

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
lccpastor@midconetwork.com

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**

2022 Church Council Members

Cherie Krueger, President cheriekrueger@gmail.com 226.7514

Mike Humann, Vice President mknhumann@bis.midco.net 527-3376

Kari Harris, Secretary dakotakid10@gmail.com 391.9467

Mike Geiermann, mgeiermann12@gmail.com 471.5122

Ron Borth, cborth@midco.net 751.4235

Janice Martin, mshadyj@gmail.com 471.5600

Sarah Dahl, sarahdahlmba@gmail.com 226.6844

The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

March 6, 2022

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
First Sunday in Lent
March 6, 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
“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”, “God Will Make a Way”, “Only Jesus”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: *“Just As I Am (I Come Broken)”*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

SECOND READING: Romans 10:8b-13

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

GOSPEL READING: Luke 4:1-13

SERMON Deacon Janie Hague

Youth Group/Family Fun Activities

March 13: Family Fun day at Sky Zone from 2-4pm. Come to jump into your faith. Cost is \$30.

March 19: Day of service. Join Deacon Janie in a day of service in our community. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex to sign up if interested. Watch the bulletin for more details.

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 Lutheran Church at 7pm. The event will be very similar to a lock in. Talk to Janie if you have any questions.

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 This project will technically continue until Easter – April 17. Once again, we will be collecting donations for our sister church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Central African Republic (CAR). You can pick up a tube of mini M & M’s at the back of the church throughout Lent. (Although they are quite expensive and can’t be sourced locally, so please guide your younger family members in not grabbing multiple tubes). The M & M’s are, of course, delicious, and 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. It’s so exciting to watch the tubes return! 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: March 9th is “The Flatshare” by Beth O’Leary. 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.

The **Easter flower order blank** is at the back of the church and in the narthex. Orders are due by March 8th. Place either in offering basket or in secretary’s bin.

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

Wednesday Worship Lenten Series “God is still with us”

As we journey through this season of Lent together, you are invited to remember that from the foundations of the world, the Holy Spirit hovered over creation. The Spirit hovers, even now. When God’s people seemed abandoned in Egypt, God guided them into the Promised Land. God guides us, even now in the midst of a pandemic when we have felt abandoned, God is still with us. This Lent, we will explore Gospel passages that remind us that God is still with us. The good news of the gospel is that Jesus experienced the fullness of humanity—comfort and pain, celebration and heartache, and joy and suffering. And when he had the choice to escape ridicule or rejection, Jesus stuck with the outsiders, the oppressed, and the hurting. The life of Jesus demonstrates that God knows what it is to be human and to be with us in all our experiences, especially in our suffering.—*Adapted from: [An Illustrated Lent for Families: God is Still With Us — Illustrated Ministry](#)* Join us on March 9th, March 16th, March 23rd, March 30th, and April 6th at 6:15pm as we walk this journey together being reminded that God is still with us.

Dishwashers needed! If you like fellowship after church and enjoy drinking a cup of coffee while visiting with friends, then please be willing to take turns washing the dishes. Invite a friend to share the joys of dishwashing and continue the conversation in the dishwashing room. There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship room on the “coffee table”. Thank you.

Direct Your Dollars is up to \$23,000! Continuing to bring in receipts.

SONG OF THE DAY: “Seek Ye First”

APOSTLES’ 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 “Thy Will Be Done”

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

COMMUNION SONG: “On Eagle’s Wings”

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER *Please Stand*

BENEDICTION “The Lord Be With You”

SENDING SONG: “A Mighty Fortress is Our God”

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE SONG: “Only Jesus”

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

Reading Reflection

These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God’s grace, to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God’s love in Jesus, and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

"THE RIVER" WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Director of Discipleship—Deacon Janie Hague

Scripture Reader—Ken Will

Ushers—Kathryn & Alexander Spilman

Altar Guild—Jean Kraft, Patty Hanson, Dawn Slag

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, LeRoy Tiffany, Cordella Thompson, Christie Zainhofsky, Diane Stotz, Earl Larson, Todd Wood, Lisa Robinson, Carolyn Wegerle, Donna Belisle, Jim Mattheis, Barb Thomas, Shiela & Arvid Mugaas, Jean Kraft, Diane Klein, Toso family travels, Nicole Eckroth, Mary Schuler, Gladys Bain, Nancy Dockter, Kerry Carpenter

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

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

WEEKLY CALENDAR of March 6

Today, March 6:

Church School 9:00am

The River 10:00am

Coffee Hour 11:00am

Living Water practice 5pm

Monday, March 7:

Needlework Group 9:30am

Tuesday, March 8:

Staff Meeting 10:00 am

Gather Bible Study 1:15pm

Church Council Meeting 6:30pm

Wednesday, March 9:

Book Club 1:30pm

Lenten Soup Supper 5:15pm

Lent Service 6:15pm

Church School/Confirmation 7pm

River Practice 7pm

Thursday, March 10:

Quilting 1:00pm

AA Meeting 7:30pm

Friday, March 11:

Wired Word 1:30pm

Saturday, March 12:

Sunday, March 13:

Church School 9:00am

The River 10:00am

Coffee 11:00

Living Water practice 5pm