The River

A Blended Worship Service



Lutheran Church of the Cross
November 1, 2026

"Making Jesus Known by Sharing our Gifts"

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All Saints Day

Introduction All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

We Come Together

PRELUDE: "Shout to the Lord", "For All the Saints"

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS OF PEACE

OUR CONFESSION, GOD'S FORGIVENESS

GATHERING SONG: "Praise and Thanksgiving"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

We Hear God's Word

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

9 After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every
nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before
the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. 10 They cried out in a loud
voice, saying,
"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!"
11 And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living
creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 singing,
"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honor
and power and might
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."
13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" 14 I said to him, "Sir, you are the one who knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
15 For this reason they are before the throne of God
and worship him day and night within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
16 They will hunger no more and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat,
17 for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

RESPONSIVE READING: **Psalm 34:1-10,22**

1 I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
2 My soul makes its boast in the Lord;
let the humble hear and be glad.
3 O magnify the Lord with me,
and let us exalt his name together.
4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.
5 Look to him, and be radiant,
so your faces shall never be ashamed.
6 This poor soul cried and was heard by the Lord
and was saved from every trouble.
7 The angel of the Lord encamps
around those who fear him and delivers them.
8 O taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are those who take refuge in him.
9 O fear the Lord, you his holy ones,
for those who fear him have no want.
10 The young lions suffer want and hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

22 The Lord redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

SECOND READING **1 John 3:1-3**

1 See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and
that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.
2 Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What
we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.
3 And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

GOSPEL SONG: "Open Our Eyes Lord"

GOSPEL: **Matthew 5:1-12**

1 When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his
disciples came to him. 2 And he began to speak and taught them, saying:
3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
5 "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is
the kingdom of heaven.
11 "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of
evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in
heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

SERMON: Pastor Lisa Ahlness

APOSTLES' CREED

SONG OF THE DAY: "Living Hope"

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING SONG: “Precious Lord Take My Hand”

OFFERING PRAYER

WE SHARE THE MEAL

PREPARATION FOR THE MEAL

LORDS’ PRAYER

INVITATION TO OUR LORD’S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG: “Unwavering”,

COMMUNION BLESSING/POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG: “O When the Saints Go Marching In”



THE RIVER" AND "LIVING WATER" WORSHIP MINISTERS

Pastor-Pastor Lisa Ahlness
Scripture Reader-Deb Sargent
Communion Assistants-Sally Grenz, Melissa Long, Deb Sargent
Ushers- Scot & Melissa Long, John Kraft
Altar Guild-Mavis Pommerer, Kathryn Spilman, Ruth Jensen, Suzanne Toso
Faith & Care Group 1- Janet & Troy Bassingthwaite, Annie & Aanen Bergrud
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**-Gerri Sarsten, Eve Kath, Noura Eldredge
- **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**-Joel Crane, Peder Gulleson
- **Accompanist**:-Noura Eldredge
- **Sound**-Peder Gulleson
- **Wednesday Worship Coordinator**-Joel Crane

Prayers: For those struggling with health and other concerns:
Earl Larson, Nancy Dockter, Heidi Renner, Diane Klein, Libby Martin, Kira Willadsen, Sher Harildstad, Shirley Holder, Joyce Wahl, Jeff Christianson, Heather Martin, Daryl Hodnefield, Jagger Lindsey, Emmett Wolf, Don Becker, Dave Kunze, Marvin Leer, Ken Will, Laurie Stenehjem, Breezy Uffelman, Jim Moore, Mark Doerner, Mike Doerner, Sandy Hyland, Liam Keller, Dezaray Hultin Kitzman, Chuck Rydell, Jordan Sargent, Karen Will, Pat Schmidt, Kennedy Belley

For those dealing with the death of these loved ones: Noah Miller, Delores Martin

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.
November—The Book Club for Troublesome Women by Marie Bostwick
December— A Happier Life by Kristy Harvey
January—The Things We Never Say by Elizabeth Strout

Prayer Vigil for Peace
on the eve of elections
When: Monday, Nov, 2 7- 7:45pm
Where: Bismarck United Church of Christ

We remember our loved ones who have passed this year. Josey Hanson, Jerry Hanson and Jackie Kraft Kolpack.

Dia de los Muertos + Taize
November 1, 2026
5 pm Dinner & Day of the Dead Program
6pm Taize Worship
at
St. George's Episcopal Church

Celebrating the life of those no longer with us. Everyone is welcome and invited to bring photos of deceased loved ones to display during dinner. Co-hosted by UCC & St. George's

Health Information Fair for older Adults, their Families and Caregivers@ MSLLC
Come connect, learn and discover valuable information about services and resources to support you or your loved one if and when they need it.20+venders will be available to answer your questions.

Try our Bistro for Lunch Tuesday, November 3 – 10:30 am – 2:30 pm A presentation by the ND Alzheimer's Association will take place at 11:00 in the Missouri Slope Chapel

Lutheran Church of the Cross

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

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