

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
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Connie Werner, **Secretary** cell 400.5852
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Art Wheeler, **Treasurer**
527-9582/ lcctreasurer@midconetwork.com

Beth Greff, **Worship Coordinator**
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Gerri Sarsten, Joel and Jan Gilbertson, Beth Greff **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
August 6, 2023

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
August 6, 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

“It is Well” , “My Lighthouse”, “10,000 Reasons”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: “Come, Now is the Time to Worship”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-5

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

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

August: The Prayer Box by Lisa Wingate

September: The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See

October: West with Giraffes by Lynda Rutledge

Quiche Lorraine

1 (9”) unbaked pie shell

8 slices cooked bacon, crumbled

1 c shredded Swiss cheese

1 T. flour

Place bacon in pie shell and top with chesse. Combine remaining ingredients and pour over bacon and cheese. Bake at 325 for 35 to 40 minutes. Cool 10 minutes before serving. Yield: 6—8 servings.

Bob Bain

1/2 tsp. salt

Dash of nutmeg

3 eggs, beaten

1 3/4 c. half & half, or whole milk



We need hosts and dishwashers. Sign up please!

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.

GriefShare Ministry will be offered at Charity Lutheran again this fall, with Lorri Mittleider as lead facilitator. The 13 week GriefShare sessions will begin on Thursday, September 7, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. and run up through November 30 at Charity Lutheran Church, 120 Aspen Ave, Bismarck. This faith-based program emphasizes confidentiality and is designed to help come alongside those who have experienced significant loss of spouse, parent, child, close family member or friend. Each evening consists of opening prayer, watching a 1/2 hour video and following along with a purchased workbook. We then meet together in small groups where we get to know one another and have the opportunity to share thoughts about the video topic and presentation. Small group leaders are compassionate and caring and have worked through a significant loss themselves with the help of attending the GriefShare program. GriefShare is designed to help others come to a place where they can move from the state of mourning to experiencing real joy again in this new season of life. The fee is \$25 to help cover cost of the workbook. If you or someone you know has experienced a major loss of loved one, please have them go online to sign up for Charity's fall ministry at www.griefshare.org or get in touch with Lorri at mitlorri@gmail.com or text name of interested attendee and contact info to 701-400-1849.

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 last summer picnic will be 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!

³Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

Responsive Reading Psalm 145:8-9,14-21

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

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

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

**¹⁵The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.**

¹⁶You open your hand,
satisfying the desire of every living thing.

**¹⁷The LORD is just in all his ways,
and kind in all his doings.**

¹⁸The LORD is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.

**¹⁹He fulfills the desire of all who fear him;
he also hears their cry, and saves them.**

²⁰The LORD watches over all who love him,
but all the wicked he will destroy.

**²¹My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,
and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *“Fall Like Rain”*

GOSPEL Matthew 14:13-21

¹³Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist], he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸And he said, “Bring them here to me.”

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.

August Altar Focus

Ministry on the Margins has put out an urgent call for pillows and blankets. Please bring pillows (and/or cases) to church for our August altar focus. They don't have to be brand new but should be in good shape.

Note: we will keep accepting school supplies and items for baby care kits right up til our assembly day: August 23rd.

Neighborhood Block Party August 16!

Come join in for our annual neighborhood block party on Wednesday, August 16th! We will begin with grilled hot dogs and pot luck at the UCC church at 5:30 pm. By 6:30 pm, you can walk on over to LCC for dessert, lawn games, a bounce house for kids and more visiting! Come one, come all!

If you would like to help with the block party, here are some needs:

1. bake a pan of cookies or bars for the desserts;
2. help watch kids on the bounce house for safety;
3. help deliver invitations around the neighborhood. We have a map with “our” streets to do marked out. Simply rubber band the rolled up invites to doors! Get a refreshing walk in at the same time.

Please call the office or speak to Pastor Lisa to help with any of these! Thanks!!

Want to be pen pals with a sister church in Germany?

I had a pen pal from Japan when I was about eight. That was really interesting! Well, now I'm a lot older. I recently received an email from a friend of mine from the days I lived in the old East Germany. She is a pastor, currently serving not in a parish, but as a director of refugee services in her area. She realized I live in a town called Bismarck, and also that there is a town in Germany called Bismark - and would we be open to making a connection? The town is in a rural region north of Magdeburg. Let me know if you would be interested in this project! Pastor Lisa

WEEKLY CALENDAR of August 6, 2023

Today, August 6:	Worship Service 10:00am Coffee 11:00am
Monday, August 7:	Stitching Group 9am (not this week) Sweet Adelines practice 6-9:30pm
Tuesday, August 8:	
Wednesday, August 9:	Book Club 1:30pm Picnic and worship 5:30pm
Thursday, August 10:	Church Council 6:30pm AA Meeting 7:30pm
Friday, August 11:	Wired Word 1:30pm
Saturday, August 12:	Men's Bible Study 10:00am
Sunday, August 13:	River Service 10:00am Coffee 11:00am

Upcoming Events

Aug. 16 Block Party with UCC 5:30 there, 6:30 here

GOSPEL continued

¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

SERMON AJ Marx

SONG OF THE DAY: "Everybody's Got Something to Offer"

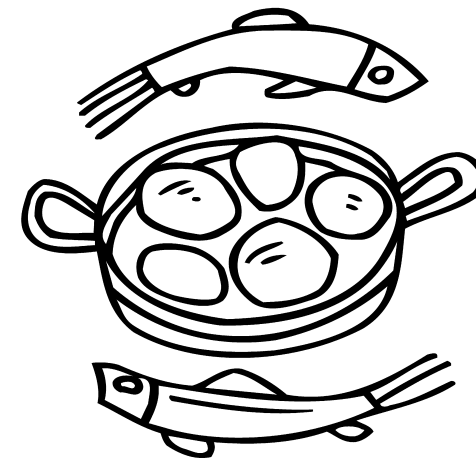
APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH: "Let Us Pray for Peace"

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING: "Above All"

OFFERING PRAYER



WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

LORD'S PRAYER: *"Lord's Prayer"*

INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG: *"People Need the Lord"*

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION: *"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"*

SENDING SONG: *"Shine Your Light on Me"*

DISMISSAL: *"10,000 Reasons"*

Introduction

In today's first reading God invites all who are hungry or thirsty to receive food and drink without cost. Jesus feeds the hungry multitude and reveals the abundance of God. At the eucharistic table we remember all who are hungry or poor in our world today. As we share the bread of life, we are sent forth to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.



"THE RIVER" WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Mike Geiermann

Greeters—

Ushers—Larry & Verlaine Jahner, John Kraft & Kay Koch

Communion Assistants—Cherie Krueger, Heather Martin, Mavis Pommerer

Altar Guild—Cherie Krueger, Mavis Pommerer, Joyce Wahl, Cheryl Neu

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

River Worship Team—

Sound Board Technicians—Lavern Hanson

Projection Team—Jace Kunze, Rod Sargent, Art Wheeler

Streaming Team—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, Peg Ahlness, Lois Kunze

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—

Glen Blanchard, Patty McVane