

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

2024 Church Council Members

Mike Geiermann, President, mgeiermann12@gmail.com 471.5122

Mike Humann, Vice President, mknhumann@bis.midco.net 527.3376

Jessi Karvo, Secretary, jfish321@gmail.com 426.7439

Janice Martin, msladyj2000@gmail.com 471.5600

Sarah Dahl, sarahdahlmba@gmail.com 226.6844

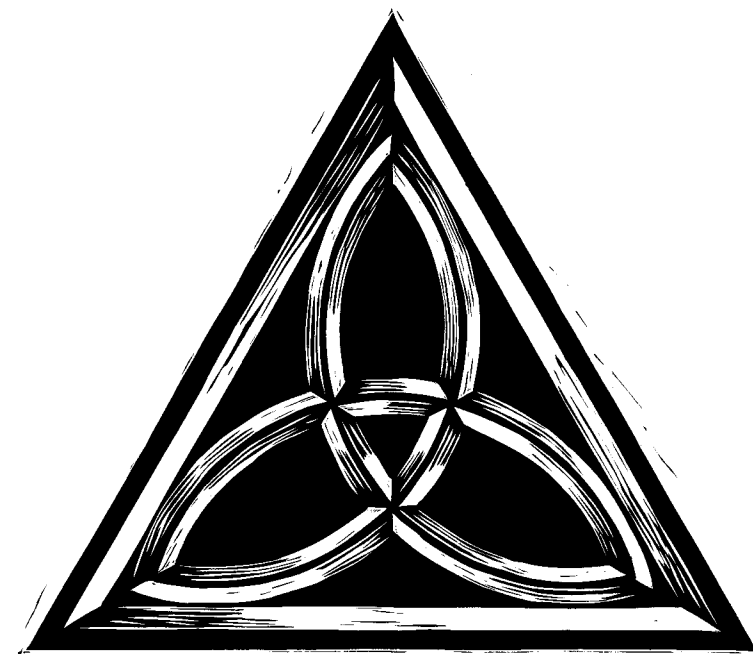
Scot Long, scotglong@gmail.com 400.2169

Rod Sargent, randdebsarge@beu.midco.net 880.8238

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

May 26, 2024

10:00am

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
May 26, 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

“Remember, Rejoice, and Renew”, “God Bless America”, “Song for the Un-sung Hero”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE

SONG: *“America the Beautiful”*

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: *“Come, Thou Almighty King” ELW 408*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said:

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.

Save The Dates: Picnics and Worship June 12, July 10, August 14 along with Church Council following.

Hillview Cup Golf Tournament July 11th (MSLCC)
VBS First week in August 4—7
Neighborhood Block Party August 7 with UCC

In the Footsteps of Paul tour coming in March 2025!

We have many tools to help Bible stories come alive for us: maps, study guides, commentaries, different translations. But nothing brings more aha! moments and enhances understanding better than traveling to the places and getting to know the context that surround and shape the story. Pastor Lisa will be leading a group to Greece and Turkey, to some of the places where Paul preached and ministered, from March 18-29, 2025. You will visit Thessoloniki, Philippi, the Meteora monasteries, Delphi, Athens, a 4 day cruise excursion taking us to Mykonos, Ephesus (Turkey), Patmos, Rhodes, Crete, and Santorini; and Corinth, before returning to Athens for departure. Full information is available now; let Pr. Lisa know if you are interested in hearing more about it or know someone who might like to go.



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.

June: The Berry Pickers by Amanda Peters

July: To Heaven & Back by Mary C. Neal

Consider coming to the Book Club. You'll meet people with a common interest: the love of reading. We have interesting and lively discussions of each book and even rate the book from 1—10. A variety of subjects are read but usually works of fiction. Come share your favorite reads with us.

Happy 90th Birthday to Janet Doerner on 5/21. From your daughter Julie but we all wish you great joy as you celebrate your day.

Mother the Camp will be May's Altar Focus. You'll find the lists are placed in the narthex along with a bulletin of ideas. Camp of the Cross thanks you.

There are more **T-shirts** out in the narthex for the taking.

The **Church Council** will be meeting after worship on the Wednesday picnic evenings during the summer.

Church picnics: June 12, July 10, and Aug. 14. The church will furnish the hamburgers, chicken, buns, condiments, and water. Feel free to bring a dish to share of your favorite summer dish. Supper at 5:15pm Worship at 6pm, Church Council 7pm. Volunteers are needed for setting up, grillers and tearing down. Come on out and enjoy fellowship time that only outdoors, picnics and friends can provide.

With the **Block Party August 7** volunteers for setting up here are needed as well as volunteers for the bars and cookies that we will be serving here.

The office will be closed Monday, May 27 for **Memorial Day**.

Volunteers will also be needed for VBS. Registration will be coming

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and blotted out. ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 29

¹Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy splendor.**

³The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over mighty waters.

⁴**The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

⁶**He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

⁷The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

⁸**The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare;
and in his temple all say, “Glory!”

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**

¹¹May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-17

¹²Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *"Fall Like Rain"*

GOSPEL READING: John 3:1-17

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

¹¹"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

WEEKLY CALENDAR of May 26, 2024

Today, May 26:

**River Service 10:00am
Coffee Hour 11:00am**

Monday, May 27:

**No Needlework Group 9:00am
Memorial Day Office Closed**

Tuesday, May 28:

Wednesday, May 29:

River practice 7pm

Thursday, May 30

AA Meeting 8pm

Friday, May 31:

Wired Word 1:30pm

Saturday, June 1:

Men's Bible Study 10am

Sunday, June 2:

**River Service 10am
Coffee Hour 11:00am**

Future Happenings

Picnic, Worship and Church Council June 12

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:

Tracy Martinson, Ann Hillesland, Arlene Wolff, Bob Roesler, Earl Larson, Nancy Dockter, Lori Marx, Hattie Martinson, Carter Weigel, Josey Hanson, Jeff Thomas, Heidi Renner, Kristy Forrest, JoDee Sayler, Colter Lee, Arvid Mugaas, Elizabeth Hoglund, Diane Klein, Peg Ahlness, Kaylynn Harris, Pam Morris, Jaden Kunze, Libby Martin, Deacon Janie Hague, Kira Willadsen, Kerry Carpenter, Linda Marson, Lonnie Sunde, Jacob Hynek, Art Wheeler, Reece Fischer

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones— Roberta Kunze, Leo Wolf



SERMON: Pastor Lisa Ahlness

SONG OF THE DAY: *“Holy, Holy, Holy” ELW 413*

APOSTLES’ CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH: *“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” ELW 752*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING: *“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: *"Here I Am, Lord"*

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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

SENDING SONG: *"My Country, 'Tis of Thee"*

DISMISSAL: *"Battle Hymn (Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory)"*

INTRODUCTION: When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

Thank you to those who have served in our military. We remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice so that we enjoy the freedoms we've come to treasure.

"THE RIVER" and "LIVING WATER" WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Lillian Crook

Ushers— Alex & Kathy Spilman, Tracy Wolf & Art Wheeler

Communion Assistants—Tracy Wolf, Roger Krueger, Lynn Grabow

Altar Guild— Barb, Thomas, Suzanne Toso, Sarah Dahl, Kelly Olson

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, Luke Weber, Beth Greff, Jan & Joel Gilbertson

Living Water Worship Team

Living Water Singers—Joel Crane, Amanda Sagsveen, Brandi Ellison, Annabelle Ellison, Emmeline Chopourian-Jack, Kerry Carpenter, Keelin Traynor, Deb Carpenter

Percussionist—Kari Harris

Guitarists— Koltan Harris, Joel Crane

Accompanist and Sound—Beth Greff