

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

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*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

# The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross  
June 11, 2023

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**“The River” Worship Service**  
**June 11, 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**

*“Morning Has Broken” ELW #556 “Open the Eyes of My Heart”,  
“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”*

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**GATHERING SONG:** *“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” ELW #858*

*WE HEAR GOD’S WORD*

**FIRST READING: Hosea 5:15—6:6**

<sup>15</sup>I will return again to my place  
until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face.  
In their distress they will beg my favor:

<sup>6:1</sup>“Come, let us return to the LORD;  
for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us;  
he has struck down, and he will bind us up.

<sup>2</sup>After two days he will revive us;  
on the third day he will raise us up,  
that we may live before him.

<sup>3</sup>Let us know, let us press on to know the LORD;  
his appearing is as sure as the dawn;  
he will come to us like the showers,  
like the spring rains that water the earth.”

**Morning Glory Muffins**

**Ann Hillesland**

2 1/2 c. flour  
1 1/4 c. sugar  
2 tsp. ground cinnamon  
3 tsp. baking soda  
1/2 tsp. salt  
3 eggs  
3/4 c. applesauce  
1/2 c. vegetable oil  
1 tsp. vanilla

2 c. grated carrots  
1 med tart apple peeled, grated  
1 (8 oz) can crushed pineapple, drained  
1/2 c. flaked coconut  
1/2 c raisins  
1/2 c. chopped nuts

In a large bowl, combine first 5 ingredients. In another bowl, combine eggs, applesauce, oil and vanilla. Stir in dry ingredients just until moistened (batter will be thick). Stir in carrots, apple, pineapple, coconut, raisins and nuts. Fill greased or paper lined muffin cups 2/3 full. Bake at 350<sup>o</sup> for 20 to 25 minutes before removing from pans to wire racks. Yield 24 dozen.



**Book Club Choices:** Meets the 2nd Wednesday at 1:30pm in the Library.

June: We are the Light by Matthew Quick

July: So Long Chester Wheeler by Catherine Ryan Hyde

August: The Prayer Box by Lisa Wingate

### **Lutheran College Scholarships**

If one of your family members is attending an ELCA college this next year, please contact Pastor Lisa for a simple application for our Lutheran College Scholarship. These congregational scholarships will be matched by any ELCA college. Don't miss this opportunity! Applications due July 15.

### **Summer Picnics and Outdoor Worship. This coming Wednesday!**

The second Wednesday of each month this summer, we will gather for a picnic and brief outdoor worship. We will grill hamburgers, hotdogs, and chicken breasts, and provide paper products, silverware, drinks and fixings. Bring something to share, if you can, but come and enjoy! We do have some chairs and tables, but feel free to bring your favorite chair if you like. The summer Wednesdays will be June 14th, July 12th, and August 9<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars now! We will plan for food to be ready at 5:30 and worship at 6:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

### **Welcome New Members today!**

Today, we welcome these new members to LCC: John and Charmaine Wehmhoefer, Lynn and Marlene Grabow, and Larry and MariLynn Herman. Please greet them and invite them to join in your favorite activities at church!



<sup>4</sup>What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?

What shall I do with you, O Judah?

Your love is like a morning cloud,  
like the dew that goes away early.

<sup>5</sup>Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets,  
I have killed them by the words of my mouth,  
and my judgment goes forth as the light.

<sup>6</sup>For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,  
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

### **RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 50:7-15**

<sup>7</sup>"Hear, O my people, and I will speak,  
O Israel, I will testify against you.  
I am God, your God.

<sup>8</sup>**Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you;  
your burnt offerings are continually before me.**

<sup>9</sup>I will not accept a bull from your house,  
or goats from your folds.

<sup>10</sup>**For every wild animal of the forest is mine,  
the cattle on a thousand hills.**

<sup>11</sup>I know all the birds of the air,  
and all that moves in the field is mine.

<sup>12</sup>**"If I were hungry, I would not tell you,  
for the world and all that is in it is mine.**

<sup>13</sup>Do I eat the flesh of bulls,  
or drink the blood of goats?

<sup>14</sup>**Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
and pay your vows to the Most High.**

<sup>15</sup>Call on me in the day of trouble;  
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me."

## SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25

<sup>13</sup>The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. <sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. <sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>23</sup>Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *"Praise the Name of Jesus"*

## 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.

The **Prairie Lake Festival Quilt** auction will be held Saturday, June 17th at the Camp of the Cross Fellowship Center. Doors open at 9:00am to browse with the live quilt auction starting at 11:00am. There is also an online quilt auction which will open June 1 at noon. To bid you must register at <https://fundraiser.bid./prairielake>. More details about the online auction will be available on the COC website when you register.

### **June Altar Focus: LWR Baby Care Kits**

- Please include sizes between 6 and 24 months. Varying the sizes of the clothing items included will make the Baby Care Kit useful as the baby grows.

#### INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH BABY CARE KIT

TWO lightweight cotton t-shirts (no Onesies ®)

TWO long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)

TWO receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, between 36" and 52" square

FOUR cloth diapers, flat fold preferred

ONE jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap

TWO pairs of socks

ONE hand towel, dark color recommended

TWO or three bath-size bars of gentle soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping; no mini

or hotel size bars

TWO diaper pins or large safety pins

We will announce a day later in the summer when we will be assembling the baby care kits. Come and join in if you can.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR of June 11, 2023

<b>Today, June 11:</b>	<b>Worship Service 10:00am New Member Sunday Coffee 11:00am</b>
<b>Monday, June 12:</b>	<b>Stitching Group 9am</b>
<b>Tuesday, June 13:</b>	<b>Staff Meeting 10:00am</b>
<b>Wednesday, June 14:</b>	<b>Book Club 1:30pm Picnic &amp; Worship 5:30pm</b>
<b>Thursday, June 15:</b>	<b>AA Meeting 7:30pm</b>
<b>Friday, June 16:</b>	<b>Wired Word 1:30pm</b>
<b>Saturday, June 17:</b>	<b>Men's Bible Study 10:00am Prairie Lake Festival Quilt Auction</b>
<b>Sunday, June 18:</b>	<b>River Service 10:00am Coffee 11:00am Sponsorship of worship &amp; meal at COC</b>

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26**

<sup>9</sup>As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

<sup>10</sup>And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" <sup>12</sup>But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup>Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

<sup>18</sup>While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." <sup>19</sup>And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. <sup>20</sup>Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, <sup>21</sup>for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." <sup>22</sup>Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. <sup>23</sup>When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, <sup>24</sup>he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. <sup>25</sup>But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. <sup>26</sup>And the report of this spread throughout that district.

**SERMON:** Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**SONG OF THE DAY** “*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*” ELW #836

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

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

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY:** “*Abide With Me*” ELW #629

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

*Please Stand*

*WE SHARE THE MEAL*

**PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL**

**LORD’S PRAYER** Sung

**INVITATION TO OUR LORD’S SUPPER**

**COMMUNION SONG:** “*Come As You Are*”

**COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION** Spoken

**SENDING SONG:** “*Days of Elijah*”

**DISMISSAL:** “*My Lighthouse*”

### **Introduction**

Though Jesus was a devout Jew who practiced his faith, he was criticized for eating with tax collectors and sinners—the religiously nonobservant. Jesus criticizes the self-righteous and reminds us that mercy is to be at the heart of our religious practices. God continues to be made known in those on the margins of society, like Matthew the tax collector and the hemorrhaging woman. As we gather each Lord’s day we receive the healing that makes us well and sends us forth to be signs of God’s mercy for the world.

### **“THE RIVER” WORSHIP MINISTERS**

**Pastor**—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**Scripture Reader**—Murray Sagsveen

**Ushers**—Janice & Keven Martin, Art Wheeler & Kay Koch

**Communion Assistants**—Sheila Koffler, Donna Belisle, Cherie Krueger

**Altar Guild**—Donna Belisle, Sarah Dahl, Suzanne Toso, Valerie Kunz

**Faith & Care**—Peggy & Bruce Hetland, Tracy & Mike Geiermann

**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, Tracy Wolf, Marlene Grabow

**Guitarists**—Tom Wade, Marin Traynor

**Percussionist**—Kari Harris

**Violinist**—Fynn Sagsveen

**Flutist**—Beth Greff

**Accompanists**—Jan & Joel Gilbertson, Gerri Sarsten, Beth Greff

### **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:**

Reece Fischer, Tracy Martinson, Ann Hillesland, Erwin and Linda Marson, Arlene Wolff, Gary Hultin, John Behan, Bob Roesler, Earl Larson, Gladys Bain, Nancy Dockter, Lori Marx, Pastor Jerry Erickson, Hattie Martinson, Ed Decker, Carter Weigel, Kerry Carpenter, Mary Ternes, David Marx and grandson, MaryBeth Osborn, Vicky Moser, Jeff Thomas, Chelsea Sorenson, Jean King, Kacy Toso, baby Faya Luna, and family, Sharon Tabert

### **For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—**

Todd Wood, Arlene Hogle, Mary Schuler, Gary Mosbeck, LaVonne Hultin, Bernice Steinke