

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**

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Beth Greff, **Worship Coordinator**

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Joel Crane, **Wednesday Worship Coordinator**

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

2024 Church Council Members

Mike Geiermann, President, 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

April 14, 2024

10:00am

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
April 14, 2024

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

“Living Hope”, “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” ELW 803, “Mighty to Save”

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” ELW 451

SERVICE OF HOLY BAPTISM

SPECIAL MUSIC: “You Are Loved”

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

Speaking of Generosity – Opportunities for Giving

At worship you often hear me thank you for your generosity. We are grateful! Our many ministries here at LCC and those we support in the community and wider world could not do it without you! Here are some ways you can give at and through LCC. Choose which fit your lifestyle best!

Offering envelopes: These are found on the oak cabinet in the narthex, far right side (or ask treasurer Art Wheeler, if they are gone). You can put cash or checks in these and as long as your name is on it (or Art is aware of your envelope number), your offering will be recorded for you.

Online: we use Vanco for our other forms of giving. All the options are linked, so you can give through any of the following ways and they will all be recorded for you. Art send statements a couple of times per year.

Website: you can easily set up an online giving account on our website – then you don’t have to do it each time you go online. You can also set recurring gifts if you like, and choose various funds to give to, through the website.

Vanco Mobile App: you can download the Vanco Mobile app on your phone. This will link to the same account, if you’ve set one up on the website, or you can give only through the app if you like. Just make sure to choose OUR Lutheran Church of the Cross, as there are others!

Text: You can also give by text! I know – the world these days! Many people no longer carry cash – but almost everyone carries their smart phone. So, you can use the Vanco Mobile app, OR you can simply send a text to our dedicated number: **701-969-7030**. Just put a number in the message – 20 if you’d like to give \$20, etc. It will prompt you to sign in or set up a Vanco account (which would have your credit, debit or checking account number, which is where the money would come from in any of these cases – all safely encrypted, of course. This is the same account used for the other methods.). You can test this by giving a \$1 donation, say, and if you find it simple – maybe this will be your choice for giving!

Pastor Krogstad, Thanks for what you do for us. We appreciate you and your willingness to always help.

Easter Flowers You may take yours home. There is a list on the altar of what was ordered. Please initial it or cross out your name when you take them. Thanks.

Camp of the Cross scholarships available for campers!

Have you ever been to Camp of the Cross, near Garrison? It is fantastic! Check out the brochures on the kids' table near the library and see all the summer opportunities for youth. (The bulletin board has upcoming retreats, as well!) We don't want cost to be an impediment to your child being able to have this fabulous camp experience. \$100 scholarships are available. Please contact Pastor Lisa or treasurer Art Wheeler.

Theology on Tap April 18th @ Black Lions Mandan, ND 7pm.

Calling You Artists!

It's time once again to think about future ones. Would you like to try your hand at a bulletin board? Pentecost is May 19 – the coming of the Holy Spirit. That might be a fun one to do! Or, maybe one as we welcome summer in June? Let Pr. Lisa or the office know if you are interested. Individuals, families or groups of artists are welcome and encouraged! It's so fun to see your creativity shine.

Thank you Sheila Link for you Easter bulletin board. It's beautiful.



¹⁷“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 4

¹Answer me when I call, O God of my right!
You gave me room when I was in distress.
Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

²**How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame?
How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?**

Selah

³But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself;
the LORD hears when I call to him.

⁴**When you are disturbed, do not sin;
ponder it on your beds, and be silent.**

Selah

⁵Offer right sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶**There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!
Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!"**

⁷You have put gladness in my heart
more than when their grain and wine abound.

⁸**I will both lie down and sleep in peace;
for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.**

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7

¹See 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. ²Beloved, 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. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "When We Gather"

GOSPEL READING: Luke 24: 36b-48

^{36b} Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things."

SERMON: Pastor Sondra Krogstad



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.

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

April: The Paris Daughter by Kristen Harmel

May: The Midwife's Song by Brenda Ray

June: The Berry Pickers by Amanda Peters

July: To Heaven & Back by Mary C. Neal

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.

Missouri Slope LCC. **BINGO prizes** are our Altar Focus for them this month. Do you have trinkets, small bottles of lotion, small packages of snacks, etc. to give when someone yells BINGO!! Drop them off here and we'll see that they get to MSLLC.

Can We Talk? An ongoing dialogue April 3 –24 on Wednesdays at Unitarian Universalist on 9th and Divide Ave. Co led by Bismarck UCC and UU. Hear about how to have meaningful conversations in polarized times.

Earth Day Movie Night Monday, April 22 at 6pm "Common Ground" is a documentary film directed by Joshua & Rebecca Tickell. It delves into the world of regenerative agriculture. The movie will be held at UCC.

HEART RIVER CLUSTER SPRING GATHERING

"Come Unto Me"

Saturday, April 20 @

English Lutheran Church, Hazen

9:15am CT Registration

10:00am Program begins

*Speaker: Metta Pfleiger Assisted by: Krista Olson
Focus on caregivers of people with Dementia and Alzheimer's*

WEEKLY CALENDAR of April 14, 2024

Today, April 14:	River Service 10:00am Coffee Hour
Monday, April 15:	Needlework Group 9:00am
Tuesday, April 16:	
Wednesday, April 17	Supper 5pm Living Water Service 6:15pm Church school, Confirmation, River practice 7pm
Thursday, April 18:	Gather Bible Study 10:30am Quilting 1pm Theology on Tap 7pm Black Lions AA Meeting 8pm
Friday, April 19:	Wired Word 1:30pm
Saturday, April 20:	Men's Bible Study 10am
Sunday, April 21:	River Service 10am Coffee Hour 11:00am

Future Happenings

**Knitting for Others April 22 1pm
Women's Bible Study April 24 9am**

SONG OF THE DAY: *"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH: *"Open Our Eyes, Lord"*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING: *"We Are an Offering"*

OFFERING PRAYER

WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

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

INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG: *"My Lighthouse"*

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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

SENDING SONG: *"The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done" ELW 366*

DISMISSAL: *"Thine is the Glory" ELW 376*

INTRODUCTION:

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.



“THE RIVER” WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Sally Grenz

Ushers— Mike & Tracy Geiermann, Keven & Janice Martin

Communion Assistants—Myrtice Behan, Ruth Jensen, John Kraft

Altar Guild—Cherie Krueger, Heather Martin, Mavis Pommerer, Barb Thomas

River Worship Team—

Sound Board Technicians— Larry Wolf, Francis Greff

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

Streaming Team— Mark Kunze, Karen Will, Art Wheeler

River Singers— Deb Carpenter, Kerry Carpenter, Marlene Grabow, Sally Grenz, Paul Gurholt, Doug Johnson, Cherie Krueger, AJ Marx, Mark Murie, Amanda Sagsveen, John Saylor, Tom Wade, Barb Wilson

Percussionist— Kari Harris

Violinist—Fynn Sagsveen

Flutist—Beth Greff

Accompanists—Gerri Sarsten, Beth Greff, Jan & Joel Gilbertson

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, Josey Hanson, Jeff Thomas, Jim Miller, Heidi Renner, Jacob Walby, Kristy Forrest, JoDee Saylor, Colter Lee, Arvid Mugaas, Elizabeth Hognlund, Diane Klein, Kaylynn Harris, Pam Morris, Jaden Kunze, Libby Martin, Robyn Richter, Deacon Janie Hague, Kira Willadsen, Kerry Carpenter

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—Lynn Brackel, Arnie Metzger, Marty Marchello