

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

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The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross

May 31, 2026

“Making Jesus Known by Sharing our Gifts”

“*Making Jesus Known By Sharing Our Gifts*”

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

May 31, 2026

The Holy Trinity

Introduction Though the word *trinity* is not found in the scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

We Come Together

PRELUDE: "We Walk by Faith", "Let Us Be the Church"

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

OUR CONFESSION, GOD'S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: "Take My Life That I May Be"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

We Hear God's Word

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1-2:4a

The creation of the heavens and the earth

¹ When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Gospel PraiSing Fiesta!

Nourish the Body

Mayas Mexican
Restaurant



1601 W. Century Ave. Bismarck, ND
Lunch - order off menu
(patron's expense)

Nourish the Soul

SUNDAYS

11:30 AM-1:30 PM

Christian Music
presented by:
Colleen Reinhardt
Julie Ternes
& Guests

May 17 - Kelley Reuer

May 31 - Steve Harmon

June 7 - Brian Saylor

June 28 - David Sorenson/Traci Juhala

July 12 - Debi Rogers

July 26 - Mya Tena

August 9 - On the Brink

August 23 - Gospel PraiSing Festival
with Natalie Layne



Free-will donations in May through August
assist Abused Adult Resource Center (AARC)

Presented by: Gospel PraiSing (GPS) Ministries
Julie Ternes 701-226-0356

June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 9a R.Practice 10am River Service 11am Coffee	1 Stitching 9am	2 Kids Corner 9- 10:30	3	4	5 No Wired Word	6 Men's Bible Study 10
7 9a R.Practice 10am River Service 11am Coffee	8 Stitching 9am	9 Kids Corner 9- 10:30	10 Church Picnic 5:15 Worship 6:15 Council 7 pm	11	12 1:30 Wired Word	13 Men's Bible Study 10 am
14 9a R.Practice 10am River Service 11am Coffee	15 Stitching 9am	16 Kids Corner 9- 10:30	17 Book Club 1:30 Father & Sons Burgers 5:30pm	18 Gather Bible Study 10:30am	19 1:30 Wired Word	20 Men's Bible Study 10 am
21 9a R.Practice 10am River Service 11am Coffee	22 Stitching 9am	23 Kids Corner 9- 10:30	24	25	26 1:30 Wired Word	27 Men's Bible Study 10am
28 9a R.Practice 10am River Service 11am Coffee	29 Stitching 9am	30 Kids Corner 9- 10:30				

⁶ And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷ So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸ God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹ And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹ Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴ And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶ God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰ And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹ So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³ And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴ And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵ God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind and the cattle of every kind and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of

the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

²⁷ So God created humans in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” ²⁹ God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰ And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1} Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. ² On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³ So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

^{4a} These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 8:

How majestic is your name in all the earth! (*Ps. 8:1*)

¹ O LORD, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the heavens.

² **Out of the mouths of babes and infants
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,
to silence the enemy and the avenger.**

Camp of the Cross camp counselors will be leading the Vacation Bible School over at First Lutheran Church 408 9th St NW Mandan from 9 to 4 pm June 1st through June 3. Your children are invited to attend. Kindergarten—6th grade Cost is \$20/child or \$40/family. You may register at <http://bit.ly/VBS2026FLM>

Camp of the Cross Scholarships Available

Did you know that we want everyone to be able to go to Bible camp?! It is a fun and even transformative experience! LCC has camp scholarships available. If you are attending another Bible camp, just let the treasurer know. Contact Art Wheeler or Sarah Dahl for more information and to receive scholarships!

Kids Corner at Lutheran Church of the Cross!

We're excited to offer a relaxed and welcoming playtime in our newly furnished nursery for babies, toddlers, and their caregivers. It's a great space to connect with other families while the little ones play and explore.. Whether you're part of our church family, new to the area, or simply looking for a friendly place to meet other parents and caregivers, you are warmly invited! Tuesday in June 9:00—10:30 am. Parking lot and entrance on the west side. We'd love to see you there!

Altar Focus – June: Helping Specialty Campers with LWR kit items

Pastor Michon Weingartner has joined Camp of the Cross staff recently and will be assisting Deacon Janie Hague in leading camp programs. Pastor Michon has long led some of the specialty camps at CCM, which include art, creative writing, fishing, guitar and ukelele, whittling and trekkers camps) and is starting something new this year by having those campers help put together school kits and health care kits for Lutheran World Relief. You and I have had some experience with kits, but these students may not have! To that end, Pastor Michon is asking if our congregation would help by donating some items toward these kits. Items for the health kits are needed by June 21; the school kits will be put together the first week of August, so hit the sales on school supplies when they start to happen. Lists of items needed are in the narthex.

****Look Ahead: Altar Focus in July/August will be items for baby care kits and school kits! Watch for rummage sales and school sales!****

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. Anyone is welcome to attend. Led by Marjo Hewitson followed by her fearless readers.

June—Wild Dark Shores by Charlotte McConnaghy

July—Atmosphere by Taylor Jenkins Reid

August—Hamnet by Maggie O’Farrell

Vacation Bible School August: August 9-11 5:30—7:30

The theme is Exploring God’s Creation in the Alaskan Wilderness. Games, songs, stories and fun filled activities are planned. There is a sign up in the narthex. You may also call the office. Volunteers are needed also for this adventure. It will be held here in conjunction with UCC.

Time for summer reading: On the table in the narthex is a variety of reading material for adults and children alike. Please feel free to take some or share with others.

Lee Jensen is turning 90 May 29th. Come celebrate with him today during coffee hour. Have a cup of coffee and cheer him on.

Someone else who just celebrated their 90th was **Jim Hewitson!**

Father and Sons Get Together

LCC celebrates everyone so on June 17th starting at 5:30 we will celebrate our fathers and sons with a Father and Son Burgers and Root Beer supper. We will have a speaker, games, and prizes. There is a signup sheet at the front and back in the narthex. Everyone is welcome.

Who can help **usher**, be a **communion assistant** or a **scripture reader** this summer? Volunteer. Call the office. Send an email with the dates you can help.

³ When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you have established;

⁴ **what are humans that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them?**

⁵ Yet you have made them a little lower than God
and crowned them with glory and honor.

⁶ **You have given them dominion over the works of your
hands;**

you have put all things under their feet,

⁷ all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,

⁸ **the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**

⁹ O LORD, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Paul’s farewell to the church at Corinth

[Paul writes:] ¹¹ Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹² Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

¹³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

GOSPEL SONG: “The Gospel Acclamation”

GOSPEL: Luke 10:1-9

“After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way, See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house!’ And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people

“Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’”

SERMON: video presentation

SONG OF THE DAY: “Will You Come and Follow Me”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING SONG: “For Such a Time as This”

OFFERING PRAYER

WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

LORD’S PRAYER Sung

INVITATION TO OUR LORD’S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG: “Welcome Table”

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG: “We Are Called”

“THE RIVER” and “LIVING WATER” WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor—Pastor Lisa Ahlness

Scripture Reader—Cherie Krueger

Communion Assistants—Sheila Koffler, Roger & Esther Anderson

Ushers—Keven & Janice Martin, Kathryn & Alex Spilman

Altar Guild— Sarah Dahl, Suzanne Toso, Kelly Olson

Faith and Care Group 5—Kathryn & Alex Spilman, Peter & Mary Dickerson

River Worship Team—

Sound Board Technicians— Larry Wolf, Karen Will

Projection Team— Val Kunze, Rod Sargent, Art Wheeler

Streaming Team— Mark Kunze, Karen Will, Art Wheeler

River Singers— Joel Crane, Mike Geiermann, Marlene Grabow, Sally

Grenz, Paul Gurholt, Glen Hyland, Doug Johnson, Cherie Krueger, AJ

Marx, Kathy Morrison, Mark Murie, Deb Patterson, Amanda Sagsveen

Percussionist— Kari Harris

Violinist—Fynn Sagsveen

Accompanists—Luke Weber, Gerri Sarsten, Eve Kath

Sunday Worship Coordinator—Peder Gulleson

Living Water Worship Team

Living Water Singers—Bria Blanchard, 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

For those struggling with health and other concerns:

Tracy Martinson, Earl Larson, Nancy Dockter, Hattie Martinson, Heidi Renner, Diane Klein, Libby Martin, Kira Willadsen, Sher Harildstad, Shirley Holder, Jerry Hanson, Joyce Wahl, Jeff Christianson, Pete Barrette, Heather Martin, Daryl Hodnefield, Jagger Lindsey, Emmett Wolf, Don Becker, Dave Kunze, Marvin Leer, Janie Hague, Ken Will, Laurie Stenehjem, Breezy Uffelman, Jim Moore, Jason Kraft, Mark Doerner, Mike Doerner

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones: Lorna Mathais, Arvid Mugaas