

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

Phone: 223-1001

Website: www.churchofthecross.org

Winter Hours: Mon.– Thursday 8–3pm Fri 8 to noon

Summer Office Hours: Mon.- Fri. 8:00 am—noon

Staff:

Lisa Ahlness, **Pastor**

Cell: 220.9011 / lisaahlness@hotmail.com

Connie Werner, **Secretary** cell 400.5852

Office 223-1001 / churchsecretary@midconetwork.com

Art Wheeler, **Co-Treasurers**

527-9582/ lcctreasurer@midconetwork.com

Sarah Dahl, sarahdahlmba@gmail.com 226.6844

Peder Gulleon, **Sunday Worship Coordinator**

680.8787/theriver@midconetwork.com

Joel Crane, **Wednesday Worship Coordinator**

498-2604/cranejoel58@gmail.com

2025 Church Council Members

Scot Long, President, scotglong@gmail.com 400.2169

Mike Geiermann, Vice President, mgeiermann12@gmail.com 471.5122

Jessi Karvo, Secretary, jfish321@gmail.com 426.7439

Janice Martin, mrladyj2000@gmail.com 471.5600

Rod Sargent, randdebsarge@beu.midco.net 880.8238

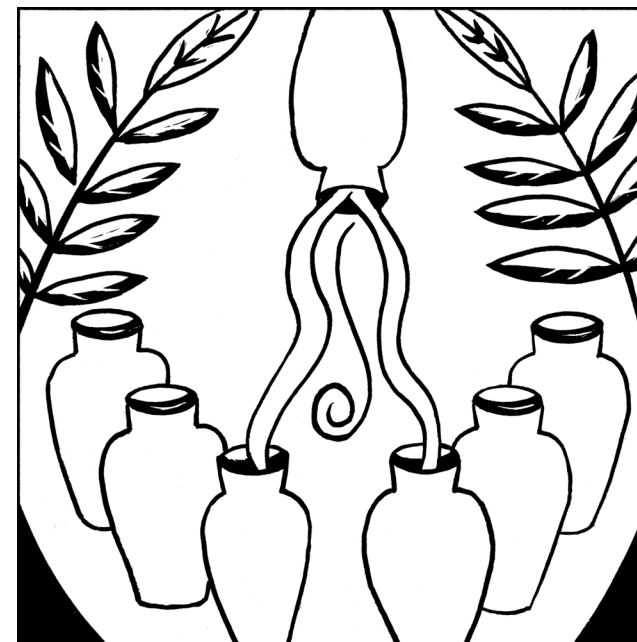
Molly Traynor, mkraynor@hotmail.com 202.0891

Kathryn Spilman, healthandskinbykathryn@gmail.com 527.6867

“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross
January 19, 2025

“Making Jesus Known by Sharing our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
January 12, 2025
Baptism of Our Lord Sunday

INTRODUCTION

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God’s glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan’s banks at Jesus’ baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God’s people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

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.

WE COME TOGETHER

PRELUDE: “Shout to the Lord”, “Trading My Sorrows”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG: “Come As You Are”

GREETINGS OF PEACE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: “I Love to Tell the Story”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Wanting more from LLC? Adult education committee is seeking interests in The Chosen Series- This drama about the life of Jesus Christ introduces Jesus and the calling of his initial disciples, with a discussion after each episode. Sign up is located in the Narthex. Watch groups and discussions start February 2025!

Time and Talents sheets are placed with the bulletins. Take one and fill it out. Or if you’d prefer just send an email to churchsecretary@midconetwork.com saying how you would like to help out the church. The expression “Many hands make light work” is so true. Your talents and skills are needed. Please return it to the secretary’s plastic bin by her door.

The **Emergency Food Pantry** is so appreciative of the food LCC has recently donated. They continue to need canned goods and other non perishable goods.

Community Winter Hymn Festival to be held Sunday, January 26th at 3pm at Trinity Lutheran Church. Everyone is invited.

Also at Trinity Lutheran Wednesday, January 22 @ 6:45pm. There will be a short panel discussion on “**Addition: It Affects Us All**” Three people will be participating in the discussion. Come and learn. Coffee served afterwards.

Thank you to Lillian Crook for the creative bulletin board! The lights are showing in this picture!



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.
February: Montana 1948 by Larry Watson

We thank **Rev. Brian Knutson** for sharing the “Word” today. We appreciate your presence with us.

The lovely **poinsettias** you see beautifully displayed in the sanctuary NEED to go to your home.

Who likes **treats**? We all do! Coffee just tastes better with a treat. If there are not treats out some Sundays.....well bake some and bring them to LCC. Sign up on the clipboards. Dishwashers are needed as well!

A NEW BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN IS IN THE WORKS!

In this 7 session study on the Gospel of John, Melissa Spoelstra will encourage you to slow down and linger with the living Word.

“Life. It seems to move at a break-neck pace. Days are filled with noise, screens, and appointments. Sometimes worry and fear are constant companions. The chaos can leave you looking for a place to be still, but that resting spot always seems to be an elusive destination. Jesus offers a different kind of life. He offers peace. He is peace.”

This study features 7 video sessions, 25– 30 minutes each, with 6 weeks of personal study to be completed during the 7 group sessions. The study is designed to be like a 3 legged stool; video, homework, and discussion. Of course you can tailor this to your needs, if time does not allow.

There will a be a sign up sheet in the narthex. Please include your phone number or call me at 701.880.8237 if you might be interested but have questions. We will discuss and choose a time that works for us; it may be early morning to early evening or anywhere in-between.

Thanks! Deb Sargent

We Hear God's Word

FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:1-5

As bridegroom and bride rejoice, so shall God rejoice over you

- ¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.
- ² The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
- ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
- ⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate;
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,
and your land Married;
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.
- ⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 36:5-10

We feast upon the abundance of your house, O Lord. (Ps. 36:8)

- ⁵Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.
- ⁶**Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
your judgments are like the great deep;
you save humans and animals alike, O LORD.**
- ⁷How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
- ⁸**They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**
- ⁹For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light.

**¹⁰O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,
and your salvation to the upright of heart!**

SECOND READING: 1Corinthians 12:1-11

There are a variety of gifts but the same Spirit

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.



Prayers, Births, Deaths, Concerns

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, JoDee Sayler, Arvid Mugaas, Diane Klein, Libby Martin, Kira Willadsen, Kerry Carpenter, Linda Marson, Lonnie Sunde, Jacob Hynek, Art Wheeler, Reece Fischer, Lindsey Steiger, Lyndon Jahner, Joel Crane, Paul Kuch, Christ Gerr, Sher Harildstad, Robyn Richter, Carolyn Wegerle, Pr. Phil Leer, Peg Ahlness, Deb Carpenter, Jeff Thomas, Dana Wheeler, Keaton Westlake, Brady Staloch, Austin Jamtgaard, Mark Thompson, Shirley Holder

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—Luella Clarence, Ed Kraft,

“THE RIVER” and “LIVING WATER” WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Cherie Krueger

Ushers—Larry & Verlaine Jahner, Mike & Tracy Geiermann

Communion Assistants—Kay Koch, Mavis Pommerer, Heather Martin

Altar Guild—Cherie Krueger, Sharon Narum, Valerie Kunze, Ruth Jensen

Faith and Care Group 3— Mavis Pommerer, Melissa & Jay Volk

River Worship Team—

Sound Board Technicians— Larry Wolf, Karen Will

Projection Team— Caden Kunze, Jace Kunze, Val Kunze, Rod Sargent,
Art Wheeler

Streaming Team— Mark Kunze, Karen Will, Art Wheeler

River Singers— Marlene Grabow, Sally Grenz, Cherie Krueger, AJ Marx,
Mark Murie, Amanda Sagsveen, Tom Wade

Percussionist— Kari Harris

Violinist—Fynn Sagsveen

Accompanists—Luke Weber, Gerri Sarsten, Jan & Joel Gilbertson

Sunday Worship Coordinator—Peder Gulleson

Living Water Worship Team

Living Water Singers—Caroline Collins, Keira Collins, Joel Crane,
Annabelle Ellison, Brandi Ellison, Amanda Sagsveen

Percussionist—Kari Harris

Guitarists— Kolton Harris, Joel Crane

Accompanist —Luke Weber

Sound—

Wednesday Worship Coordinator—Joel Crane

GOSPEL SONG: *“Thy Word”*

GOSPEL READING: John 2:1-11

The wedding at Cana

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” ⁴ And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.” ⁵ His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.” So they took it. ⁹ When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

SERMON Pastor Brian Knutson

SONG OF THE DAY *“Great is Thy Faithfulness”*

APOSTLES’ CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG: *“Welcome Table” ELW 576*

OFFERING PRAYER

WEEKLY CALENDAR of January 19, 2025

WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

LORD'S PRAYER: *Spoken*

INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG: *"We Walk by Faith"*

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG: *"Welcome Table"* ELW 576

DISMISSAL

Today, January 19:

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

Monday, January 20:

**Needlework Group 9am
Martin Luther King Jr Day**

Tuesday, January 21:

Wednesday, January 22:

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

Thursday, January 23:

**Quilting 1:00pm
AA Meeting 8pm**

Friday, January 24:

Wired Word 1:30pm

Saturday, January 25:

Men's Bible Study 10am

Sunday, January 26:

**River Service 10:00am
Coffee Hour 11:00am
Living Water practice 5pm**

Upcoming Events

Knitting 4 Others January 27