

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 24, 2024

10:00am

*“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”*

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**“The River” Worship Service**  
**November 24, 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:** “Seek Ye First”, “Blessings“, “Day By Day”

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETINGS OF PEACE**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**GATHERING SONG :** “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

*WE HEAR GOD’S WORD*

**FIRST READING:** Joel 2: 21-27

<sup>21</sup> Do not fear, O soil;  
be glad and rejoice,  
for the LORD has done great things!  
<sup>22</sup> Do not fear, you animals of the field,  
for the pastures of the wilderness are green;  
the tree bears its fruit,  
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.  
<sup>23</sup> O children of Zion, be glad  
and rejoice in the LORD your God;  
for he has given the early rain for your vindication,  
he has poured down for you abundant rain,  
the early and the later rain, as before.

**Children, young and old, adults young and old** come learn or teach how to **make lefse TODAY!** We are hosting an afternoon of lefse making after worship. We will make some pizzas to eat for lunch while we set up. At 12:30 we plan to start the griddles—experts, please bring mats, rolling pins, and sticks if you can. All mistakes will be eaten—possibly the best part! (Be prepared to get a little flour on your clothing.)

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.

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 just around the corner so sign up now!

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

**Altar Focus for November—** Bears for the first responders in honor of Shiela Mugaas’ cousin Martha and her grandchildren. Continue to fill up the church with bears to be a part of our 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.



## 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

**Thank you** to John Kraft and Rod Sargent for the fall clean-up outside. Your time is appreciated. The grounds look great (what we can see of them hidden under the recent snow.)

Century High School is putting on **“Elf The Musical”** this week Thursday— Sunday with evening performances at 7pm and Sunday’s matinee at 2pm. Three of our young people are involved. Seniors Bayne Blanchard is Walter Hobbs and Megan Bassingthwaite is playing Jovie at the Thursday and Saturday performances. Colton Harris is in the pit orchestra. Come out to support our youth and have an enjoyable evening. Tickets available at the door.

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 **Ecu-  
menical Thanksgiving Service**, Tuesday, November 26 at 7 pm.

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

**Camp of the Cross’ Annual Scandinavian Supper** is Saturday Nov. 23 at 5:30 Tickets \$40 available for purchase now.

<sup>24</sup>The threshing floors shall be full of grain,  
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

<sup>25</sup>I will repay you for the years  
that the swarming locust has eaten,  
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,  
my great army, which I sent against you.

<sup>26</sup>You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,  
and praise the name of the LORD your God,  
who has dealt wondrously with you.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.

<sup>27</sup>You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,  
and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other.  
And my people shall never again be put to shame.

### **RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 126**

<sup>0</sup>A Song of Ascents.

<sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,  
we were like those who dream.

<sup>2</sup>**Then our mouth was filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy;  
then it was said among the nations,  
“The LORD has done great things for them.”**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great things for us,  
and we rejoiced.

<sup>4</sup>**Restore our fortunes, O LORD,  
like the watercourses in the Negeb.**

<sup>5</sup>May those who sow in tears  
reap with shouts of joy.

<sup>6</sup>**Those who go out weeping,  
bearing the seed for sowing,  
shall come home with shouts of joy,  
carrying their sheaves.**

## SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

<sup>1</sup>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup>This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself a ransom for all — this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup>For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

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

## GOSPEL READING: Matthew 6:25-33

<sup>25</sup>“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup>Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup>And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? <sup>28</sup>And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup>yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. <sup>30</sup>But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you — you of little faith? <sup>31</sup>Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ <sup>32</sup>For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. <sup>33</sup>But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

## WEEKLY CALENDAR of November 24, 2024

**Today, November 24:**

**River Service 10:00am  
Coffee Hour 11:00am  
Pizza  
Lefse making 12:30pm**

**Monday, November 25:**

**Needlework Group 9am  
Knitting for Others 1:30pm**

**Tuesday, November 26:**

**Ecumenical Thanksgiving  
Service @ St. George’s 7pm**

**Wednesday, November 27:**

**No Services**

**Thursday, November 28:**

**Turkey Day! Hurray!  
Happy Thanksgiving!  
Office closed  
AA Meeting 8pm**

**Friday, November 29:**

**Office closed  
Wired Word 1:30pm ??**

**Saturday, November 30:**

**Men’s Bible Study 10am**

**Sunday, Dec. 1**

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

### **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

**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

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

Bob Roesler, Ruby McVane, Mary Grant

**SERMON:** Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**SONG OF THE DAY:** *“Count Your Blessings”*

**APOSTLE’S CREED**

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

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING:** *“We Are An Offering”*

**OFFERING PRAYER**



*WE SHARE THE MEAL*

**PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL**

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

**INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER**

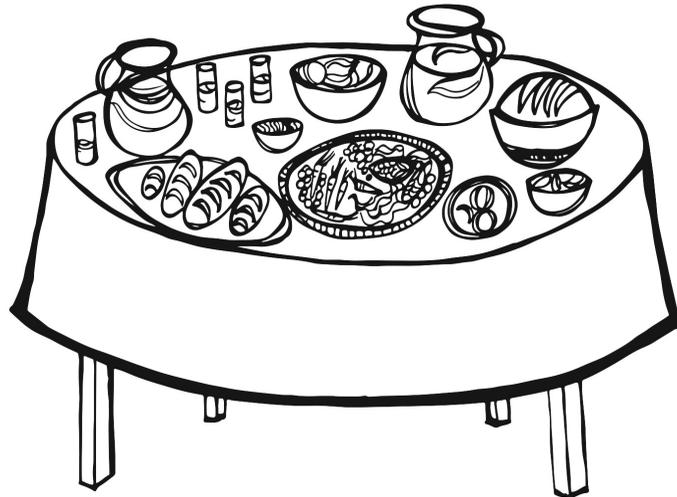
**COMMUNION SONG:** *"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*

**COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

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

**SENDING SONG:** *"Let All Things Now Living"* ELW 881

**DISMISSAL:** *"The River is Here"*



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

**Pastor**—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

**Scripture Reader**—Barb Wilson

**Ushers**—Steve & Cheryl Neu, John Kraft

**Communion Assistants**—Esther Anderson, Mavis Pommerer, Myrtice Behan

**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 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