

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**

Cell: 220.9011 / [lisaahlness@hotmail.com](mailto:lisaahlness@hotmail.com)

Connie Werner, **Secretary** cell 400.5852

Office 223-1001 / [churchsecretary@midconetwork.com](mailto:churchsecretary@midconetwork.com)

Art Wheeler, **Treasurer**

527-9582/ [lcctreasurer@midconetwork.com](mailto:lcctreasurer@midconetwork.com)

Beth Greff, **Worship Coordinator**

400-2087/ [theriver@midconetwork.com](mailto:theriver@midconetwork.com)

Joel Crane, **Wednesday Worship Coordinator**

498-2604/[cranejoel58@gmail.com](mailto:cranejoel58@gmail.com)

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

**2023 Church Council Members**

Mike Humann, President [mknhumann@bis.midco.net](mailto:mknhumann@bis.midco.net) 527.3376

Janice Martin, Vice President [msladyj2000@gmail.com](mailto:msladyj2000@gmail.com) 471.5600

Jessi Karvo, Secretary [jfish321@gmail.com](mailto:jfish321@gmail.com) 426.7439

Cherie Krueger, [cheriekrueger@gmail.com](mailto:cheriekrueger@gmail.com) 226.7514

Mike Geiermann, [mgeiermann12@gmail.com](mailto:mgeiermann12@gmail.com) 471.5122

Sarah Dahl, [sarahdahlmba@gmail.com](mailto:sarahdahlmba@gmail.com) 226.6844

Scot Long, [scotglong@gmail.com](mailto:scotglong@gmail.com) 400.2169

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

# The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross  
November 5, 2023

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**“The River” Worship Service**  
**November 5, 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**

“Rise Up, O Saints of God” ELW #669 , “Holy, Holy, Holy” ELW #413, For All The Saints” ELW #442

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**SONG OF BAPTISM:** “We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus”

**SERVICE OF BAPTISM**

**SPECIAL MUSIC;** “You Are Loved”

*WE HEAR GOD’S WORD*

**FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17**

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. <sup>10</sup>They cried out in a loud voice, saying,  
“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

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.

No confirmation or church school Nov 8. No church school / JAM November 12 because of BPS fall break.

Vicki Moser’s funeral is Monday, November 6 at 11am. The prayer service is at Eastgate Funeral Service Sunday at 4pm.

Please join us **TODAY** Nov 5th, following service, for a **brunch** hosted by the Church Council and your Endowment Committee. Pastor Keith Pearson, Regional Gift Planner for the ELCA, will be joining us and will be available for conversation and to answer questions. There is no cost (not even a donation) for the brunch. It is a simple “thank you” from the Church Council and your Endowment Committee.

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

Kerry Carpenter  
Cherie Krueger  
Lisa Ahlness

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! Come to the church and the secretary will take your photo! Let's get this project completed by Thanksgiving! The church office has received 16 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.

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

<sup>11</sup>And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>singing,  
"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

<sup>15</sup>For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

<sup>16</sup>They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat;

<sup>17</sup>for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

#### **RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 34:1-10, 22**

<sup>1</sup>I will bless the LORD at all times;  
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

<sup>2</sup>**My soul makes its boast in the LORD;  
let the humble hear and be glad.**

<sup>3</sup>O magnify the LORD with me,  
and let us exalt his name together.

<sup>4</sup>**I sought the LORD, and he answered me,  
and delivered me from all my fears.**

<sup>5</sup>Look to him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.

<sup>6</sup>**This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD, and was saved from every trouble.**

<sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and delivers them.

<sup>8</sup>**O taste and see that the LORD is good; happy are those who take refuge in him.**

<sup>9</sup>O fear the LORD, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.

<sup>10</sup>**The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.**

<sup>22</sup>The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

## **SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-3**

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

## **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** 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 by way of taking care of your church building.

**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.

Being **baptized today** are Faya Toso, Sebastian Hyland, and Brighten Koch who happen to be first cousins because their mothers are siblings. God's blessings to each of the families as you raise your children to walk in the Light.

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

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 congregation the doors will be locked during business hours. Call the church 223.1001 or knock to be given access.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR of November 5, 2023

<b>Today, November 5:</b>	River Service 10:00 am Brunch 11:00am
<b>Monday, November 6:</b>	Stitching Group 9am Funeral Vicki Moser 11:00 am. Sweet Adelines 6-9:30pm
<b>Tuesday, November 7:</b>	
<b>Wednesday, November 8:</b>	Book Club 1:30pm Supper 5:15pm Worship Service 6:00pm No Confirmation No Church School but having Communion Class 7pm River practice 7pm
<b>Thursday, November 9:</b>	Quilting 1pm AA Meeting 7:30pm
<b>Friday, November 10:</b>	Wired Word 1:30pm
<b>Saturday, November 11:</b>	Men's Bible Study 10:00am River practice 4pm
<b>Sunday, November 12:</b>	River Service NO JAM 10:00am Coffee 11:00 am

### **Future Events**

Church Council November 16 6:30  
Theology on Tap November 16 7pm Stonehome  
Thanksgiving Service November 22 at Faith Lutheran with St. George's,  
UCC, McCabe Methodist, Faith Lutheran, and Lord of Life Lutheran

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

#### **GOSPEL READING Matthew 5:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

**SERMON** Pastor Keith Pearson, ELCA

**SONG OF THE DAY:** "Shall We Gather at the River" ELW #423

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

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING:** "Praise and Thanksgiving" ELW #689

**OFFERING PRAYER**

*WE SHARE THE MEAL*

**PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL**

**LORD'S PRAYER:** Spoken

**INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER**

**COMMUNION SONG:** "Children of the Heavenly Father" ELW #781

**COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION:** Spoken

**SENDING SONG:** "Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In"

**DISMISSAL:** "For All Your Saints, O Lord" ELW #427

**Introduction:** All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

## "THE RIVER" WORSHIP MINISTERS

**Pastor**—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**Scripture Reader**—Mike Humann

**Greeters**—Tracy Wolf & Joyce Wahl

**Ushers**—Steve & Cheryl Neu, Scott & Melissa Long

**Communion Assistants**—Mike & Kim Humann, Donna Belisle,

**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, Vicky Moser, 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