

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**

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2024 Church Council Members

Mike Geiermann, President, mgeiermann12@gmail.com 471.5122

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“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

September 22, 2024

10:00am

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
September 22, 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: “Mighty to Save”, “Our God”, “Better is One Day”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: “All Are Welcome” ELW 641

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Pastor Sondra

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 11:18-20

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

Dear Friends in Christ,

A note from your Treasurer

I joined the LCC Council in 2011 and was given the General Financial Operating portfolio to oversee. I worked closely with several new Treasurers over the next four years. In 2015, I was appointed Treasurer and have tried to serve the congregation since.

I have had the honor and privilege of serving the Church of the Cross for a number of years. I believe a successor should be found who will continue the Treasurer’s duties. Communicating with the Council, I will continue to function as Treasurer until a new Treasurer has been fully trained and is ready to complete all responsibilities.

Any LCC member who has an interest in accounting or bookkeeping, enjoys working with numbers and wants to serve the congregation in an exciting and important manner, should indicate their interest to Pastor Lisa, Council Present Mike Geiermann or Council Vice President Mike Humann.

Art Wheeler

Did you know

Faith and Care Groups 1-6 for the upcoming year are listed on the secretary’s wall just outside her door.

The Communion Assistant, Reader, and Usher schedule is posted under the monitor by the back door. Copies are available under the monitor. When a conflict arises, find your own replacement but notify the church secretary by Thursday so the name can be changed in the bulletin. Thank you for your help with this.

The fourth quarter daily devotional; **Christ in Our Home** is out in the narthex.

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.
October: Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano
November: The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post by Allison Palaki

The beautiful flowers in the sanctuary are given in loving memory of Bette Fockler and Marcia Gurholt by Rich Fockler and Paul Gurholt.

Thank you Pastor Korsmo for being with us today sharing your insights and words of wisdom. We appreciate you!

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 “In the Footsteps of Saint Paul” by Edward Stourton. 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.

The **Altar Focus for September** will be the Fresh Start Kits for people leaving the State Penitentiary and the Youth Correctional Center. The list is posted in the narthex. Take your copies for shopping.

LCC is in need of **Communion Assistants, Readers and Ushers, coffee hosts and dishwashers** for Sundays. Your help is greatly needed! Call the office to volunteer or sign up on the clip board for coffee hosts and dishwashers.

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 54

¹Save me, O God, by your name,
and vindicate me by your might.

²**Hear my prayer, O God;
give ear to the words of my mouth.**

³For the insolent have risen against me,
the ruthless seek my life;
they do not set God before them.

Selah

⁴**But surely, God is my helper;
the LORD is the upholder of my life.**

⁵He will repay my enemies for their evil.
In your faithfulness, put an end to them.

⁶**With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;
I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

⁷For he has delivered me from every trouble,
and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

SECOND READING: James 3:13-4:3,7-8a

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. ^{4:}

¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *“Praise the Name of Jesus”*

GOSPEL READING: Mark 9:30-37

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.”³² But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?”³⁴ But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.³⁵ He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.”³⁶ Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,³⁷ “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”



WEEKLY CALENDAR of September 22, 2024

Today, September 22:

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

Monday, September 23:

Needlework Group 9am

Tuesday, September 24:

Wednesday, September 25:

**Supper 5pm
Living Water Service 6:15pm
Church School, Confirmation
7pm**

Thursday, September 26:

**Quilting 1pm
AA Meeting 8pm**

Friday, September 27:

Wired Word 1:30pm

Saturday, September 28:

Men's Bible Study 10am

Sunday, September 29:

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

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, 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, Sher Harildstad, Karen Will

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—Archie Johnson

SERMON: Pastor Sharon Korsmo

SONG OF THE DAY: *“O, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”*

APOSTLES’ CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH: *“Let Us Pray for Peace”*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING: *“Everybody’s Got Something to Offer”*

OFFERING PRAYER



WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

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

INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG: *"Open the Eyes of My Heart"*

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION: *"The Lord Be With You"*

SENDING SONG: *"I'll Fly Away"*

DISMISSAL: *"My Life is in You Lord"*

INTRODUCTION

Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

"THE RIVER" and "LIVING WATER" WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Myrtice Behan

Ushers—Mike & Tracy Geiermann, Kathy & David Drovdal

Communion Assistants—Mike & Kim Humann, Donna Belisle

Altar Guild—Heather Martin, Ruth Jensen, Sharon Narum, Verlaine Jahner

Faith and Care Group 1—Nikki Taylor, Janet Bassingthwaite, Annie Bergrud

River Worship Team—

Sound Board Technicians—Larry Wolf, Francis Greff

Projection Team—Caden Kunze, Jace Kunze, Val 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—Luke Weber, Beth Greff, Gerri Sarsten, Jan & Joel Gilbertson

Living Water Worship Team

Living Water Singers—Deb Carpenter, Kerry Carpenter, Caroline Collins, Keira Collins, Joel Crane, Annabelle Ellison, Brandi Ellison, Beth Greff, Amanda Sagsveen

Percussionist—Kari Harris

Guitarists—Kolton Harris, Joel Crane

Accompanist—Luke Weber

Sound—Beth Greff