

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 / lisaahlness@hotmail.com or
lccpastor@midconetwork.com

Connie Werner, **Secretary** cell 400.5852
Office 223-1001 / churchsecretary@midconetwork.com

Art Wheeler, **Treasurer**
527-9582/ lcctreasurer@midconetwork.com

Beth Greff, **Worship Coordinator**
400-2087/ theriver@midconetwork.com

Gerri Sarsten, Joel and Jan Gilbertson, Beth Greff **Accompanists**

2023 Church Council Members

Mike Humann, President mknhumann@bis.midco.net 527.3376
Janice Martin, Vice President msladyj2000@gmail.com 471.5600
Jessi Karvo, Secretary jfish321@gmail.com 426.7439
Cherie Krueger, cheriekrueger@gmail.com 226.7514
Mike Geiermann, mgeiermann12@gmail.com 471.5122
Sarah Dahl, sarahdahlmba@gmail.com 226.6844
Scot Long, scotglong@gmail.com 400.2169

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross
July 9, 2023

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
July 9, 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

“Cornerstone”, “Shout to the Lord”, “Come As You Are”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: “Jesus Shall Reign” ELW #434

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war-horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,

Book Club Choices: Meets the 2nd Wednesday at 1:30pm in the Library.
July: So Long Chester Wheeler by Catherine Ryan Hyde
August: The Prayer Box by Lisa Wingate

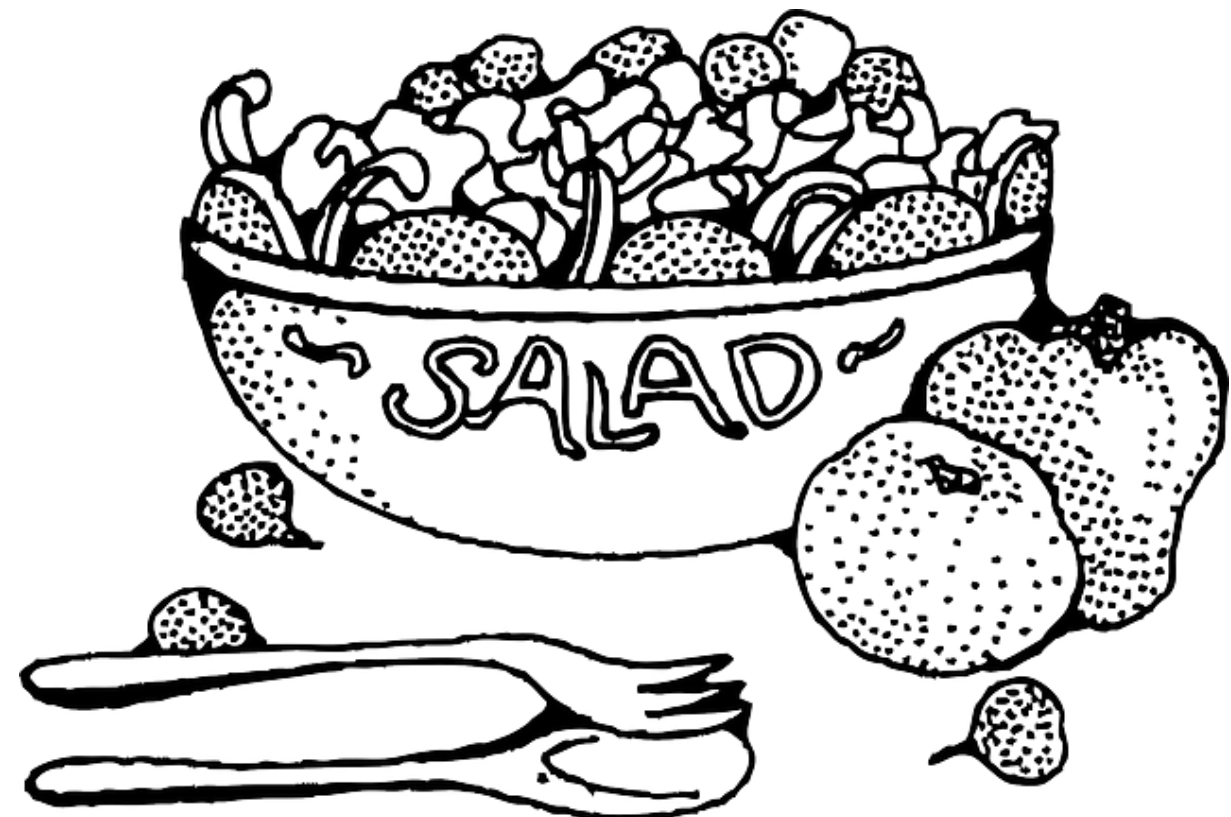
Greek Pasta Salad

1 c. rotelle pasta, cooked & drained
2 tomatoes, cut into chunks
1 sm zucchini, cut into thin strips
1/2 c. pitted black olives
1 med. red onion, sliced & separated into rings
1 oz. Feta cheese

Vivian Dahl

1/4 c. red wine vinegar
6 oz. marinated artichokes, drained
(reserve 2 tsp. marinade)
Ground pepper
2 tsp. dried basil

Combine vinegar, artichoke marinade (2 teaspoons) and ground basil. Toss with other ingredients; chill to blend flavors. Yield: 6 servings.



School Care Kits (list found on the square card table in the narthex)

4 70 sheet notebooks
1 16 or 24 crayons
1 pencil sharpener
1 12 inch ruler
1 blunt scissors
5 unsharpened #2 pencils w/erasers
5 black or blue ballpoint pens
1 2 1/2 eraser
1 drawstring backpack 14" x 17". No standard backpacks please.

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.

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 July 12th, and August 9th. We will plan for food to be ready at 5:30 and worship at 6:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

"Father the Camp" needs are listed on a colorful poster throughout LCC. Check out their needs.

The sound booth has a **listening assisted device** available for anyone to use. Please ask Lavern in the sound booth for the device and headset.

The **Burleigh County Senior Center** is in need of someone (s) delivering meals to seniors in our community. Nearly 300 meals are delivered daily to homebound seniors. Whether you can deliver once a month, 1 day a week or 5 days a week they will work with your schedule. They even offer mileage reimbursement. Call 255-4648 and ask for Trisha or Andrea and they'll provide more information or email: andread@burleighsenioradults.org

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Responsive Reading Psalm 145:8-14

⁸The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹**The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.**

¹⁰All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you.

¹¹**They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power,**

¹²to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.**

The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

¹⁴The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

SECOND READING: Romans 7:15-25a

¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a}Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *“When We Gather”*

GOSPEL Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] ¹⁶“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

¹⁷“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.”

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁵At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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.

Missouri Slope LCC Hillview Cup July 13th

Missouri Slope would like to invite you to participate in our 5th Annual Hillview Cup on July 13th. The format is a four-person scramble, so whether you are a beginner or a novice, please just come join in on a day of fun and fellowship. This year we are adding another competition, one between our nine-member churches. We are asking each church to create a team, (only one player needs to be a member of your church). More than one team per church is allowed to better your chances of winning the traveling trophy and bragging rights as the member church champion!

For more information and to register, please visit charitygolftoday.com/missourislope or contact Cathy Anhalt at Missouri Slope, 701.221.9349

July Altar Focus: Baby Care Kits and School 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

WEEKLY CALENDAR of July 9, 2023

Today, July 9	Worship Service 10:00am Coffee 11:00am
Monday, July 10	Stitching Group 9am Sweet Adelines practice 6-9:30pm
Tuesday, July 11:	Staff Meeting
Wednesday, July 12:	Book Club 1:30 Church Picnic 5:30 and Worship
Thursday, July 13 :	Missouri Slope Hillview Cup Church Council 6:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm
Friday, July 14:	Wired Word 1:30pm
Saturday, July 15:	Men's Bible Study 10:00am
Sunday, July 16:	River Service 10:00am Coffee 11:00am

SERMON: Pastor Lisa Ahlness

SONG OF THE DAY: "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" ELW #608

APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH: "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING: "Offering"

OFFERING PRAYER

WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

LORD'S PRAYER: "Lord's Prayer" (Gilbertson)

INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG: "Day by Day" ELW #790

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION: "The Lord Be With You"

SENDING SONG: "Just a Closer Walk With Thee" ELW #697

DISMISSAL: "Blessed Be Your Name"

Introduction

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.



*In the
morning
I will sing
of your love.*

Psalm 59:16, NIV

“THE RIVER” WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Rich Fockler

Greeters— Janice & Keven Martin

Ushers—Joel & Suzane Toso, John Kraft &

Communion Assistants— Rich Fockler, Ruth Jensen, Ken Will

Altar Guild—Jean Kraft, Barb Thomas, Sharon Narum, Verlaine Jahner

Faith & Care— Cheryl Moore & David Kraft, Suzie & Redge Finck

River Worship Team—

Sound Board Technicians— Lavern Hanson

Projection Team— 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, John Behan, Bob Roesler, Earl Larson, Nancy Dockter, Lori Marx, Pastor Jerry Erickson, Hattie Martinson, Carter Weigel, Kerry Carpenter, Mary Ternes, MaryBeth Osborn, Vicky Moser, Jeff Thomas, Chelsea Sorenson, Jean King, Kacy Toso, baby Faya Luna, and Toso family, Sharon Tabert, Jim Miller, Heidi Renner

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—

Patty McVane, Ed Decker, Allen Shreve, Gladys Bain, Gary Hultin, Todd Wood, Arlene Hoglund, LaVonne Hultin