

Lutheran Church of the Cross  
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Office Hours: 8a-4p Monday—Thursday; 8 to noon Friday

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# The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

December 18, 2022

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**“The River” Worship Service**  
**December 18, 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**

*“Away in a Manger”, “Go Tell it on the Mountain”, “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”*

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah” v 1,2,3,4*  
Lighting of the Advent Candle

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**GATHERING SONG:** *“O, Come O, Come, Emmanuel”*

*WE HEAR GOD’S WORD*

**APOSTLE’S CREED**

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

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY:** *“O Little Town of Bethlehem” v 1,4*

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

*Please Stand*

**Advent Dinners** before worship on Wednesday evenings, 5:15-6:00 PM. The dinner proceeds are designated to help provide scholarships to our confirmation students to go to Bible camp in the summer. The menu is: Dec 21: Knoephla Soup with rolls.

River Rhapsody (Sweet Adelines) invites you to their Christmas concert **“Hallelujah, Christ is Born”** on Dec 18th at 2pm at House of Prayer.

Camp of the Cross is sponsoring a **Men’s Retreat Jan. 27-29**. Check it out on their website; [campofthecross.com](http://campofthecross.com).

You are invited to a birthday brunch for **Sharon Narum** Wed. Dec. 28 10—noon RSVP 701.640.5500. Sharon is turning 80!

The **printed directory** should be coming out this week. Make any necessary changes today. Look for it on the same table in the narthex by next Sunday.

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

**Youth Ski trip to Bridger Bowl:** Youth Grades 6-12 are invited to join Deacon Janie and Faith Lutheran Church for a weekend of fun hitting the slopes February 18th -21st. Cost will be around \$300 depending on if you need rentals or not. There will be a fundraising opportunity to help offset the cost. Please talk to Janie if you are interested in going on the trip. Deadline to register is January 1st.

**Thanks to all who donated bears for children affected by trauma! Look at all the love!**



## 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 Choices:** Meets the 2nd Wednesday at 1:30pm in the Library.  
January: The Sunflower Sisters by Martha Hall Kelly

**Heat the Church** The calendars are out on the round table in the narthex. Thank you for being willing to donate extra funds to the church during our cold winters months. November \$10/day, December—February \$25/day, March \$10/day.

**Altar Focus: Good Gifts and Carrie’s Kids.** Check out the two trees in the narthex to support both worthy causes; one locally and one overseas.

Look for the order sheets for **poinsettia plants** sponsored by the Altar Guild at the back of the church or in the narthex. Thank you for donating a plant to help make the church beautiful on Christmas. Deadline December 20th.

**Missouri Slope LCC** is looking for people who wish to honor their loved one with a custom-made ornament on their new Christmas tree in their new Chapel for Christmas this year. Details are on the posters placed throughout the church building. Order blanks are in the church secretary’s plastic bin just outside her office.

The **Committee Reports for the Annual Meeting** are due by December 23rd. Many reports have already been turned in. That’s greatly appreciated!

Thank you to **Baron Blanchard** for the constant snow shoveling during this extraordinary snowstorm/blizzard. Baron, all around the building. we appreciate your efforts during this time and every time that you have shoveled keeping us safe on the sidewalks.

Due to the blizzard the **Faith and Care meeting** that was scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 17 has been postponed until after the first of the year. The booklets will be sent out to the first group sometime in the next two weeks.

## *WE SHARE THE MEAL*

### PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

**LORD’S PRAYER** Spoken

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

**COMMUNION SONG:** *“What Child Is This?”*

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

### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

**BENEDICTION** Spoken

**SENDING SONG:** *“Joy to the World”*

**DISMISSAL:** *“Go Tell It on the Mountain”*

*(All children are welcome to come to the front and play instruments during the Worship Team’s Postlude song)*



**“THE RIVER” WORSHIP MINISTERS**

**Pastor**—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**Director of Discipleship**—Deacon Janie Hague

**Scripture Reader**—

**Ushers**— Suanne & Joel Toso, Steve & Cheryl Neu

**Communion Assistants**—Roger & Esther Anderson

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

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

**River Worship Team**—

**Sound Board Technicians**—Terry Grenz, Lavern Hanson

**Projection Team**— Caden, Kunze, Jace Kunze, Art Wheeler

**Streaming Team**— Mike Collins, Tom Harris, Mark Kunze, Karen Will

**River Singers**— Deb Carpenter, Kerry Carpenter, Sally Grenz, Paul

Gurholt, Doug Johnson, Cherie Krueger, AJ Marx, Amanda Sagsveen,

Gerri Sarsten, John Saylor, Claudia Thompson, Tom Wade,

Barb Wilson

**Guitarists**—Tom Wade, Marin Traynor

**Percussionist**— Kari Harris

**Accompanists**—Jan & Joel Gilbertson, Eve Kath, 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, Erwin and Linda Marson, Quinton and Arlene Wolff, JoRae Sarsten; Bernice Walton, Gary and LaVonne Hultin, John Behan, Bob Roesler, Josey Hanson, Diane Stotz, Earl Larson, Lisa Robinson, Carolyn Wegerle, Jean Kraft, Nicole Eckroth, Mary Schuler, Gladys Bain, Nancy Dockter, Kerry Carpenter, Todd Wood, Lori Marx, Don Bigwood, Pastor Jerry Erickson, Barb Thomas, Hattie Martinson, Ed Decker, Ruth Jensen, Donna Belisle, Sheila Koffler, Brady Staloch, Bishop Craig Schweitzer, Virginia Smith, Bishop Craig Schweitzer

**For those dealing with the death of these loved ones**— Marjorie Iseler, Kathy Beaudoin, Calvin Johnson, Becky Sommers, Mary Sherer

**WEEKLY CALENDAR of December 18, 2022**

***Today, December 18:***

**Church School 9:15am  
Worship Service 10:00am  
Christmas Program  
Coffee Hour 11:00am**

***Monday, December 19:***

**Needlework Group 9am**

***Tuesday, December 20:***

**Staff Meeting 10:00am**

***Wednesday, December 21:***

**Advent Dinner 5:15pm  
Worship 6:15pm  
NO Church School/Confirmation 7pm**

***Thursday, December 22:***

**AA Meeting 7:30pm**

***Friday, December 23:***

***Saturday, December 24:***

**4:30 Music Prelude  
5pm Festive Service  
10:00pm Candlelight Service**

***Sunday, December 25:***

**NO Church School 9:15am  
A Christmas Story 10:00am  
Breakfast Hour 11:00am**

**Up Coming Events**

**December 28th 10—noon Birthday Brunch Sharon Narum**

**Jan. 22 Annual Meeting and Potluck**

**Jan. 27-29 Men’s Retreat Camp of the Cross**