

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

Phone: 223-1001

Website: [www.churchofthecross.org](http://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**

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**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  
November 12, 2023

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**“The River” Worship Service**  
**November 12, 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**

*“When Peace Like a River” ELW #785, “Battle Hymn of the Republic”, ELW #890, “My Country, Tis of Thee”*

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS AND PRESENTATION OF THE FLAG**

**VETERAN’S DAY HYMN:** *“America the Beautiful”*

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**GATHERING SONG:** *“My Lord, What a Morning” ELW #438*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

*WE HEAR GOD’S WORD*

**FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24**

<sup>18</sup>Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!  
Why do you want the day of the LORD?  
It is darkness, not light;  
<sup>19</sup>as if someone fled from a lion,  
and was met by a bear;  
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,  
and was bitten by a snake.

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.

There is a **laundry basket** located out in the annex for our members to donate winter gear for those that go without. Collecting used or new hats, mittens, gloves, & scarves. Thank you for your contribution to our community! The basket will remain in the narthex until warm weather arrives again. Kathryn Spilman takes the donated items and distributes them to the library patrons that go without warm gear.

The **poinsettia order forms** are already at the back of the church and next to the church directory/heat the church calendars. Please fill the form out and return it to the plastic bin next to the secretary’s office or place it in the offering plate.

*Any activities must be scheduled* through the church office to ensure there are no conflicting schedules or groups needing the same room and time or that staff is here.

The office will be closed on Monday, November 13 in observation of Veteran’s Day.

A **Thrivent Action Event** has been set for December 3rd at Church of the Cross. Matching funds have been donated by a church member. Pancake and sausage breakfast is planned to help raise funds for a much needed tractor to assist with the summer and winter time chores. A used snow blower has already been donated to the camp. Since there is a CaseIH dealer in Garrison with proximity to Camp of the Cross, a new 50 to 45 hp tractor with Cab, front loader, 3 point hitch , all wheel drive and hydraulics needed for operation has been talked about. If service is needed, help is close. For more information: call/see Lee Jensen, Ken Will or John Kraft.

The **church directory** is available 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!!! 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](mailto:churchsecretary@midconetwork.com). Photos can be taken on your phone or camera. Take a selfie! Ask your neighbor to be the photographer! Come to the church and the secretary will take your photo! Let's get this project completed by Thanksgiving! The church office has received 25 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 in the sound booth for the device and headset.

**Heat the Church** The calendar has been placed on the round table in the narthex. Although the cost of heating may have gone up a dime or two, to contribute to this remains the same price as in previous years. November and March is \$10/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..

*I've  
So much to be*  
**THANKFUL**  
*For*

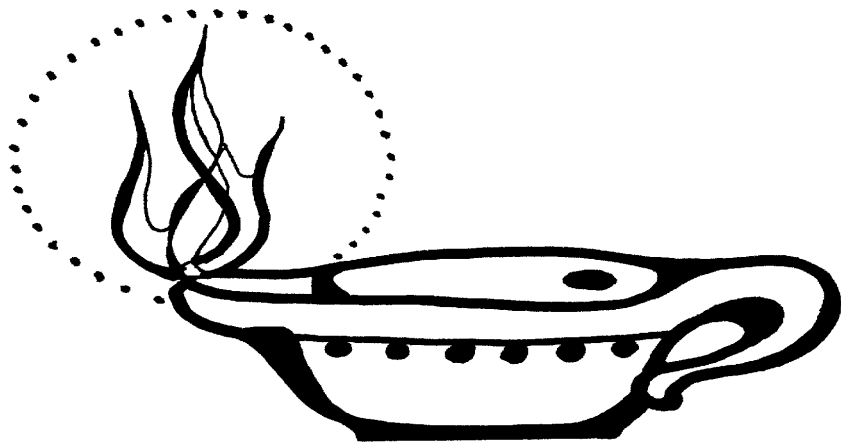
<sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,  
and gloom with no brightness in it?  
<sup>21</sup>I hate, I despise your festivals,  
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.  
<sup>22</sup>Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,  
I will not accept them;  
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals  
I will not look upon.  
<sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs;  
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.  
<sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

#### **RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 70**

<sup>1</sup>Be pleased, O God, to deliver me.  
O LORD, make haste to help me!  
<sup>2</sup>**Let those be put to shame and confusion  
who seek my life.  
Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor  
who desire to hurt me.**  
<sup>3</sup>Let those who say, "Aha, Aha!"  
turn back because of their shame.  
<sup>4</sup>**Let all who seek you  
rejoice and be glad in you.  
Let those who love your salvation  
say evermore, "God is great!"**  
<sup>5</sup>But I am poor and needy;  
hasten to me, O God!  
You are my help and my deliverer;  
O LORD, do not delay!

## SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

<sup>13</sup>We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.



## 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.

**Thank you** Pastor Krogstad for coming and sharing your talents of preaching and ministering to us today. We appreciate you.

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

Did you notice the **library books** out on the table in the narthex? They are yours for the taking. The library over the years has gotten duplicates so they have been weeded out which many are from the library of Virginia Smith who once was a member here and who has passed. She was an avid reader who because of her love of a good book once owned a book store in downtown Bismarck. The books will be out for a number of weeks and any leftovers will be donated to the Veteran's Memorial Library's Used Book Sale.

For the **safety** of the staff and for the safety of congregational volunteers, the doors will be locked during business hours. Call the church 223.1001 or knock to be given access.

Don't plan on starting a diet Dec. 3 (for the holidays) because there will be another famous **Sausage and Pancake Breakfast** after church in support of Camp of the Cross' need of a tractor. Come extra hungry that day. Volunteers are needed for food purchases, also for set up and working the event. Please see the [sign up sheet on the round table](#). Save the diet for after the holidays because there is also a Cookie Walk scheduled for Dec. 10th. Volunteers will be needed for that also. There is a sign up sheet already out for that one.

**Camp of the Cross' Scandinavian Super** is Saturday, November 18 at 5:30pm. The doors open at 4:45. Cost: \$35/person Miss North Dakota Sydney Helgeson is providing entertainment following the meal and will be doing a Meet & Greet with guests.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR of November 12, 2023

<b>Today, November 12:</b>	<b>River Service 10:00 am/ NO JAM Coffee 11:00am</b>
<b>Monday, November 13:</b>	<b>Office closed/ Veteran's Day Stitching Group 9am Sweet Adelines 6-9:30pm</b>
<b>Tuesday, November 14:</b>	
<b>Wednesday, November 15:</b>	<b>Supper 5:15pm Worship Service 6:00pm Confirmation/Church School River practice 7pm</b>
<b>Thursday, November 16:</b>	<b>Gather Bible Study 10:30am Quilting 1pm last one for the year Church Council 6:30pm Theology on Taps 7pm Stonehome AA Meeting 7:30pm</b>
<b>Friday, November 17:</b>	<b>Wired Word 1:30pm</b>
<b>Saturday, November 18:</b>	<b>Men's Bible Study 10:00am River practice 4pm Scandinavian Supper 5:30pm COC</b>
<b>Sunday, November 19:</b>	<b>River Service 10:00am Coffee 11:00am</b>

### **Future Events**

Thanksgiving Service November 22 at Faith Lutheran with St. George's, UCC, McCabe Methodist, Faith Lutheran, and Lord of Life Lutheran.  
Pancake and Sausage Breakfast Sunday Dec. 3 Tractor Benefit for COC  
Cookie Walk, Caroling Sunday Dec. 10

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** "*Thy Word*"

### **GOSPEL READING Matthew 25:1-13**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' <sup>7</sup>Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup>But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' <sup>10</sup>And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' <sup>12</sup>But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' <sup>13</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."



**SERMON** Pastor Sondra Krogstad

**SONG OF THE DAY:** "Rejoice, Rejoice Believers" ELW #244

**APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING:** "Eternal Father Strong to Save"

**OFFERING PRAYER**

*WE SHARE THE MEAL*

**PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL**

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

**INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER**

**COMMUNION SONG:** "Blessed Assurance"

**COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION:** "The Lord Be With You"

**SENDING SONG:** "Soon and Very Soon" ELW #439

**DISMISSAL:** "God Bless America"

**Introduction:**

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.

## "THE RIVER" WORSHIP MINISTERS

**Pastor**—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**Scripture Reader**—Cherie Krueger

**Greeters**—Lynn Grabow & Mavis Pommerer

**Ushers**—Roger Krueger & Lee Jensen, John Kraft & Floy Marx

**Communion Assistants**—Tracy Wolf, Sally Grenz, Ruth Jensen

**Faith & Care**— Kim & Mike Humann, Deb & Rod Sargent

**Altar Guild**—Cherie Krueger, Kelly Olson, Donna Belisle, Sarah Dahl

**River Worship Team**—

**Sound Board Technicians**— 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 Sayler, 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, Jeff Thomas, Jean King, Jim Miller, Heidi Renner, Peg Ahlness, Jacob Walby, Kristy Forrest, JoDee Sayler, Colter Lee

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

Vicki Moser