

Lutheran Church of the Cross  
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Bismarck ND 58501

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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

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**2024 Church Council Members**

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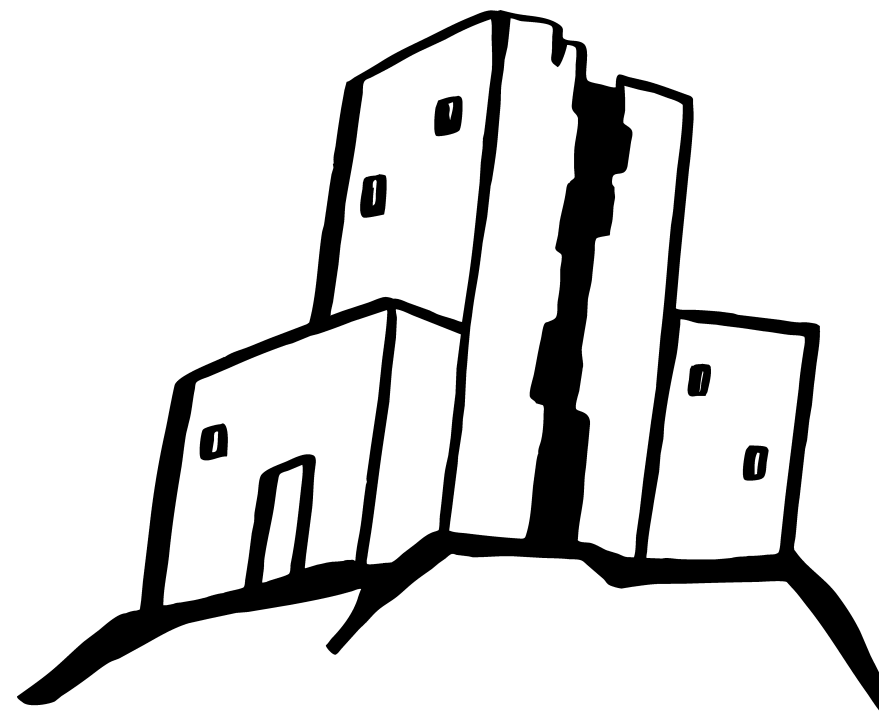
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*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

# The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

June 9, 2024

10:00am

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**“The River” Worship Service**  
**June 9, 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”, “Children of the Heavenly Father” ELW 781, “Mighty to Save”*

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**GATHERING SONG:** *“God of Grace and God of Glory” ELW 705*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** Joyce Wahl

*WE HEAR GOD’S WORD*

**FIRST READING: Genesis 3:8-15**

<sup>8</sup>[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.<sup>9</sup>But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?”<sup>10</sup>He said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.”<sup>11</sup>He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?”<sup>12</sup>The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.”<sup>13</sup>Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me, and I ate.”<sup>14</sup>The Lord God said to the serpent,

**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.

**You are all invited to Joyce Wahl’s 80th Birthday party Saturday June 15.**

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.

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

The third quarter daily devotionals; **Christ in Our Home** are out in the narthex.

LCC is invited to the **Highland Acres Second Sunday Summer concerts.**

June 9 — Prairie Road

July 14 — Jennifer Lyn & Richard Torrance

August 11 — The Bluestems

6:30—8 pm in the soccer field of Highland Acres Elementary School

Food trucks and Ice cream trucks will be there.

[www.facebook.com/HighlandAcresSummerConcerts](http://www.facebook.com/HighlandAcresSummerConcerts) for weather updates and reminders

“Because you have done this,  
cursed are you among all animals  
and among all wild creatures;  
upon your belly you shall go,  
and dust you shall eat  
all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will strike your head,  
and you will strike his heel.”

### **RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 130**

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

<sup>2</sup>**LORD, hear my voice!**

**Let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my supplications!**

<sup>3</sup>If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,  
LORD, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup>**But there is forgiveness with you,  
so that you may be revered.**

<sup>5</sup>I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,  
and in his word I hope;

<sup>6</sup>**my soul waits for the LORD  
more than those who watch for the morning,  
more than those who watch for the morning.**

<sup>7</sup>O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love,  
and with him is great power to redeem.

<sup>8</sup>**It is he who will redeem Israel  
from all its iniquities.**

## **SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1**

<sup>13</sup>Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, <sup>14</sup>because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. <sup>15</sup>Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

<sup>16</sup>So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup>For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, <sup>18</sup>because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

<sup>5:1</sup>For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *"How Great Is Our God"*

## **GOSPEL READING: Mark 3:20-35**

[Jesus went home;] <sup>20</sup>and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. <sup>21</sup>When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." <sup>22</sup>And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." <sup>23</sup>And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? <sup>24</sup>If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup>And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. <sup>26</sup>And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. <sup>27</sup>But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

<sup>28</sup>"Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; <sup>29</sup>but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"—<sup>30</sup>for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

## **WEEKLY CALENDAR of June 9, 2024**

***Today, June 9:***

**River Service 10:00am  
Coffee Hour 11:00am  
Highland Acres Neighborhood Concert  
6:30 soccer field**

***Monday, June 10:***

**Needlework Group 9:00am**

***Tuesday, June 11:***

***Wednesday, June 12:***

**Picnic, Worship and Church Council  
5p & 6p**

***Thursday, June 13:***

**AA Meeting 8pm**

***Friday, June 14:***

**Wired Word 1:30pm**

***Saturday, June 15:***

**Men's Bible Study 10am**

***Sunday, June 16:***

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

## **Future Happenings**

**The current Father the Camp flyers are in the narthex with Mother the Camp display.**

## **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

<sup>31</sup>Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. <sup>32</sup>A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” <sup>33</sup>And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” <sup>34</sup>And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers!” <sup>35</sup>Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

**SERMON:** Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**SONG OF THE DAY:** “A Mighty Fortress is Our God” ELW 503

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:** “I Love You Lord”

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING:** “Create in Me a Clean Heart”

**OFFERING PRAYER**



*WE SHARE THE MEAL*

**PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL**

**LORD'S PRAYER:** spoken

**INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER**

**COMMUNION SONG:** *"Now We Join in Celebration"* ELW 462

**COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION:** spoken

**SENDING SONG:** *"Go My Children with My Blessing"* ELW 543

**DISMISSAL:** *"On Our Way Rejoicing"* ELW 537

**INTRODUCTION:** A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon, but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are Jesus' family. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.

**"THE RIVER" and "LIVING WATER" WORSHIP MINISTERS**

**Pastor**—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**Scripture Reader**—Rich Fockler

**Ushers**— David & Kathy Drovdal, Rich & Judi Fockler

**Communion Assistants**—Tracy Geiermann, Marlene Grabow, Janice Martin

**Altar Guild**— Donna Belisle, Joyce Wahl, Suzanne Toso, Valerie Kunze

**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 Sayler, 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**— Kolton Harris, Joel Crane

**Accompanist and Sound**—Beth Greff