



The LORD is with us  
wherever we go

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*American Lutheran Church (ALC)*

215 Ninth Street SE • Long Prairie, Minnesota

Pastor Ethan Fearing • Phone 732-2932

Kari Christians, Youth & Family/Music Ministry Coordinator

[americanlutheranchurch.org](http://americanlutheranchurch.org)

✦ Please stand as you are able.

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♪ Prelude “Heart of Worship”

*We prepare for worship.*

Welcome and the Sharing of God’s Peace

✦ Confession and Forgiveness

PASTOR: LORD God, we are lost and confused. Even when we think we have everything figured out, we don’t.

**ALL: Who am I? Why am I here? What’s the point? How can there be so much pain and so many problems in my life?**

PASTOR: It’s all such a blur! We can’t see clearly at all.

**ALL: But You can see, LORD, so dispel the fog! Clear up to confusion, showing us Your way through this world.**

PASTOR: God came as Jesus Christ to share His way, to teach it. Then, by His death on a cross and return to life three days later, He did the impossible work of making that new way of life possible. God offers you that eternal life this morning, along with His guidance, and that is why we worship Him!

Prayer of the Day

**ALL: Loving God, be patient with us. We fail and forget to search for answers in the Bible – in Your Word – and we don’t often listen for Your Spirit’s guidance. We are listening now, so speak to us. Amen.**

♪ Opening Song “All Who Are Thirsty”

**All who are thirsty, all who are weak  
Come to the fountain; dip your heart in the stream of life  
Let the pain and the sorrow be washed away  
In the waves of His mercy as deep cries out to deep  
We sing:**

**“Come, Lord Jesus, come! Come, Lord Jesus, come!”**

♪ Song “Days of Elijah”

**These are the days of Elijah,  
Declaring the Word of the LORD.  
And these are the days of Your servant Moses,  
Righteousness being restored.  
And though these are days of great trial,  
Of famine and darkness and sword,  
Still we are the voice in the desert crying,  
“Prepare ye the way of the Lord!”**

**Behold He comes, riding on the clouds,  
Shining like the sun at the trumpet call!  
So, lift your voice; it’s the year of Jubilee  
And out of Zion’s hill salvation comes!**

**And these are the days of Ezekiel,  
The dry bones becoming as flesh.  
And these are the days of the son of David,  
Who’s building a temple of praise.  
And these are the days of the harvest,  
The fields are as white in Your world!  
And we are the laborers in Your vineyard  
Declaring the Word of the LORD!**

**There’s no God like You, Jesus! (*repeat x 7*)**

First Reading

*Ecclesiastes 1:2-4, 9-14*

Psalm 119:81-83, 135-136

READER: 81 Waiting for Your rescue wears me out, O LORD!

**ALL: Though I still put my hope in Your Word.**

READER: 82 My eyes are straining to see Your promises come true.

**ALL: When will You comfort me?**

READER: 83 I am shriveled like a wineskin in the smoke...

**ALL: ...but I still remember to follow Your decrees.**

READER: 135 Look at me with Your love,

and teach me Your way of life!

**ALL: <sup>136</sup> Rivers of tears gush from my eyes  
because it is human nature  
to disobey Your instructions.**

Second Reading

*1 Corinthians 13:9-13*

✦ The Gospel, God's Good News

*Matthew 13:10-13*

Sermon "Smoke and Mirrors"

♪ Response Song "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

**Lord, the light of your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us!  
Set us free by the truth You now bring us  
Shine on me, shine on me!**

**Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory!  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire!  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy!  
Send forth Your Word  
LORD, and let there be light**

**LORD, I come to Your awesome presence  
From the shadows into Your radiance  
By the blood I may enter Your brightness  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness  
Shine on me, shine on me!**

**As we gaze on Your kingly brightness  
So our faces display Your likeness  
Ever-changing from glory to glory  
Mirrored here, may our lives tell Your story  
Shine on me, shine on me!**



♪ Our Offering of Worship “Jesus Loves Me – Alleluia”

**Jesus loves me, this I know  
For the Bible tells me so  
Little ones to Him belong  
They are weak, but He is strong – alleluia!**

**Alleluia, allelu–  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, allelu–  
Alleluia, allelu–, alleluia!**

**Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now am found  
Was blind but now I see – alleluia!**

**Onward, Christian soldiers  
Marching as to war,  
With the cross of Jesus  
Going on before – alleluia!**

Prayers of the People

PASTOR: LORD, in Your mercy...

ALL: ...hear our prayer.

The Lord’s Prayer

**ALL: Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory forever and ever! Amen.**

Benediction

*A word of blessing.*

♪ Closing “Tuna Oomba”

LEADER: Tuna oomba moongu ah ta wa lay,

**ALL: Tuna oomba moongu ah ta wa lay.**

LEADER: Tuna oomba moongu ah ta wa lay,

**ALL: Tuna oomba moongu ah ta wa lay.**

LEADER: Ah-ay!

**ALL: Ah-ay! Ah ta wa lay.**

**Tuna oomba moongu ah ta wa lay.**

LEADER: Ah-ay!

**ALL: Ah-ay! Ah ta wa lay.**

**Tuna oomba moongu ah ta wa lay.**

*(Other verses)* **Makoszi, Roho, Bwana**

Sending Song “Indescribable”

Postlude

*We depart in peace, ready to serve the LORD!*

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**The Mission Statement of American Lutheran Church**

Led by the Holy Spirit and strengthened by the Gospel of Jesus Christ,  
we seek to make the Kingdom of God real and present in our  
world through ongoing worship, witness, and service.



## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP!**

**Visitors are welcome to sign our guest book** in the narthex gathering area. If you are looking for a church home, please contact Pastor Ethan or talk to one of the ushers about our American Lutheran Church family!

**Our current prayer list includes** Deb Adamek, Marlys Arenson, Olivia Beekman, Lee Fearing, Rich Hillman, Lyndy Holmquist, Stephanie James, Kay Larson, Lyle Lubbers, Linda Maus, Rose Thorp, and Sharon Wieggers.

**Today’s KEYL Radio Broadcast** of our worship service is sponsored by Doris Peterson in memory of husband, Lloyd. Thank you for ensuring God’s Word can reach people over the airwaves!

If you would like to sponsor a broadcast, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex. The cost is \$75. Thank you!

**Please consider** signing up to serve as an usher or greeter. Sign-up sheets are on the wall in the back of the sanctuary. See Mark and Teresa Pachan, Head Ushers, with any questions.

### **Bible Readings for Next Week: September 5, 2021**

1 Kings 11:26-32                      1 Corinthians 1:10-13

Psalms 145:8-13                      Luke 9:51-56

Sermon Title: “Division”

### **Worship Leaders**

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Deacon: Larry Adamek

Reader: Marvin Poegel

Acolyte: Carlie Eichens

Usher: Liza Hasse



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The September issue of The Daily Walk and copies of Our Daily Bread** are on the small table at the rear of the sanctuary.

**Help! We need people to help usher on Sunday mornings.** Please sign up on the sheet at the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you!

### **Teachers for Sunday School**

Do you enjoy spending time with children? Are you looking for an impactful way to share the love of Jesus with others? If so, American Lutheran Church is looking for Sunday School teachers for the following age groups:

2 years old - kindergarten

1st grade - 3rd grade

4th grade - 6th grade

If God has put it on your heart to teach, please reach out to a Board of Ed member (Jody Ellingson, Julie Atkinson, Laurie Barthel, Alyssa Fearing) or contact the Church office.



## **CHURCH OUTREACH**

**Missionaries:** Dan and Nancy Butkowski; Dwight and Dorothy Hazard; Chris Mikkelson.

**Prayer Partners** is our confidential chain of prayer. To request a prayer, send an e-mail to [prayer@americanlutheranchurch.org](mailto:prayer@americanlutheranchurch.org). If you would like your name added or removed from the Prayer Partners' e-mail list, contact Patty Ostendorf or Becky Hillig.

**Our Mission Focus for the month of August** is our radio broadcast ministry through KEYL. We are thankful for all of you who are willing to support this with your donations.

### **Weekly Report:**

General Fund receipts for last week: \$3,214.00

General Fund budgeted weekly needs: \$4,617.37

General Fund Year to Date (YTD) as of 7/31/21:

Budgeted needs: \$138,808.60

Receipts: \$116,162.11

Actual expenses: \$122,486.12

### **Contact Information:**

Pastor Ethan Fearing (320) 874-0104

Youth & Family/Music Coordinator Kari Christians (320) 533-3021

Church Secretary Lori Zellmann (320) 732-2932

General E-mail: [americanlutheranchurchlp@gmail.com](mailto:americanlutheranchurchlp@gmail.com)

Website: [americanlutheranchurch.org](http://americanlutheranchurch.org)

Facebook Page: American Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship Livestream: on Facebook

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# YOUTH & FAMILY

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August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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SAVE  
THE  
DATE

September 12<sup>th</sup>: First Day of Sunday School

September 15<sup>th</sup>: Quest Kids Kickoff!

September 22<sup>nd</sup>: See You at the Pole

September 22<sup>nd</sup>: Family Night Suppers begin

## SERVE WITH US!

We have opportunities for you to partner with families in our church!

We are looking for volunteers in the following areas:

- Wednesday night elementary programming
- Family night supper teams
- 7-12 grade youth events
- Sunday morning Sunday school teachers

Please talk with Kari Christians to see how you can engage with these ministries!

*How's life? Want to talk about it?*

*Feel free to contact me.*

**Kari Christians (320)533-3021**

**karichristians@yahoo.com**

Coming this fall, in partnership with  
First Baptist Church:

## Quest Kids!

- Bible lessons •
- Music •
- Games •
- Snacks •

Ages 4 years-6<sup>th</sup> grade

Fall kickoff event is  
**September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm**

Bring the whole family out  
for this fun kickoff to  
kids ministry!

Program will be held every  
Wednesday from 6-7:30 at the  
First Baptist Church.

Any questions? Contact Kari!

## Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

- Sun. Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>**     **9:00 am Outdoor Worship Service with Potluck  
Following Service**  
**10:15 am** Board of Education Meeting  
**1:00 pm** Norma Fox Celebration of Life
- Mon. Aug. 30<sup>th</sup>**     **1:00 pm** Youth Worship Team Practice
- Tue. Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>**     **9:00 am** Staff Meeting
- Wed. Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>**     **6:00 pm Worship Service with Communion**  
**6:00 pm** Worship Team Practice  
**7:00 pm** Choir Practice  
**8:00 pm** Deacons Meeting
- Sun. Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>**     **9:00 am Worship Service with Communion**

Sunday worship services are radio broadcast on KEYL 1400 AM and 103.1 FM, live-streamed on Facebook, and posted with video recordings of services later on website.