

Lutheran Church of the Cross  
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Bismarck ND 58501

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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**

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

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

**2022 Church Council Members**

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# The River

A Blended Worship Service

Lutheran Church of the Cross

April 3, 2022

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**“The River” Worship Service**  
**Fifth Sunday in Lent**  
**April 3, 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”, “Give Me a Grateful Heart”, “God Will Make a Way”,*

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**GATHERING SONG:** “The Well of Salvation”

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

*WE HEAR GOD’S WORD*

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 43:16-21

**RESPONSIVE READING:** Psalm 126

**SECOND READING:** Philippians 3:4b-14

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** “Fall Like Rain” *Please Stand*

**GOSPEL READING:** John 12:1-8

**SERMON** Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**April 10th:** Meet at Church of the Cross between 12-12:30pm. We will also need candy and egg donations for this event. You can drop off your candy and egg donations to the church by Sunday April 3rd. If you have any questions please contact Deacon Janie.

**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”**

**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 /April 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  
**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. Saturday, April 30 8 AM to 6 PM \$40. Contact Sally Grenz: 701-390- 3049 or e-mail [Sallygrenz@hotmail.com](mailto:Sallygrenz@hotmail.com)

**John Doerner** will be celebrating his 90th Birthday, Tuesday, March 29.

**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.

**April 3rd:** Peep Diorama contest: Do you love peep marshmallows? Then this time is for you! Join Janie at the church to make your very own Peep Diorama. All supplies will be provide. For church school kids meet at the church during your church school time on April 3rd (9am) and 6th (6:15pm). For grades 6-12 meet at LCC on April 3d from 5-7pm.

**April 9th:** Escape Room: Want to go back in time and solve mysteries related to the arrest, trial, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus? This is for anyone who would like to participate. Families, young adults, and youth are all welcome to participate. Join Janie at LCC April 9th from 12-2pm. Pizza will be provided. Please sign up outside of Janie’s office if you are interested in participating.

**April 10th:** Psalm Sunday Story Hunt: Families are invited to a city-wide scavenger hunt. There will be five stops that take your family on a Holy Week journey. Each stop will include candy-filled eggs.

**SONG OF THE DAY:** “Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

**APOSTLE’S CREED**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** “Let Us Pray for Peace”

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY** “Give Thanks”

**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:** “How Beautiful”

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

**BENEDICTION/SENDING SONG:** “Each Day”

**DISMISSAL**

**POSTLUDE SONG:** “Be Not Afraid”

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

### ***Reading Reflection***

Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus’ feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In the second reading Paul recalls his transformation from the persecutor Saul into an apostle. In baptism, God’s new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

## “THE RIVER” WORSHIP MINISTERS

**Pastor**—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**Director of Discipleship**—Deacon Janie Hague

**Scripture Reader**—Barb Wilson

**Ushers**— Alex & Kathryn Spilman, John Kraft & Floy Marx

**Altar Guild**—Cherie Krueger, Cheryl Neu, Jean Kraft, Esther Anderson, Barb Thomas

**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.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR of April 3

**Today, April 3:**

Church School 9:00am (Peeps)  
The River 10:00am  
Coffee Hour 11:00am  
Youth Grp Series 4-5pm  
Living Water practice 5pm

**Monday, April 4:**

Needlework Group 9:30am

**Tuesday, April 5:**

Staff Meeting 10:00 am

**Wednesday, April 6:**

Lenten Soup Supper 5:15pm  
Lent Service 6:15pm  
Church School/Peeps  
Confirmation 7pm  
River Practice 7pm  
Youth Grp Series 7-8pm

**Thursday, April 7:**

Quilting 1:00pm  
AA Meeting 7:30pm

**Friday, April 8:**

Wired Word 1:30pm

**Saturday, April 9:**

Escape Room 12–2 pm

**Sunday, April 10:**

Palm Sunday  
Church School 9:00am  
The River 10:00am  
Pancake breakfast 11:00  
Living Water practice 5pm  
Scavenger Hunt noon  
Youth Grp Series 4-5pm