5pm

**Monday, March 21:**

Needlework Group 9:30am

**Tuesday, March 22:**

Staff Meeting 10:00 am

**Wednesday, March 23:**

Women's Book Study 9am

Lenten Soup Supper 5:15pm

Lent Service 6:15pm

Church School/Confirmation 7pm

River Practice 7pm

Youth Grp Series 7-8pm

**Thursday, March 24:**

Quilting 1:00pm

AA Meeting 7:30pm

**Friday, March 25:**

Wired Word 1:30pm

Jr High Mock In 7pm –12am

**Saturday, March 26:**

**Sunday, March 27:**

No Church School 9:00am

The River 10:00am

Coffee 11:00

Living Water practice 5pm

Youth Grp Series 4-5pm