

Lutheran Church of the Cross  
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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

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*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

# The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

November 10, 2024

10:00am

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**“The River” Worship Service**  
**November 10, 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:** “Abide With Me” ELW 629, “Cornerstone”, “Here I Am to Worship”, “America the Beautiful”

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**GATHERING SONG :** “Blessed Assurance”

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

*WE HEAR GOD’S WORD*

**FIRST READING: 1 Kings 17:8-16**

<sup>8</sup> The word of the Lord came to [Elijah,] saying, <sup>9</sup> “Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” <sup>10</sup> So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” <sup>11</sup> As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” <sup>12</sup> But she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” <sup>13</sup> Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup> For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of

Come learn or teach how to **make lefse!** It has come to our attention that others besides our church school children are unfamiliar with the delectable Norwegian treat, lefse. We are hosting an afternoon of lefse making, novices and experts welcome! Sunday, Nov. 24, after worship, we will make some pizzas to eat for lunch while we set up. (Or feel free to run home if you like.) At 12:30 we plan to start the griddles—experts, please bring mats, rolling pins, an sticks if you can. All mistakes will be eaten—possible the best part! (Be prepared to get a little flour on your clothing.)

LCC will again be participating with St. George’s, UCC, Lord of Life, McCabe Methodist, Legacy Methodist, and Faith Lutheran at St. George’s for the **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service**, Tuesday, November 26 at 7 pm.

We will set up the tree around Thanksgiving time 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.

**Collaborative Heart Project** Come the next Sunday and Wednesday to the Sunday school classroom by the library and paint a heart that reflects you and it will (once it’s dried ) hang in the classroom just next to the Youth room. Some hearts are already hung in that classroom. (They are delightful!) All of the supplies, canvases and instructions are available. Don’t worry Rembrandts, Picasos, Salvadore Dalis aren’t needed just people with heart who love the Lord.



## **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

**Altar Focus for November**— Bears for the first responders in honor of Shiela Mugaas’ cousin Martha and her grandchildren. Bring the bears to worship. They will be blessed before being given away. Warm outer wear is being collected as well—gloves, hats, caps, mittens, scarves. Look for the basket to place the items in, in the narthex.

The **sixth graders** are collecting food/hygiene products for the little free food pantries one sees throughout Bismarck. Please bring the items here as they will deliver the items Nov. 13 to the various pantries.

It’s that time of the year again to **update your information in the directory**. So please initial your information if everything is correct or make the necessary changes. 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

**CHI** is putting on a workshop “**Finding Hope**” on navigating grief and the holidays Tuesday, November 19 6:30 pm. More information can be found on the poster on the bulletin board by the back door.

**Thank you Gerri Sarsten** for your creative fall bulletin board.

Come help **Patty Hanson** celebrate her 80th birthday Saturday, November 16 10 to noon in the Fellowship Hall.

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

**Missouri Slope** has sent to LCC, a year end report which is available to read. You will find it on the round table.

meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.”<sup>15</sup> She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days.<sup>16</sup> The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

### **RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 146**

1Praise the LORD!  
Praise the LORD, O my soul!  
**2I will praise the LORD as long as I live;  
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**  
3Do not put your trust in princes,  
in mortals, in whom there is no help.  
**4When their breath departs, they return to the earth;  
on that very day their plans perish.**  
5Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God,  
**6who made heaven and earth,  
the sea, and all that is in them;  
who keeps faith forever;**  
7who executes justice for the oppressed;  
who gives food to the hungry.  
The LORD sets the prisoners free;  
**8the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.  
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;  
the LORD loves the righteous.**  
9The LORD watches over the strangers;  
he upholds the orphan and the widow,  
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.  
**10The LORD will reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, for all generations.  
Praise the LORD!**

## SECOND READING: Hebrews 9:24-28

<sup>24</sup> Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. <sup>25</sup> Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; <sup>26</sup> for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. <sup>27</sup> And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, <sup>28</sup> so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

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

## GOSPEL READING: Mark 12:38-44

<sup>38</sup> As [Jesus] taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup> and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! <sup>40</sup> They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

<sup>41</sup> He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup> A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. <sup>43</sup> Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup> For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

## WEEKLY CALENDAR of November 10, 2024

**Today, November 10:**

**River Service 10:00am  
Coffee Hour 11:00am  
Endowment Committee 11:15am**

**Monday, November 11:**

**No Needlework Group 9am  
Veteran’s Day Office closed**

**Tuesday, November 12:**

**Wednesday, November 13:**

**Living Water 6:15pm  
Church School, Confirmation**

**Thursday, November 14:**

**Quilting 1pm  
AA Meeting 8pm**

**Friday, November 15:**

**Wired Word 1:30pm**

**Saturday, November 16:**

**Men’s Bible Study 10am**

**Sunday, November 17:**

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

### **Upcoming Events**

Lefse making Nov. 24 afternoon  
Pancake & Sausage Breakfast COC Dec. 8  
Blue Christmas Dec 8  
Cookie Walk Dec. 15  
Caroling Dec. 22

## **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, Peg Ahlness, Libby Martin, Kira Willadsen, Kerry Carpenter, Linda Marson, Lonnie Sunde, Jacob Hynek, Art Wheeler, Reece Fischer, Jeri Mutchler, Lindsey Steiger, Lyndon Jahner, Joel Crane, Paul Kuch, Christ Gerr, Sher Harildstad, Robyn Richter, Carolyn Wegerle, Pr. Phil Leer

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

Bob Roesler, Ruby McVane, Mary Grant

**SERMON:** Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**SONG OF THE DAY:** *“Take My Life That I May Be”* ELW 685

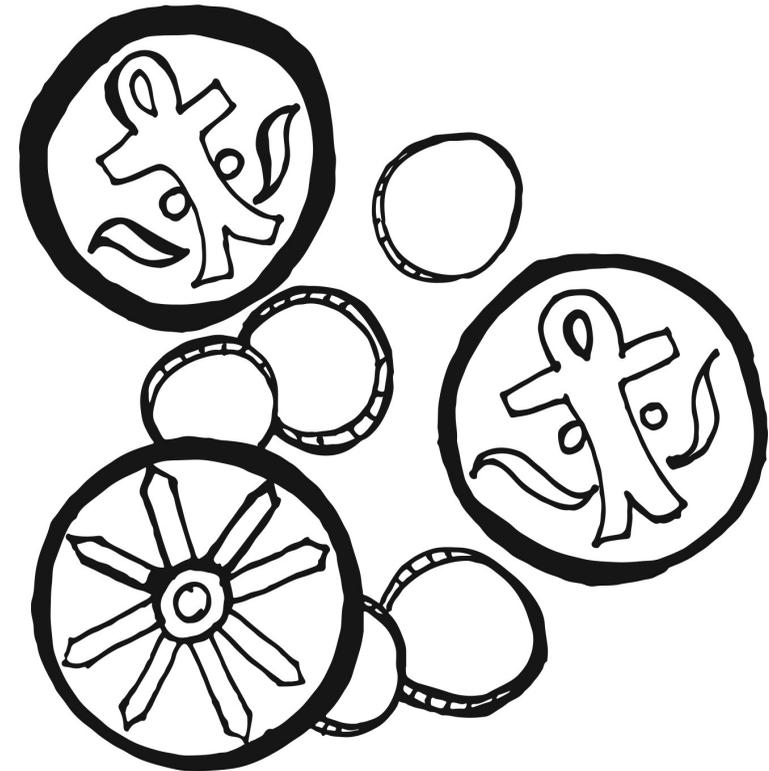
**APOSTLE’S CREED**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:** *“Holy Ground”*

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING:** *“We Are An Offering”* ELW 692

**OFFERING PRAYER**



## *WE SHARE THE MEAL*

### **PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL**

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

### **INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER**

**COMMUNION SONG:** *"Remember Me"*

### **COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION:** *"Benediction Song"*

**SENDING SONG:** *"Jesus Shall Reign" ELW 434*

**DISMISSAL:** *"My Country, 'Tis of Thee"*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Widows are visible everywhere in today's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows' houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn't see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance.

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

**Pastor**—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**Scripture Reader**—Sally Grenz

**Ushers**— Steve & Cheryl Neu, Mike & Tracy Geiermann,

**Communion Assistants**—Donna Belisle, Ruth Jensen, Melissa Long

**Altar Guild**— Cherie Krueger, Kelly Olson, Donna Belisle, Verlaine Jahner

**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 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