

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**

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Gerri Sarsten, Eve Kath, Joel and Jan Gilbertson, **Accompanists**

2023 Church Council Members

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“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

March 26, 2023

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
March 26, 2023

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

“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: *“Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 130

SECOND READING: Romans 8:6-11

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *“Fall Like Rain”*

GOSPEL: John 11:1-45

SERMON: Pastor Sharon Kormos

A long, black coat went missing on Sunday. Someone inadvertently wore it home and the owner who wore it to church didn’t.

All US Military Veterans and Families are invited to a free Appreciation Lunch March 29, 2023 at the Amvets from 11:30 to 1pm.

LCC Women's Retreat April 14 and 15th at Camp of the Cross

We will group at LCC at 4:15 on Friday afternoon and combine rides up to Garrison for dinner then out to the camp. The evening will be relaxing and getting to know each other better, maybe even a movie or two! Spending the night in the Retreat Center Lodge, then Saturday will be filled with Breakfast, discussion, breaks for enjoying the outdoors, snacks, more discussion, and Dinner before heading back to Bismarck. Cost for overnight \$40. plus meals and Saturday discussion leader \$50. Total \$90 for the weekend. Checks are to be written to LCC, please put Women's Retreat in the memo. Please contact Sally Grenz for questions and reservations! sallygrenz@hotmail.com cell 701-390-3049

Lent Altar Focus – Sweet Deal for CAR

This project will continue until Easter – April 9th. 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. It holds \$14 in quarters, or rolled up bills or checks, or other change as well. Drop it in the offering plate. All of these are immensely helpful in a country torn by war. There are colorful pamphlets with some information about the CAR on the table in the narthex.

A group of pastors in our synod is exploring the possibility of launching a preaching academy in order to support lay people who have been called to preach. You’re invited to a conversation to dream and vision what this might look like. The conversation will be via Zoom video call on Saturday, April 1 at 10am. Please fill out a survey at the link below if you are interested in learning more and being included in the Zoom call www.bit.ly/LayPreachingSurvey

Coffee on Sunday? Who doesn’t love a treat to go with it? Especially if you are of the Scandinavian group. Treat makers and servers are needed. Please sign your name on the dotted line. Sign up sheets for dishwashers, Wednesday meals and treats are all needed.

Thank you Holly Johnson for volunteering to be the **Meals on Wheels Coordinator** for the month of August.

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.

April: Vanishing Half by Brit Bennet

May: Black Cake by Charmaine Wilkerson

June: We are the Light by Matthew Quick

July: So Long Chester Wheeler by Catherine Ryan Hyde

LCC should not be like the one talent steward--fearful, burying talents in the earth. We are called to receive and use all of our talents as truly faithful stewards. Our endowment fund is part of how we use our talents.

LCC Mission Endowment Fund Committee

Thank you, **Pastor Kormos** for being a part of our worship service today and sharing your message.

Your help is needed!

With the departure of Deacon Janie, the council is requesting the assistance of congregation members to serve on a call committee to hire Janie's replacement. If you are interested in serving on this call committee call Pastor Lisa or any member of the council. In the narthex are idea sheets for what the next Director of Discipleship skill set / roles should be. Share your ideas to give the call committee direction. What do you need, what does your family need the Director of Discipleship to be? If you need time to ponder take the insert home and return/ email at your earliest convenience. *The list of council members are on the back page.*

SAVE THE DATE!! April 2 Palm Sunday LCC will be having a Palms and Pancake Sunday in support of Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center.

Wishek's famous sausage and Paul Gurholt's renowned pancakes will be served after the service. Come hungry and leave content knowing the money donated will benefit friends at MSLLC. Volunteers for serving, dishwashing, and food donations are needed. See the sign up sheet in the fellowship hall.

The Education Committee is sponsoring a Peep diorama time today 11:30am-12:30pm for all ages Supplies/pizza will be available for the diorama builders.

SONG OF THE DAY *“Beautiful Things”*

APOSTLES' CREED

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

SHARING OF THE 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: *“I Am the Bread of Life”*

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Please Stand

BENEDICTION Spoken

SENDING SONG: *“Be Not Afraid”*

DISMISSAL: *“The Well of Salvation”*

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

Introduction In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome the newly baptized as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

“THE RIVER” WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Deb Carpenter

Ushers—Steve & Cheryl Neu, Mike & Tracy Geiermann

Communion Assistants—Heather Martin, Doug Johnson, Melissa Long

Altar Guild—Jean Kraft, Cheryl Neu, Sharon Narum, Joyce Wahl

Faith & Care — Molly & Ken Traynor, Pam & Ron Lee

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, Arlene Wolff, Gary and LaVonne Hultin, John Behan, Bob Roesler, Josey Hanson, Diane Stotz, Earl Larson, Carolyn Wegerle, Nicole Eckroth, Mary Schuler, Gladys Bain, Nancy Dockter, Lori Marx, Pastor Jerry Erickson, Hattie Martinson, Ed Decker, Brady Staloch, Bishop Craig Schweitzer, Curt Hauff, Carter Weigel, Kerry Carpenter, Mary Ternes, David Marx and grandson, MaryBeth Osborn, Vicky Moser, Wayne Narum, Todd Wood, Jeff Thomas, Bernice Walton, Mark Meier, Chelsea Sorenson, Jean King

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—Quinton Wolff, Berdeal Bergo

WEEKLY CALENDAR of March 26, 2023

Today, March 26:

Church School 9:15am

Worship Service 10:00am

Coffee Hour 11am

Peeps Diorama /Pizza 11:30am

Monday, March 27:

Needlework Group 9am

Knitting for Others 1pm

Tuesday, March 28:

Staff Meeting 10:00am

Wednesday, March 29:

Lenten Supper 5:15pm

Living Water Service 6:15pm

Church School 7pm

Confirmation

Thursday, March 30:

Gather Bible Study 10:30am

Quilting 1:00pm

AA Meeting 7:30pm

Friday, March 31:

Wired Word 1:30pm

Saturday, April 1:

Men's Bible Study 10:00am

Sunday, April 2:

Church School 9:15am

Worship Service 10:00am

Palms and Pancake Breakfast 11am

Up Coming Easter Week

Palm Sunday, April 2 10am

Maundy Thursday, April 6 7pm

Good Friday, April 7 7pm

Easter Vigil, April 8 St. George's Episcopal Church 7pm

Easter Sunday, April 9 8am, 10am