

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:**

Lisa Ahlness, **Pastor**

Cell: 220.9011 / [lisaahlness@hotmail.com](mailto:lisaahlness@hotmail.com)

Connie Werner, **Secretary** cell 400.5852

Office 223-1001 / [churchsecretary@midconetwork.com](mailto:churchsecretary@midconetwork.com)

Art Wheeler, **Treasurer**

527-9582/ [lcctreasurer@midconetwork.com](mailto:lcctreasurer@midconetwork.com)

Beth Greff, **Worship Coordinator**

400-2087/ [theriver@midconetwork.com](mailto:theriver@midconetwork.com)

Joel Crane, **Wednesday Worship Coordinator**

498-2604/ [cranejoel58@gmail.com](mailto:cranejoel58@gmail.com)

**2024 Church Council Members**

Mike Geiermann, President, [mgeiermann12@gmail.com](mailto:mgeiermann12@gmail.com) 471.5122

Mike Humann, Vice President, [mknhumann@bis.midco.net](mailto:mknhumann@bis.midco.net) 527.3376

Jessi Karvo, Secretary, [jfish321@gmail.com](mailto:jfish321@gmail.com) 426.7439

Janice Martin, [mrladyj2000@gmail.com](mailto:mrladyj2000@gmail.com) 471.5600

Sarah Dahl, [sarahdahlmba@gmail.com](mailto:sarahdahlmba@gmail.com) 226.6844

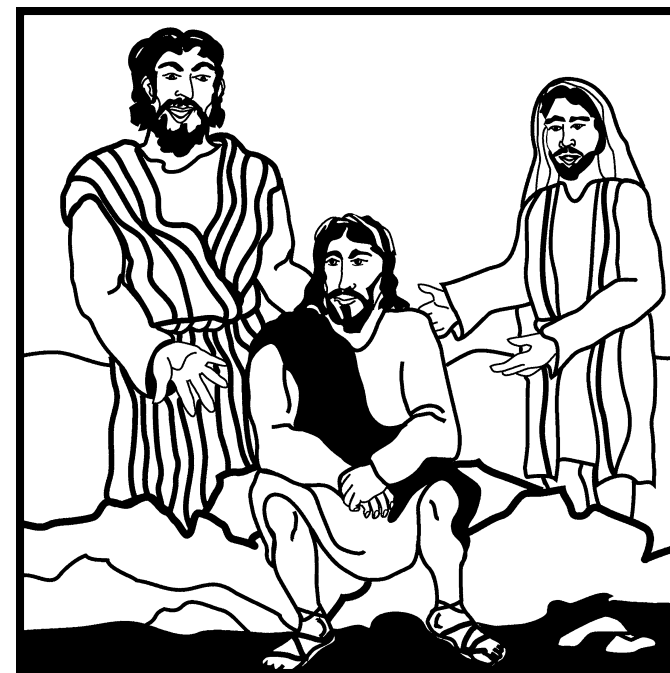
Scot Long, [scotglong@gmail.com](mailto:scotglong@gmail.com) 400.2169

Rod Sargent, [randdebsarge@beu.midco.net](mailto:randdebsarge@beu.midco.net) 880.8238

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

# The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

October 20, 2024

10:00am

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**“The River” Worship Service**  
**October 20, 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:** “You Are Mine”, “Because He Lives”, “It is Well”

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**GATHERING SONG :** “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” ELW 789

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

*WE HEAR GOD’S WORD*

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 53:4-12**

<sup>4</sup>Surely he has borne our infirmities

and carried our diseases;

yet we accounted him stricken,

struck down by God, and afflicted.

<sup>5</sup>But he was wounded for our transgressions,

crushed for our iniquities;

upon him was the punishment that made us whole,

and by his bruises we are healed.

<sup>6</sup>All we like sheep have gone astray;

we have all turned to our own way,

and the Lord has laid on him

**Study on St. Paul** will continue Tues, Oct. 22 at 11:45am. We will look at Thessaloniki and Thessalonians, and continue on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month, roughly following the path of our traveling group. We are using several resources. All are welcome—please come, and speak to Pr. Lisa for more information.

**Trunk or Treat** is scheduled for Sunday, October 27 at 2 pm. Weather permitting it will be held outside. There are sign up sheets for helpers and for those who wish to decorate their trunks. (*We need to have 10 trunks to make it a go.*) The pumpkin is for the collection of candy. We will have hot cider and hot chocolate to keep cozy as well. This has always been an enjoyable experience for the young and “older kids” at heart who have participated. See you there.

**Confirmation Wednesday.** The three young men confirming their faith this year are Easton Karvo, Brandon Kunz, and Liam Johnson. They have chosen to be confirmed on Wednesday, October 30, at our 6:15 pm service. Join them for supper and cake starting at 5 pm, and celebrate this occasion with them in worship!

**All Saints Day** is Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. Join friends from all over Bismarck at a Taizé’ worship that evening at St. George’s Episcopal Church, 601 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Bismarck, at 6 pm.

**All Saints Sunday** is November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Be sure to join us, live or online, for worship, and in the couple of weeks before, write the names of your deceased loved ones on paper doves which will be placed on our All Saints Banner and carried in during the opening hymn. Please call the office if you’d like us to do this for you!

**Skills for Bridging the Gap**

We encounter difference around us – in religion, culture, and politics. With the right skills, we can learn how to respectfully and bravely reach across the divide. This 4 session series is on **Wednesdays at 10 am** (October 2, 9, 16, 23) **at Faith Lutheran Church** and **Thursdays at 7 pm** (October 3, 10, 17, 24) **at Bismarck UCC.** The Thursday class at the UCC is available in person and online. Call the UCC church office at 701-223-2915 or Pastor Lisa for the zoom link.

**Thanks to your generosity and hard work,** we delivered 30 quilts, 34 baby care kits, and 74 school kits to Lutheran World Relief! Special thanks to all the people and for all the ways in which you helped!

## 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.  
November: The Magnificent Lives of Marjorie Post by Allison Palaki  
December: The Wish Book Christmas by Lynn Austin  
January: What She Left Behind by Ellen Marie Wiseman  
February: Montana 1948 by Larry Watson

We will offer a non-partisan **voter information forum**, facilitated by some members with much experience in state government, on the constitutional measures which are on the November ballot after worship on Sunday, October 20. If you're not sure what your vote means on these measures, grab your coffee and cookies, and come find some clarity! All are welcome.

It's that time of the year again to **update your information in the directory**. So please initial your information if everything is correct and make the necessary changes, if there is any. If you haven't in the past provided a picture of your family you may still do so. Just send the jpeg to: churchsecretary@midconetwork.com

**Altar Focus for October** Our focus this month is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ELCA World Hunger. We want to be part of the generation to wipe out world hunger! Make a donation to help ELCA World Hunger's work locally, nationwide and globally with feeding programs, animals, water wells, health care and nutrition, and job skills. You can do this at [www.elca.org/hunger](http://www.elca.org/hunger), and also when you buy “good gifts” for people during Advent!

If you prefer to give actual items rather than money for your altar focus donation, we have members who have concentrated on buying the backpacks for the Fresh Start Kits for adults and youth leaving incarceration. Let's continue this month by trying to get all the supplies to fill them! Thanks for your efforts so far!

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.

the iniquity of us all.

<sup>7</sup>He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,  
yet he did not open his mouth;  
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,  
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,  
so he did not open his mouth.

<sup>8</sup>By a perversion of justice he was taken away.  
Who could have imagined his future?

For he was cut off from the land of the living,  
stricken for the transgression of my people.

<sup>9</sup>They made his grave with the wicked  
and his tomb with the rich,  
although he had done no violence,  
and there was no deceit in his mouth.

<sup>10</sup>Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.  
When you make his life an offering for sin,  
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;  
through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

<sup>11</sup>Out of his anguish he shall see light;  
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.  
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,  
and he shall bear their iniquities.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,  
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;  
because he poured out himself to death,  
and was numbered with the transgressors;  
yet he bore the sin of many,  
and made intercession for the transgressors.

**RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 91:9-16**

<sup>9</sup>Because you have made the LORD your refuge,  
the Most High your dwelling place,

<sup>10</sup>**no evil shall befall you,  
no scourge come near your tent.**

<sup>11</sup>For he will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways.

<sup>12</sup>**On their hands they will bear you up,  
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.**

<sup>13</sup>You will tread on the lion and the adder,  
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

<sup>14</sup>**Those who love me, I will deliver;  
I will protect those who know my name.**

<sup>15</sup>When they call to me, I will answer them;  
I will be with them in trouble,

I will rescue them and honor them.

<sup>16</sup>**With long life I will satisfy them,  
and show them my salvation.**

**SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. <sup>2</sup>He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; <sup>3</sup>and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. <sup>4</sup>And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

<sup>5</sup>So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”;

<sup>6</sup>as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,  
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was

**WEEKLY CALENDAR of October 20, 2024**

***Today, October 20:***

**River Service 10:00am  
Coffee Hour 11:00am  
Voter Information Forum 11:15**

***Monday, October 21:***

**Needlework Group 9am**

***Tuesday, October 22:***

***Wednesday, October 23:***

**Women’s Bible Study 9am  
Living Water Service 6:15pm  
Church School, Confirmation**

***Thursday, October 24:***

**Quilting 1pm  
AA Meeting 8pm**

***Friday, October 25:***

**Wired Word 1:30pm**

***Saturday, October 26:***

**Men’s Bible Study 10am**

***Sunday, October 27:***

**River Service 10am  
Coffee Hour 11am  
Endowment Committee 11:15am  
Trunk or Treat Oct. 27 2pm**

**Upcoming Events**

**Knitting 4 Others Oct. 28**

**Confirmation Service Oct. 30 6:15pm**

## **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, Arvid Mugaas, Diane Klein, Peg Ahlness, Libby Martin, Kira Willadsen, Kerry Carpenter, Linda Marson, Lonnie Sunde, Jacob Hynek, Art Wheeler, Reece Fischer, Jeri Mutcher, Lindsey Steiger, Lyndon Jahner, Joel Crane, Paul Kuch, Christ Gerr, Sher Harildstad, Robyn Richter

### **For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—**

heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; <sup>9</sup>and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *“Thy Word”*

**GOSPEL READING: Mark 10:35-45**

<sup>35</sup>James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” <sup>36</sup>And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” <sup>37</sup>And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” <sup>38</sup>But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” <sup>39</sup>They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; <sup>40</sup>but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

<sup>41</sup>When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. <sup>42</sup>So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. <sup>43</sup>But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, <sup>44</sup>and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup>For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

**SERMON:** Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**SONG OF THE DAY:** *“Each Day”*

**APOSTLE’S CREED**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:** *“Open Our Eyes”*

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

## OFFERING PRAYER

*WE SHARE THE MEAL*

## PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

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

## INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER

**COMMUNION SONG:** *"On Eagle's Wings"* ELW 787

## COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**BENEDICTION:** *"The Lord Be With You"*

**SENDING SONG:** *"Great is the Lord"*

**DISMISSAL:** *"You Shine"*

**INTRODUCTION** Today's gospel starts with disciples obsessing over who will be closest to Jesus, leading to Jesus teaching his followers about God's take on importance and power. Here Jesus makes it explicit that the reversal of values in God's community is a direct challenge to the values of the dominant culture, where wielding power over others is what makes you great. When we pray "your kingdom come" we are praying for an end to tyranny and oppression. We pray this gathered around the cross, a sign of great shame transformed to be the sign of great honor and service.

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

**Pastor**—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**Scripture Reader**—Janet Doerner

**Ushers**— Lee Jensen, Tracy Wolf, Keven & Janice Martin

**Communion Assistants**—Ruth Jensen, Kay Koch, Myrtice Behan

**Altar Guild**— Heather Martin, Mavis Pommerer, Ruth Jensen, Suzanne Toso

**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 Sayler, 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