

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**

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“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross
April 27, 2025

“Making Jesus Known by Sharing our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
April 27, 2025

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.

INTRODUCTION

In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus’ victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

WE COME TOGETHER

PRELUDE: “We Walk by Faith” ELW 635, “I Will Call Upon the Lord”,
“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: “Blessed Be Your Name”

CHILDRENS SERMON

We Hear God’s Word

FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32
The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus

²⁷ When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, “We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man’s blood on us.” ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than any human authority.

WEEKLY CALENDAR of April 27, 2025

Today, April 27:	River Practice 9:00 am River Service 10:00am Coffee Hour 11:00am Living Water practice 5pm
Monday, April 28:	Needlework Group 9am Knitting for Others 1:30pm
Tuesday, April 29:	
Wednesday, April 30:	Supper 5pm Living Water Service 6:15pm Church School, Confirmation River Practice 7pm
Thursday, May 1:	Quilting 1:00pm AA Meeting 8pm
Friday, May 2:	Wired Word 1:30pm
Saturday, May 3:	Men’s Bible Study 10am
Sunday, May 4:	River Practice 9:00am River Service 10:00am Coffee Hour 11:00am Living Water practice 5pm

Upcoming Events

Gospel PraiSing FIESTA!

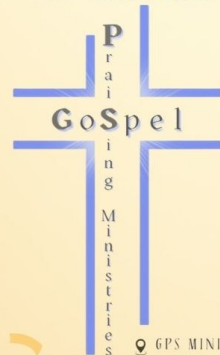
NOURISH THE BODY NOURISH THE SOUL

Mayas Mexican
Restaurant

1601 W. Century Ave
Bismarck
Lunch -order off menu



Christian Music
Presented by:
Colleen Reinhardt
Julie Ternes
& Guests



Presented By: Gospel PraiSing (GPS) Ministries
JULIE TERNES 701-226-0356

SUNDAYS
11:30AM-1:30PM

January 5th
January 19th
February 9th
February 23rd
March 9th
March 23rd
April 6th
April 27th
May 4th
May 18th
June 8th
June 22nd
August 24th-Gospel
PraiSing Festival

³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.

RESPONSIVE READNG: Psalm 118:14-29

You are my God, and I will exalt you. (Ps. 118:28)

14 The LORD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

15 There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the LORD does valiantly;

16 the right hand of the LORD is exalted;
the right hand of the LORD does valiantly."

**17 I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the LORD.**

18 The LORD has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.

**19 Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the LORD.**

20 This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.

**21 I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.**

22 The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

**23 This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, is coming

4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come,
and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ,
the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the
earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, 6 and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

7 Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “I Will Call Upon the Lord”

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

Beholding the wounds of the risen Christ

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Sunday Hosts and Dishwasher always needed! Fellowship time after Sunday worship is one of the highlights of the week for many of us. If you haven’t stayed—make an effort to calm your schedule for another half hour and join us. Of course, we could just drink coffee—but the treat proved by some,—cookies, donuts, breads, muffins—store bought or homemade—really add to the “flavor” of the time together. And naturally even just coffee cups need to be washed. Check your schedule and sign up for a Sunday, with a friend if you like to host or to wash dishes (training provided—it’s easy and quick!)

Foster with Nexus-PATH Family Healing

May is Foster Care Awareness Month, and at Nexus-PATH Family Healing there are lots of ways to help when and where you can in foster care. At any given time, there are around 30 children in North Dakota waiting for a foster home. We want every child to have a safe and loving home, and we are looking for individuals or families who are willing to provide that for a child.

To learn more about fostering or how you can help us support our foster families, reach out to Nexus-PATH Family Healing at NPH-info@nexuspath.org or visit our website at NexusPath.org. Your next step could be the start of a child's healing journey.

Thank you to Jean Kraft’s Confirmation class for creating the bulletin board. The creative, young women who came up with the design are: Libby Martin, Morgan Hocker, Keira Collins.



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.
May — This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger
June —The Forest of Vanishing Stars by Kristin Harmel
July — The Paris Library by Janet Skeslien Charles

Hey there, card players! Let’s play **Canasta!** Whether you're a pro or a newbie, I'll teach you the ropes! It's super easy to learn, and we'll meet once a month for some friendly competition and laughter.
Let’s shuffle up and deal! Who’s in? Let me know if you can join the fun!
Give me a call or text if interested. 701-226-6909
Charmaine Wehmhoefer

Most of the chairs have been cleaned this past week from the Fellowship Hall and Multi Purpose room.. Thanks to the Building committee for making the arrangements to have them cleaned by Steam Brite with John Kraft overseeing the process.

You may take the **Easter flowers** that you ordered home this week. The list is on the altar in case you have forgotten what you ordered.

Are you looking for a way to give back to the church in some small way but don’t know how? Consider donating your time by ushering, being the scripture reader or communion assistant. Those ministerial duties take moments of your time but add so much to the vitality of this church. Give the secretary a call and say “put me on the list please.” 223.1001.

I want to ‘Thank the Monday Morning Stitchers Group’ for their donation of cloth and time to make our new napkins under our centerpieces and crosses in the dinning area! These and others made by Kay Miller and Sandy Hyland will decorate our tables!
Thank you,
Sally Grenz

SERMON

SONG OF THE DAY: “Rock of Ages”

APOSTLES’ CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING SONG: *“Hosanna (Praise is Rising)”*

OFFERING PRAYER

WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

LORD’S PRAYER

INVITATION TO OUR LORD’S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG: *“Beautiful Savior”*

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG: *“I’m so Glad Jesus Lifted Me”* ELW 860

DISMISSAL

“THE RIVER” and “LIVING WATER” WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Kathy Drovdal

Ushers—Alex & Kathryn Spilman, Melissa & Scot Long

Communion Assistants—Kay Koch, Tracy Geiermann, Ken Will

Altar Guild—Cherie Krueger, Jean Kraft, Mavis Pommerer, Kathryn Spilman, Cheryl Neu

Faith and Care Group 4— Pam & Ron Lee, Molly & Ken Traynor

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— Joel Crane, Marlene Grabow, Sally Grenz, Doug Johnson, Cherie Krueger, AJ Marx, Mark Murie, Amanda Sagsveen, Tom Wade

Percussionist— Kari Harris

Violinist—Fynn Sagsveen

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

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, Peder Gulleson

Accompanist —Luke Weber

Sound—Peder Gulleson

Wednesday Worship Coordinator—Joel Crane

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, Diane Klein, Libby Martin, Kira Willadsen, Kerry Carpenter, Linda Marson, Lonnie Sunde, Jacob Hynek, Reece Fischer, Paul Kuch, Christ Gerr, Sher Harildstad, Peg Ahlness, Keaton Westlake, Brady Staloch, Austin Jamtgaard, Mark Thompson, Shirley Holder, Jerry Hanson, Claudia Thompson, Carolyn Wegerle, Joyce Wahl, Steve Krogstad, Jeff Christianson, Arvid Mugaas, Diane Stotz, Pete Barrett, Heather Martin

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—

Harry Schmidt

