

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:**

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*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

# The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

July 7, 2024

10:00am

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**“The River” Worship Service**  
**July 7, 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**

*“Blessed Be Your Name”, “Enough”, “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies” ELW 888*

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**GATHERING SONG:** “Here I Am, Lord” ELW 574

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

*WE HEAR GOD’S WORD*

**FIRST READING: Ezekiel 2:1-5**

<sup>1</sup>[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.<sup>2</sup>And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me.<sup>3</sup>He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day.<sup>4</sup>The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, “Thus says the Lord God.”<sup>5</sup>Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

**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.**

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.

**6th Annual 18 hole Hillview Cup Golf Tournament July 11, 2024.** Proceeds

go to the LSLCC Foundation. Continental, breakfast, lunch and dinner provided. \$150/golfer, \$600/team of four. At Prairie West Golf Course, Mandan, ND.

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

**Church picnics:** 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.

Thanks to Charmaine Wehmhoefer for the delightful summer bulletin board.



## 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.

July: To Heaven & Back by Mary C. Neal

August: The Life We Bury by Allen Eskens

September: Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano

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, pajamas (no feet), and blankets. We also need - but these will likely need to be purchased at stores: 4-5 oz bars of mild soap (Ivory, Dove, etc.) and colored hand towels. We got a big donation of sweaters and are good there! We are already preparing for baby care kits.

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!

**UCC** is sponsoring a Ukrainian family that will be coming soon. Some needed items are trash bags, toilet paper, razors, shaving cream and shampoo. Drop them by the church and have the bag labelled UCC. We will see that they are delivered.

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

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. LCC is ordering the backpacks.

## RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 123

<sup>0</sup>A Song of Ascents.

<sup>1</sup>To you I lift up my eyes,  
O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

<sup>2</sup>**As the eyes of servants  
look to the hand of their master,  
as the eyes of a maid  
to the hand of her mistress,  
so our eyes look to the LORD our God,**  
until he has mercy upon us.

<sup>3</sup>Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us,  
for we have had more than enough of contempt.

<sup>4</sup>**Our soul has had more than its fill  
of the scorn of those who are at ease,  
of the contempt of the proud.**

## SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

<sup>2</sup> I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. <sup>3</sup> And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—<sup>4</sup> was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. <sup>5</sup> On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup> But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, <sup>7</sup> even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup> Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, <sup>9</sup> but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup> Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *“Jesus Messiah”*

**GOSPEL READING: Mark 6:1-13**

<sup>1</sup> [Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup> On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! <sup>3</sup> Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. <sup>4</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” <sup>5</sup> And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. <sup>6</sup> And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. <sup>7</sup> He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup> He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; <sup>9</sup> but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup> He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. <sup>11</sup> If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” <sup>12</sup> So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. <sup>13</sup> They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

**SERMON:** AJ Marx

**SONG OF THE DAY:** *“Onward Christian Soldiers”*

## WEEKLY CALENDAR of July 7, 2024

**Today, July 7:**

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

**Monday, July 8:**

**Needlework Group 9:00am**

**Tuesday, July 9:**

**Wednesday, July 10:**

**Book Club 1:30pm  
Picnic and Worship, Church Council**

**Thursday, July 11:**

**Hillview Cup Golf Tournament  
AA Meeting 8pm**

**Friday, July 12:**

**Wired Word 1:30pm**

**Saturday, July 13:**

**Men’s Bible Study 10am**

**Sunday, July 14:**

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

### **Future Happenings**

**Gather Bible Study July 18 10:30am**

**Women’s Bible Study July 24 9am**

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

**VBS First week in August 4—7**

**Neighborhood Block Party August 7 with UCC**

## **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.

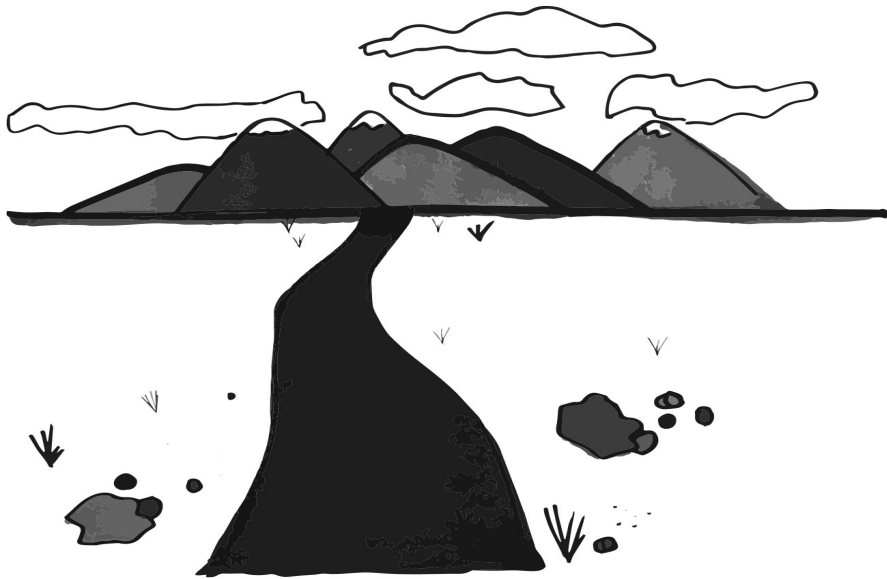
### **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

*(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, Elizabeth Hoglund, 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 & Gorden Mutcher, Mark Kunze

**For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—** Arlene Lellelid, David Larson, Roberta Kunze



## APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH: *"Let Us Pray for Peace"*

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING: *"One Bread, One Body" ELW 496*

## 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: "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

## COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION: *"Benediction Song"*

SENDING SONG: *"God Bless America"*

DISMISSAL: *"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"*

**INTRODUCTION:** Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the "between": between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

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

**Pastor**—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**Scripture Reader**—Rich Fockler

**Ushers**—David & Kathy Drovdal, Steve & Cheryl Neu

**Communion Assistants**—Roger & Esther Anderson, Heather Martin

**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