

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

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527-9582/ lcctreasurer@midconetwork.com

Beth Greff, **Worship Coordinator**

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Joel Crane, **Wednesday Worship Coordinator**

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2024 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

July 21, 2024

10:00am

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
July 21, 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.

“Come, Now is the Time to Worship”, “Psalm 23 (Surely Goodness)”, “Come Find Forgiveness and Love ”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: “A Mighty Fortress”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

1 Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. 2 Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. 3 Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. 4 I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

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.

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

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.

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. Call the church if you can help in that capacity.

Volunteers will also be needed for VBS. Registration form is in the narthex. Please fill it out and turn it in to the office.

Church picnics: Last one is 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 5:00pm. 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.

Prairie Masters Golf Tournament August 14, 2024 at the Garrison Golf Club. To benefit Camp of the Cross Ministries. There are several ways to participate. As a participant, as a Individual hole sponsor, or as a Team hole sponsor. Check it out!

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.
August: The Life We Bury by Allen Eskens
September: The Women by Kristin Hannah
October: Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano
November: The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post by Allison Palaki

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.

Are you a rummage saler? Tis the season! We are always looking for items for **baby care kits**, which can often be found at such sales. Please watch for: **t-shirts (not onesies), socks, sleepers (no feet), and hand towels (colored, please wash first.** We also need - but these will likely need to be purchased at stores: 4-5 oz bars of mild soap (Ivory, Dove, etc.) We got a big donation of sweaters and are good there!

Just a reminder the **Faith and Care Co-Chairs** will be meeting the end of July/early August to discuss changes and the new schedule. See you then!

July’s Altar Focus is **School Care Kits**. We have an abundance of pencils, crayons, and erasers. We are in dire need of notebooks and pens. Rulers and scissors too. LCC is ordering the backpacks.

LCC is in need of **coffee hosts and dishwashers** for Sundays this summer. Our taste buds don’t seem to diminish during these hot spells not even our need for hot coffee. So volunteer and share in this ministry of fellowship for our church.

In the Footsteps of Paul tour in March 2025! The paperwork for the tour is in the narthex. Check it out and sign up.

⁵ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The Lord is our righteousness.”

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 23 KJV
The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² **He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ **Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.**

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶ **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:11-22

¹¹ Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—¹² remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵ He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it.

¹⁷ So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸ for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰ built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²² in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *“How Great is Our God”*

GOSPEL READING: **Mark 6:30-34, 53-56**

³⁰ The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹ He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³² And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³ Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴ As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

⁵³ When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴ When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, ⁵⁵ and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶ And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

WEEKLY CALENDAR of July 21, 2024

Today, July 21:

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

Monday, July 22:

Needlework Group 9:00am

Tuesday, July 23:

Wednesday, July 24:

Women’s Bible Study 9am

Thursday, July 25:

AA Meeting 8pm

Friday, July 26:

Wired Word 1:30pm

Saturday, July 27:

Men’s Bible Study 10am

Sunday, July 28:

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

Future Happenings

Picnics and Worship, August 14 along with Church Council following.

VBS First week in August 4—7

Neighborhood Block Party August 7 with UCC Picnic there, Games here

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, Heidi Renner, Kristy Forrest, JoDee Sayler, Colter Lee, Arvid Mugaas, Diane Klein, Peg Ahlness, Kaylynn Harris, Libby Martin, Deacon Janie Hague, Kira Willadsen, Kerry Carpenter, Linda Marson, Lonnie Sunde, Jacob Hynek, Art Wheeler, Reece Fischer, Jeri Mutcher, Mark Kunze

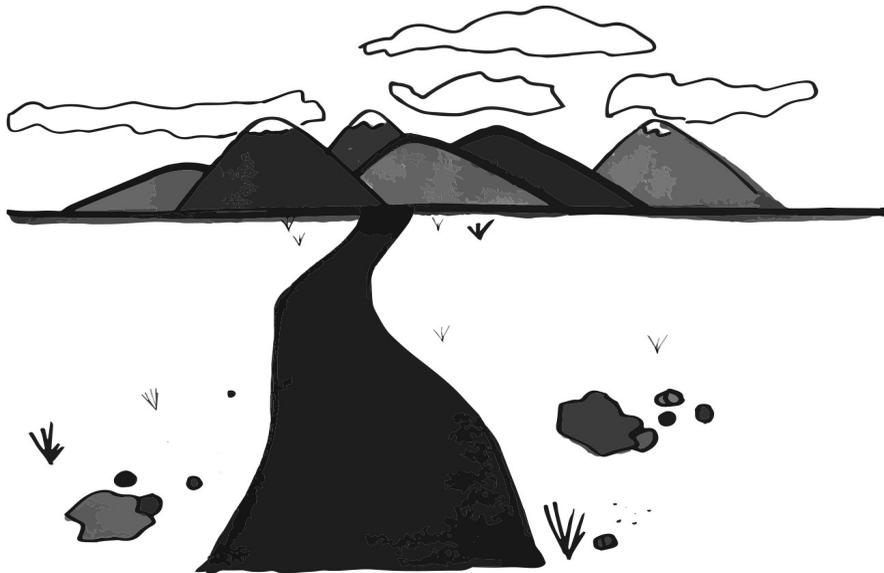
For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—Gorden Mutcher, Elizabeth Hoglund, Arlene Lellelid, David Larson, Roberta Kunze

SERMON: Pastor Lisa Ahlness

SONG OF THE DAY: “How Great Thou Art” ELW 856

APOSTLES’ CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH: “Open the Eyes of My Heart”



SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING: *“Give Me a Grateful Heart”*

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: *“Down to the River to Pray”*

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION: *“The Lord Be With You”*

SENDING SONG: *“You Are My All in All”*

DISMISSAL: *“Soon and Very Soon”*

INTRODUCTION: Mark’s gospel makes clear how great is the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today’s gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn’t think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers’ need. We are sent from Christ’s table to care for others and for ourselves.

“THE RIVER” and “LIVING WATER” WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Esther Anderson

Ushers—Roger Krueger & Lee Jensen, Alex & Kathryn Spilman

Communion Assistants—Ruth Jensen, Sheila Koffler, Ken Will

Altar Guild—Cherie Krueger, Barb Thomas, Sharon Narum, Verlaine Jahner

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