

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

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2024 Church Council Members

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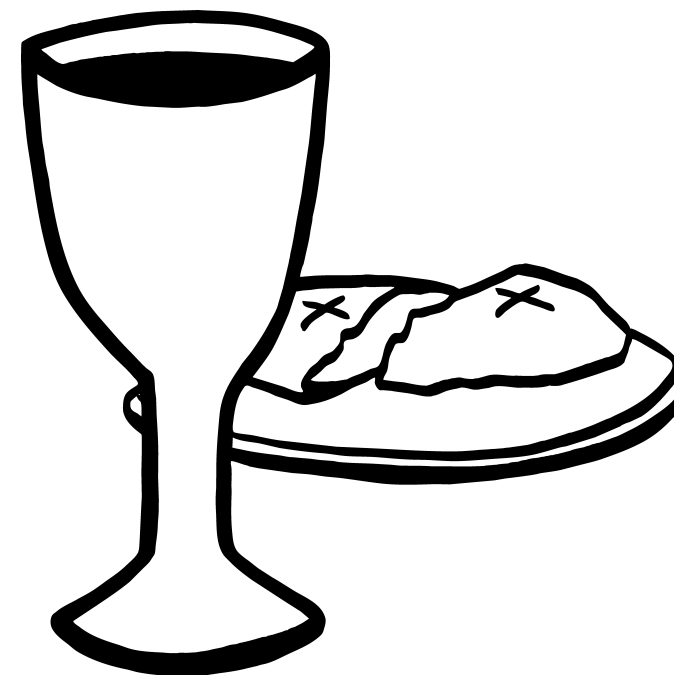
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“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

August 18, 2024

10:00am

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
August 18, 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: “Oh, When the Saints Go Marching In”, “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”, ELW 756 “In This Very Room”, “My Lighthouse”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Proverbs 9:1-6

- ¹Wisdom has built her house,
she has hewn her seven pillars.
²She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,
she has also set her table.
³She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls
from the highest places in the town,
⁴“You that are simple, turn in here!”
To those without sense she says,
⁵“Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.
⁶Lay aside immaturity, and live,
and walk in the way of insight.”

Help Wanted! LCC is looking for folks that would be interested in helping out in our Tech area - specifically Projection, Streaming, and Sound. If you have a good ear for music or an interest in computers we would love to visit with you. Please contact Beth Greff at the phone number or email listed on the back of the bulletin. Please prayerfully consider becoming a part of our Team!

Confirmation and Church School starting up again!! And so is fall programming here at LCC. September 4: Confirmation Orientation for grades 6, 7, 8 at 7 p.m. September 8: Rally Sunday – come meet your church school teacher during worship, and fun activity afterward! Think scavenger hunt! September 11: Rally Wednesday – Confirmation Small Group night and meet your church school teacher night for younger students with scavenger hunt! September 25: Confirmation Large Group Service project: assemble school kits for Lutheran World Relief and 9th grade + mentors Five Promises meeting, both at 7 p.m.

The **Baby care kits are coming** together. 11 Receiving blankets are needed to complete the rest of the kits.

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.

Did you know that **extra monthly newsletters** are on the oak cabinet for the taking. Envelopes for tithing as well as other information is placed there. 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.

September: The Women by Kristin Hannah

October: Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano

November: The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post by Allison Palaki

Book Club members: The book: **The Women** is available in the office to check out. Come in the mornings to pick up your copy for the Book Club.

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.

Thank you Rev. Brian Knutson for coming and sharing with us today your insights and wisdom. We appreciate your time spent with us.

Study on St. Paul to begin in September. Some of you are planning to go on the footsteps of Paul trip next March. We will be starting a book study in September as we prepare – you don’t have to be going on the trip to join in! The book is called “Paul Among the People” by Sarah Ruden. It is available on Amazon, Barnes and Noble and Kindle, or wherever you normally get books! Let Pastor Lisa know what days/times work best for you and watch for further info! (Another recommended title is “Paul” by N.T. Wright, if you’d like to read more about the apostle.

Favorite Song Sundays!! One left; September 1. We will use as many of your favorites as we possibly can!

August Altar Focus continues to be **School Care Kits** plus **Ministry on the Margins** has put out an urgent call for pillows, bedding, blankets, towels, soap. They don’t have to be brand new but should be in good shape.

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 34:9-14

⁹O fear the LORD, you his holy ones,
for those who fear him have no want.

¹⁰**The young lions suffer want and hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.**

¹¹Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

¹²**Which of you desires life,
and covets many days to enjoy good?**

¹³Keep your tongue from evil,
and your lips from speaking deceit.

¹⁴**Depart from evil, and do good;
seek peace, and pursue it.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:15-20

¹⁵Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *“Thy Word”*

GOSPEL READING: John 6:51-58

[Jesus said,] ⁵¹“I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

SERMON: Rev. Brian Knutson

SONG OF THE DAY: *“Children of the Heavenly Father” ELW 781*

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING: *“The King of Love My Shepherd Is” ELW 502*

OFFERING PRAYER

WEEKLY CALENDAR of August 18, 2024

Today, August 18:

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

Monday, August 19:

Needlework Group 9:00am

Tuesday, August 20:

Wednesday, August 21:

Thursday, August 22:

AA Meeting 8pm

Friday, August 23:

Wired Word 1:30pm

Saturday, August 24:

Men’s Bible Study 10am

Sunday, August 25:

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

Future Happenings

Women’s Bible Study Aug. 28 9am

Rally Sunday Sept 8

Rally Wednesday Sept 11

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, Lindsey Steiger, Lyndon Jahner, Joel Crane, Paul Kuch, Christ Gerr

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—Syver Vinje, David Gron-dahl, Ramona Larson, Gorden Mutcher, Elizabeth Hoglund

WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

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

INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG: *"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" ELW 742*

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

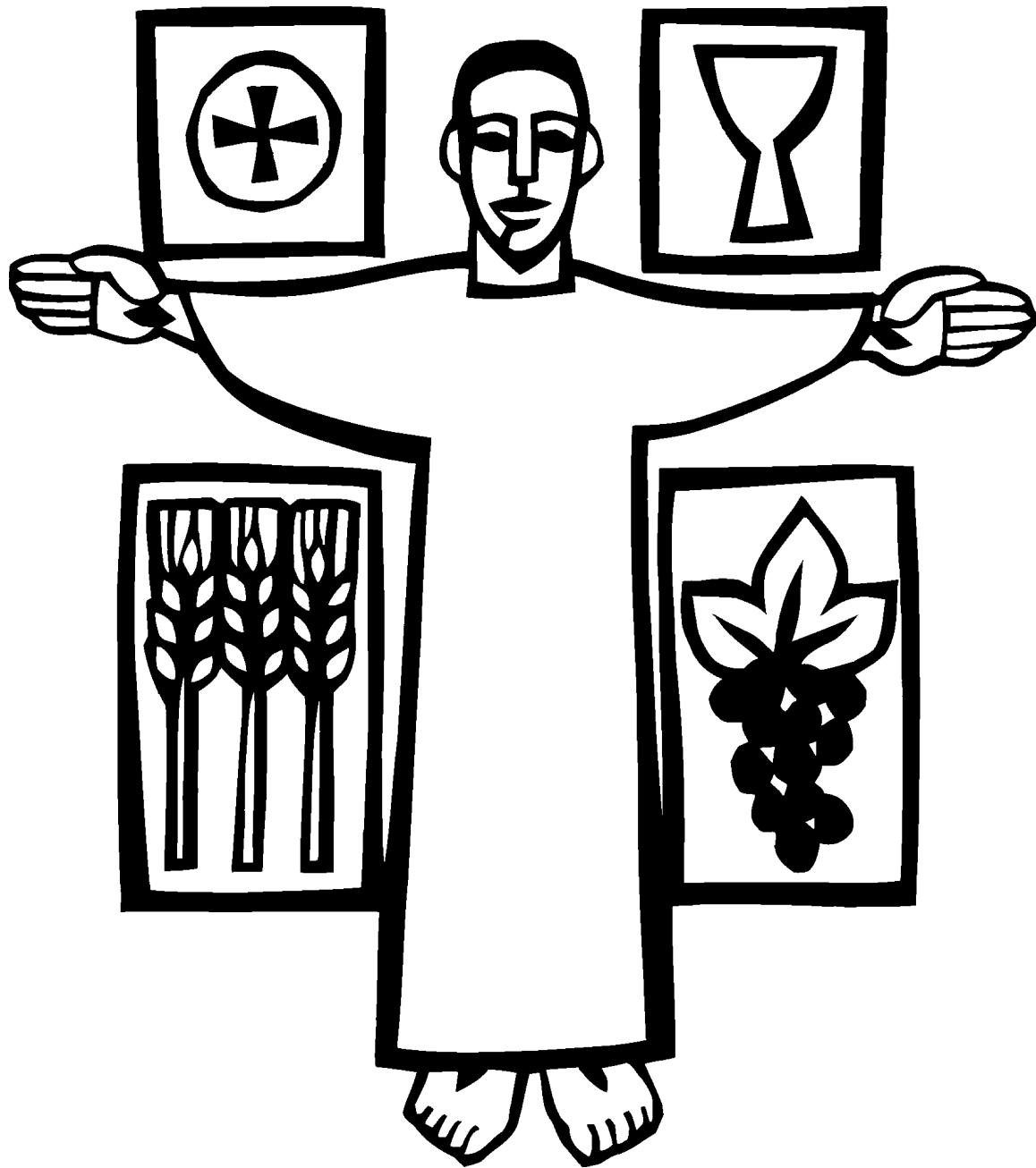
BENEDICTION: *"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"*

SENDING SONG: *"Soon and Very Soon"*

DISMISSAL: *"Sanctuary"*

INTRODUCTION Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

“THE RIVER” and “LIVING WATER” WORSHIP MINISTERS



Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Janice Martin

Ushers—Steve & Cheryl Neu, Rich & Judy Fockler

Communion Assistants—Roger & Esther Anderson, Heather Martin

Altar Guild— Jean Kraft, Mavis Pommerer, Joyce Wahl, Cheryl Neu

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