

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

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2025 Church Council Members

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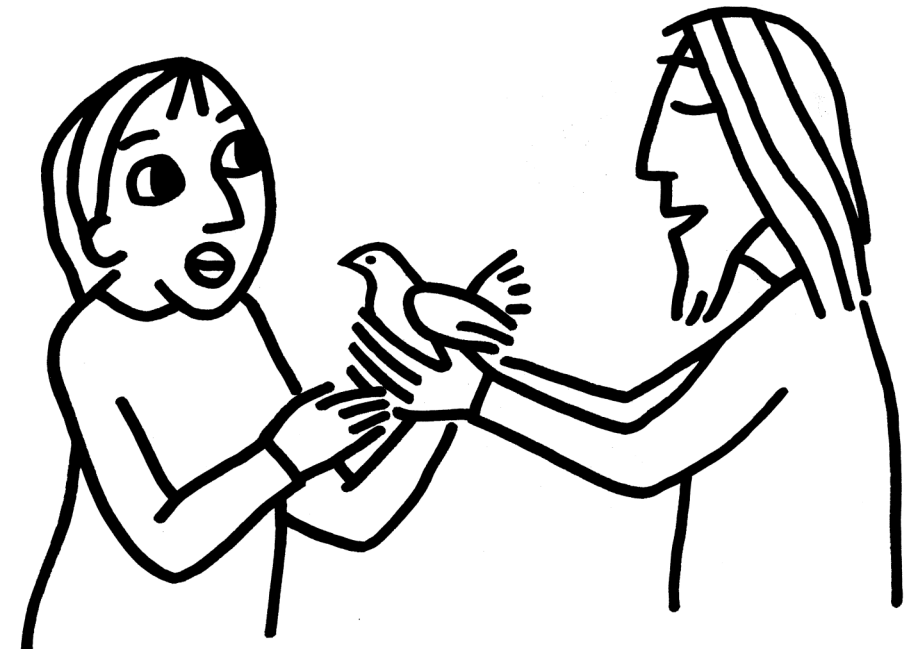
Molly Traynor, mktraynor@hotmail.com 202.0891

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“Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts”

The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

May 25, 2025

“Making Jesus Known by Sharing our Gifts”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS
“The River” Worship Service
May 25, 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

Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.

WE COME TOGETHER

PRELUDE: “Fruit of the Spirit”, “Gather Us”, “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

OUR CONFESSION, GOD’S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: “Kyrie Eleison”

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

We Hear God’s Word

FIRST READING: Acts 16:9-15

Lydia and her household are baptized by Paul

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

WEEKLY CALENDAR of May 25, 2025

Today, May 25:	River Practice 9:00 am River Service 10:00am <i>Honoring our grads</i> Coffee Hour 11:00am Living Water practice 5pm
Monday, May 26:	Memorial Day Office closed
Tuesday, May 27:	
Wednesday, May 28	River Practice 7pm
Thursday, May 29:	AA Meeting 8pm
Friday, May 30:	Wired Word 1:30pm
Saturday, May 31:	Men’s Bible Study 10am
Sunday, June 1:	River Practice 9:00am Coffee Hour 11:00am Living Water practice 5pm

Upcoming Events

Summer Picnics June 11, July 9 and August TBD

Gospel PraiSing FIESTA!

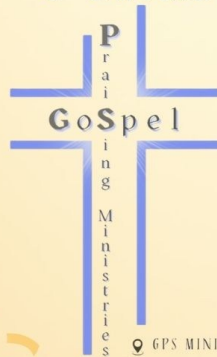
NOURISH THE BODY NOURISH THE SOUL

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

¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

RESPONSIVE READNG: Psalm 67

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy. (Ps. 67:4)

⁰To the leader: with stringed instruments. A Psalm. A Song.

¹May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,

Selah

²**that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.**

³Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.**

Selah

⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶**The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.**

⁷May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6

The Lamb is the light of the city of God

¹⁰ And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Are you a **prayer warrior**? We need you! We are revamping the LCC prayer chain, having lost several participants over the last few years. It is a simple phone tree. You will be called with a request to pray about, and then you will call the next person to pass on the request. Very easy to do from home, and vitally important. Call Connie at 223-1001 to be added to the pray-ers, or tell Pastor Lisa.

The **Emergency Food Pantry** is always looking for food donations. Summer-time is no different. The need is always great.

Camp of the Cross Ministries Prairie Lake Festival will be held Saturday, June 21 at camp inside the Fellowship Center located at 1228 47th Ave NW Garrison. Viewing of the quilts opens at 9:30am. Lunch begins at 10:30. The auction begins at 11:00am. There will be a silent auction as well.

Every Sunday during the summer Camp of the Cross will have an **outdoor worship service**. There is a community meal that follows the service each Sunday as well. The outdoor services run June 8—August 10 at 1228 47th Ave NW Garrison.

The **Church Council** will be meeting immediately after the summer picnics/ worship in June 11, July 9, August. TBD

No Stitchers Group or Knitting for Others on Memorial Day as the office and church will be closed. (May 26)



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.
June —The Forest of Vanishing Stars by Kristin Harmel
July — The Paris Library by Janet Skeslien Charles

Congratulations go to our graduating seniors! Megan Bassingthwaite daughter of Troy and Janet. Easton Bergrud, son of Aanen and Annie. Bayne Blanchard, son of Baron and Kylie. Maren Fike daughter of Michelle Fortney and Kelly Fike. Jace Kunze, son of Mark & Valerie. Ole Taylor, son of Nikki and Ryan. Kayla Tiffany, daughter of Mike & Dee.

Interested in golf? Checking to see if we could gather a few who love to play golf among LCC members, and play together from time to time this coming season! Please give me a call or text me and let’s see if there is interest. Pete Dickerson (new member) (607) 353-2965.

The **Stitching Group** which meets on Monday at 9am is always available to offer assistance on stitching projects. What we are also available for is laughter and light bantering back and forth between friends. Some come to stitch, knit, crochet or bead. Some come just to have coffee. Consider joining us. We will continue to meet during the summer.

Please pray for our church cleaner, Doug Sprynczynatyk, who was getting a heart test so he could have his shoulder surgery, and instead wound up having quadruple bypass surgery. He will be out of commission for some weeks. The good news is that it's summer, and the building is more lightly used. However, we would like to invite you to consider giving an hour here or there to help cover some basic tasks: emptying garbages, cleaning bathrooms, vacuuming traffic areas, and walking through the sanctuary to check it over.

As you can see, these are quite simple, particularly if several people step up to take a turn doing one thing or another, for instance: I can do bathrooms this week; could you round up trash? etc. Many hands make light work. Connie has a sign up list. Volunteers can do it whenever fits their schedule during office hours, or pick up a key.

GOSPEL SONG: *“Jesus Loves Me”* verse 1

GOSPEL: John 14:23-29

The Father will send the Holy Spirit

²³ Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

SERMON Pastor Lisa Ahlness

SONG OF THE DAY: *“Be Thou My Vision”*

APOSTLES’ CREED

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING SONG: *“Everybody’s Got Something to Offer”*

OFFERING PRAYER

WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO OUR LORD'S SUPPER

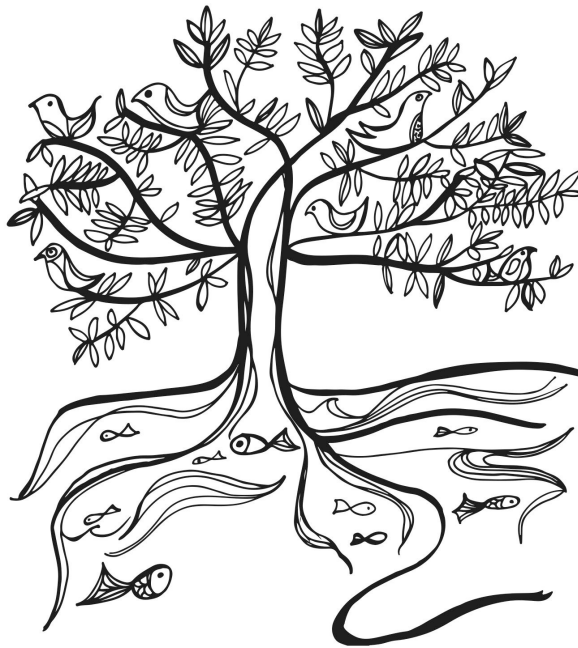
COMMUNION SONG: *"Come Just As You Are", "Immortal Invisible God Only Wise" ELW 834*

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG: *"My Lighthouse"*

DISMISSAL



"THE RIVER" and "LIVING WATER" WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Murray Sagsveen

Ushers—Joel & Suzanne Toso, Rich & Judi Fockler

Communion Assistants—Doug Johnson, Ruth Jensen, Verlaine Jahner

Altar Guild—Sarah Dahl, Suzanne Toso, Kelly Olson

Faith and Care Group 5—Kathy Wood, Kathryn & Alex Spilman

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, Paul Gurholt, 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, Reece Fischer, Paul Kuch, Christ Gerr, Sher Harildstad, Peg Ahlness, Keaton Westlake, Shirley Holder, Jerry Hanson, Claudia Thompson, Carolyn Wegerle, Joyce Wahl, Steve Krogstad, Jeff Christianson, Arvid Mugaas, Pete Barrette, Heather Martin, Audrey Hansen, Collette Ternes, Doug Sprynczynatyk, Barb Norby

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones—

Amanda Kist, Linda Schuman, Rene Olson Noel, Jacob Hynek