

Lutheran Church of the Cross
1004 E Highland Acres Rd.
Bismarck ND 58501

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Website: 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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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
December 1, 2024

10:00am

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
December 1, 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: “Canticle of the Turning”, “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus“,
“Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG: “Light One Candle to Watch For Messiah”

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE The Dahl family

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG : “Rejoice, Rejoice Believers” ELW 244

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

The tree is already set up for **Carrie’s Kids**. Boys jeans seem to be in high demand. With Christmas sales seem to running earlier each year stock up and save while helping to dress our children in need. Whether you take a “pant hanging ornament” off of the tree or not, all sizes are needed in regular, slim and husky. You needn’t wrap them. The bag you purchase them in is sufficient or no bag at all. Thank you for your generosity with this ministry that LCC supports.

Rev. Sondra, We considered ourselves so blessed that you help us out in so many ways. Thank you again for leading us today and being with us.

Thanks to the Dahls for being a part of the Advent candle lighting this morning.



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.
December: The Wish Book Christmas by Lynn Austin
January: What She Left Behind by Ellen Marie Wiseman
February: Montana 1948 by Larry Watson

You will find **posters** located throughout the building showing various **styles of apparel** that may be ordered with the LCC logo on them. The ordering is online only thru Dec. 2—16 and again later in the spring. The link/portal will be functional only during those times. This opportunity is in conjunction with Rally Day 2025 and the 70th Anniversary of LCC! (We will advertise the second ordering date again in the spring.)

From Patty Hanson...“Thank you for joining in the celebration of my birthday. It was such a fun time for me. Thank you for the well wishes, cards, and friendship throughout the years. It is a treasure to me”. Love, Patty Hanson

You will find the **sign up calendars** for “Heat the Church” on the round table. Thank you for supporting LCC in helping to keep the church warm during the cold winter months.

There is a sign up sheet in the narthex for **December’s Pancake and Sausage for Camp of the Cross**. That’s next week so sign up today.

Look for the **Cookie Walk poster** to sign up.

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 25:1-10

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

²O my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be put to shame;
do not let my enemies exult over me.

³Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;
let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth, and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all day long.

⁶Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.

⁷Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

⁸Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

⁹He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.

¹⁰All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *“Glory to God”*

GOSPEL READING: Luke 21:25-36

[Jesus said:] ²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

WEEKLY CALENDAR of December 1, 2024

Today, December 1:

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

Monday, December 2:

**Needlework Group 9am
Online Apparel Store starts**

Tuesday, December 3:

Wednesday, December 4:

**Advent Supper
Living Water Service
Church School, Confirmation**

Thursday, December 5:

**Quilting 1pm (last one for the
year)
AA Meeting 8pm**

Friday, December 6:

Wired Word 1:30pm

Saturday, December 7:

Men’s Bible Study 10am

Sunday, December 8

**River Service 10:00am
Pancake & Sausage Breakfast
Blue Christmas 4pm**

Upcoming Events

Online Apparel Store Dec. 2-16
Advent Suppers Dec. 4, 11, 18 see sign up sheets
Pancake & Sausage Breakfast COC Dec. 8
Blue Christmas Dec 8 4pm
Church Council Dec. 12 6:30pm
Cookie Walk Dec. 15
Caroling Dec. 22
Annual Mtg January 12, 2025

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, Earl Larson, Nancy Dockter, Lori Marx, Hattie Martinson, Carter Weigel, Josey Hanson, Heidi Renner, Kristy Forrest, JoDee Saylor, Arvid Mugaas, Diane Klein, 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, Carolyn Wegerle, Pr. Phil Leer, Leland Johnson, Peg Ahlness, Deb Carpenter, Meredythe Bagley

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—

Bob Roesler, Ruby McVane, Mary Grant

SERMON: Rev. Sondra Krogstad

SONG OF THE DAY: *“Christ Be Our Light” ELW 715*

APOSTLE’S CREED

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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING: *“Christmas Offering”*

OFFERING PRAYER



WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

LORD'S PRAYER: *Spoken*

INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG: *"Our Father"*

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION: *"Final Blessing"*

SENDING SONG: *"My Life Is In You"*

DISMISSAL: *"Blessed Be the Name of the Lord"*

Introduction

Advent is about the "coming days." God's people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a "righteous Branch to spring up for David." The Thessalonians awaited "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints." Jesus' contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man." With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

"THE RIVER" and "LIVING WATER" WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Deb Sargent

Ushers—Kay Koch, Keven & Janice Martin

Communion Assistants—Sheila Koffler, Mavis Pommerer, Mike Humann

Altar Guild—Jean Kraft, Donna Belisle, Cheryl Neu, Cherie Krueger

Faith and Care Group 2— Deb & Rod Sargent, Myrtice Behan

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