

Lutheran Church of the Cross
1004 E Highland Acres Rd.
Bismarck ND 58501

Phone: 223-1001

Website: www.churchofthecross.org

Winter Hours. Mon.– Thursday 8–4pm Fri 8 to noon

Summer Office Hours: Mon.- Fri. 8:00 am—noon

Staff:

Lisa Ahlness, **Pastor**

Cell: 220.9011 / lisaahlness@hotmail.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

Joel Crane, **Wednesday Worship Coordinator**

498-2604/cranejoel58@gmail.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

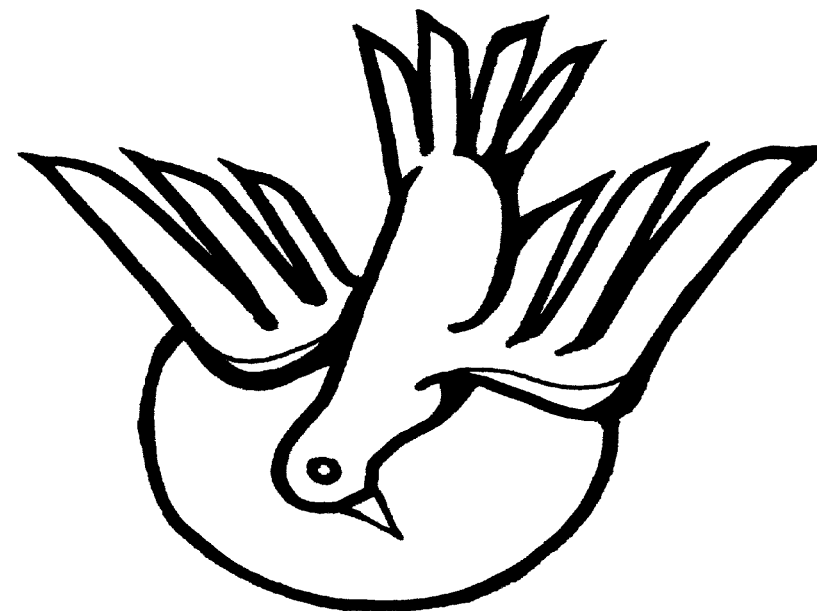
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“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

October 29, 2023

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

"The River" Worship Service

October 29 , 2023

Reformation Sunday

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

"In Christ Alone", "You Are My King (Amazing Love)", "Offering"

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD'S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: *"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" ELW #836*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31: 31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity,

All hyped up on sugar from Trick or Treating? Then spend your later evening on Tuesday, October 31 (Halloween - and also Reformation Day!) enjoying the Concordia College Orchestra in concert at Gilbreath Auditorium at Bismarck High School at 7:30 pm. They are on their midwest tour, and we get to experience it! No cost is listed either on Concordia's or BHS's websites.

Isn't the fall bulletin board, done by artists Heather and Libby Martin, wonderful? ☐ Who wants to be next? We need **you** to consider designing and executing a bulletin board for Advent - and another for Christmas season! Call the office or let Pastor Lisa know if you'd like in on the fun! We can reimburse you for supplies needed.



The **church directory** is out on the table in the narthex for your review. Have you removed your landline? Changed or added an email address? Moved? Had a child? If so, please add these things to your family's section. If nothing has changed just write OK, or your initials to your section and the secretary will know to keep the information as is. **Please note:** we are doing a pictorial directory!!! We are not using an outside source but will rely on the congregation to provide their own photos if able to do so. The church office would like individuals and families to submit a photo of yourself or family to the church secretary so that LCC can produce a pictorial directory online (not on LCC's website) through a secure web portal and also on paper. Please submit the jpeg photo electronically to: churchsecretary@midconetwork.com. Photos can be taken on your phone or camera. They do not need to be professionally done. Take a selfie! Ask your neighbor! Let's get this project started and completed by Thanksgiving! The church office has received 9 photos so far (Thank you!) and the secretary has included them into the paper directory. The photos are absolutely wonderful and will make the directory so worthwhile once we have all of the photos included. Get yours in!!

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.

Your **Endowment Fund Committee** will be hosting a brunch, in the fellowship hall, following the service on Nov. 5th. There is no cost to attend and Committee Members will be available to answer questions regarding LCC's Endowment Fund. Please join us as we say thank you to all who support LCC.

A contribution to the Endowment Fund is an amazing gift that is never used up. Your gift is added to the balance of the Fund, and the Fund grows. As the Fund grows, the annual distribution increases, enabling the ministries of Lutheran Church of the Cross to increase. And far into the future, when we can't know what the appropriate ministries will be, the future church leaders will make decisions based on current needs, and your gift will be part of that future ministry. After other gifts have been expended, the Endowment Fund continues to provide a reminder of the faith and witness of its donors.

Ken Will, Chairperson
Art Wheeler, Financial Secretary
Rita Staloch, Recording Secretary
Alex Spilman

Kerry Carpenter
Cherie Krueger
Lisa Ahlness

and remember their sin no more.

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 46

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;**

³though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

Selah

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

⁶**The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Selah

⁸**Come, behold the works of the LORD;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.**

⁹He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰**"Be still, and know that I am God!**

**I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth."**

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

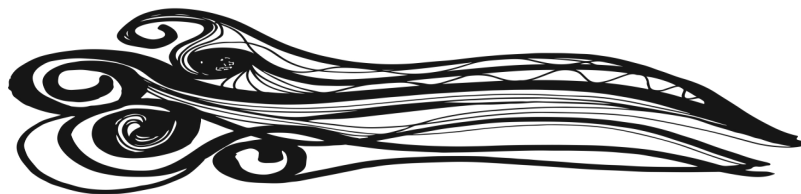
Selah

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.



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.

Heat the Church is starting again this November 1. The calendar has been placed on the round table in the narthex. People have already asked to contribute to this fund and LCC is so appreciative of this. Although the cost of heating may have gone up a dime or two to contribute to this remains the same price. November and March is \$10 a day. December through February is \$25/ day. Choose the date(s) that have special meaning in the lives of your families. Donate in the memory of someone, or acknowledge a special event or purpose. Donations may be mailed or one may choose to use electronic giving. Thank you in advance for continuing this tradition by way of taking care of your church building.

Trunk or Treat has been moved inside *today* because of the weather. Time remains the same 2-3pm. Tables will be set up to decorate as you would your trunk. Hot chocolate will be served. Come have some fun!

Book Club Choices: Meets the 2nd Wednesday at 1:30pm in the Library.
November: Someone Else’s Shoes by JoJo Moyes
December: Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Gamus
January: The Reading List by Sara Nisha Adams
Consider coming to the Book Club. We have interesting and lively discussions of each book. A variety of subjects are read but usually works of fiction.

Coffee servers and dishwashers are needed. Sign up please.

SAVE THE DATES for Theology On Tap- the third Thursday of the month
November 16th 7pm @ Stonehome
December no meeting

The quilter’s **last day** for 2023 will be Thursday November 16. They will resume Thursday, January 11, 2024.

The **cake and coffee** served today is in honor of the Confirmands Brynn Currie, Claire Gurholt, Mady Staloch, and Nora Traynor.

WEEKLY CALENDAR of October 29, 2023

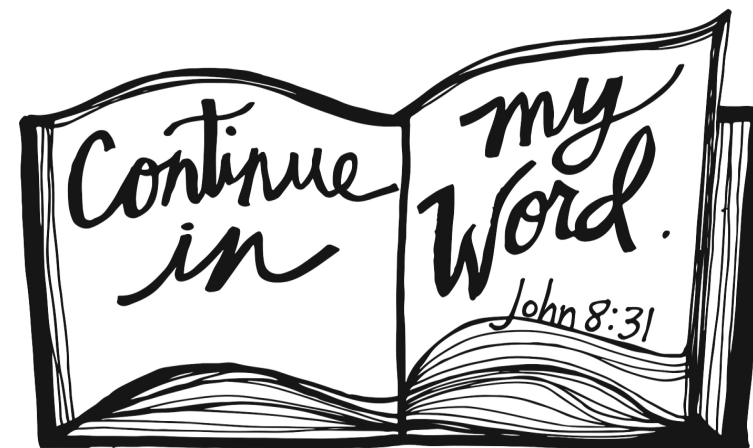
Today, October 29:	Worship Service/ Confirmation Coffee Hour/Reception 11:00am
Monday, October 30:	Stitching Group 9am Sweet Adelines 6-9:30pm
Tuesday, October 31:	Happy Trick or Treating
Wednesday, November 1:	Supper 5:15pm Worship Service 6:00pm Confirmation/Church School 7pm River practice 7pm
Thursday, November 2:	Quilting 1pm AA Meeting 7:30pm
Friday, November 3:	Wired Word 1:30pm
Saturday, November 4:	Men's Bible Study 10:00am River practice 4pm
Sunday, November 5:	River Service 10:00am Brunch
Future Events	
Thanksgiving Service November 22 here with St. George's, UCC, McCabe Methodist, Faith Lutheran	

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *"Alleluia! Give the Glory"*

GOSPEL READING John 8:31-36

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."



SERMON Pastor Lisa Ahlness

SONG OF THE DAY: "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION

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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING: "Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)"

OFFERING PRAYER

WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

LORD'S PRAYER: "Thy Will Be Done"

INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG: "Living Water"

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION: "The Lord Be With You"

SENDING SONG: "We Are Called"

DISMISSAL: "Blessed Be Your Name"

Introduction: Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

"THE RIVER" WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Murray Sagsveen

Greeters—Keven & Janice Martin

Ushers—Mike & Tracy Geiermann, Joel & Suzanne Toso

Communion Assistants—Lynn & Marlene Grabow, Janice Martin

Faith & Care—Janet & Troy Bassingthwaite, Nikki & Ryan Taylor, Sarah & Brian Dahl

River Worship Team—

Sound Board Technicians—LaVern Hanson, Larry Wolf

Projection Team—Caden Kunze, Jace Kunze, Rod Sargent, Art Wheeler

Streaming Team—Mark Kunze, Karen Will

River Singers—Deb Carpenter, Kerry Carpenter, Marlene Grabow, Sally Grenz, Paul Gurholt, Doug Johnson, Cherie Krueger, AJ Marx, Amanda Sagsveen, Gerri Sarsten, John Saylor, Claudia Thompson, Tom Wade, Barb Wilson, Tracy Wolf

Guitarists—Tom Wade

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, Bob Roesler, Earl Larson, Nancy Dockter, Lori Marx, Hattie Martinson, Carter Weigel, Kerry Carpenter, Josey Hanson, Mary Ternes, Vicky Moser, Jeff Thomas, Jean King, Jim Miller, Heidi Renner, Peg Ahlness, Jacob Walby, Kristy Forrest, JoDee Saylor

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—