

Barn and wagon wheel @Imagine Golf, courtesy iStock • Printed in USA



*Set your
affection
on things above*

COLOSSIANS 3:2

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

✦ Please stand as you are able. WOV: *With One Voice*, the blue hymn book.
LBW: *Lutheran Book of Worship*, the green hymn book.

Prelude Music

We prepare our hearts for worship.

Welcome and the Sharing of God's Peace

✦ Confession and Forgiveness

Page 56 LBW

PASTOR: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

PASTOR: Almighty God, to Whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

PASTOR: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for personal reflection.

PASTOR: Most merciful God...

ALL: ...we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart: we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen.

Announcement of forgiveness.

♪ Opening Hymn "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

#055 LBW

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

ALL: And also with you.

♪ The Kyrie, a Prayer for Mercy

PASTOR: In peace, let us pray to the LORD.

ALL: LORD, have mercy.

PASTOR: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the LORD.

ALL: LORD, have mercy.

PASTOR: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the LORD.

ALL: LORD, have mercy.

PASTOR: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the LORD.

ALL: LORD, have mercy.

PASTOR: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious LORD.

ALL: Amen!

♪ Hymn of Praise

PASTOR: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth!

ALL: LORD God, heavenly King, Almighty God and Father: We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, LORD God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

♪ A Hopeful Blessing

PASTOR: The LORD be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

ALL: Almighty God, You weigh and measure each of our lives, counting every one of us as precious. Help me to value my existence in the same way, to do well and good in the moments given to me, both now and forever! Amen.

First Reading

Daniel 5:1-7

Psalm 62:9, 11-12

READER: ⁰⁹ Common people have as much weighed value as a puff of wind...

ALL: ...and the powerful are not what they appear to be.

READER: If you weighed them together on the scales...

ALL: ...they would be lighter than a breath of air.

READER: ¹¹ But God has said it plainly,
and I have heard the truth often enough to repeat it now:
Power, O God, belongs to You!

ALL: ¹² Unfailing love, O LORD, is Yours.

READER: And so, we know You repay all people according to what they have done.

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 13:5

✦ 🎵 Reading Response

Page 62 LBW

ALL: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

🎵 The Gospel, God's Good News

Page 63 LBW

PASTOR: This is the holy gospel of Mark, the eighth chapter.

ALL: Glory to You, O LORD!

Mark 8:34-38

PASTOR: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to You, O Christ!

Children's Sermon

Sermon “The Writing’s on the Wall”

✦ The Apostles Creed

Page 65 LBW

ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of Heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

♪ Offering Hymn “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

#054 LBW

✦ ♪ The Offering Response

Page 75 LBW

ALL: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

The Words of Institution

Page 69 LBW

♪ Communion Hymns

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

#060 LBW

“The First Noel” (verses 1-3)

#056 LBW

“All Hail to You, O Blessed Morn!” (verses 1-4)

#073 LBW

Prayers of the People

PASTOR: LORD, in Your mercy...

ALL: ...hear our 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 Hymn "Lift High the Cross" (verses 1-5)

#377 LBW

Postlude

We depart in peace, ready to serve the LORD!

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, Brian Alnes, Marlys Arenson, Stephanie James, Jay Kennedy, Kay Larson, Linda Maus, Celeste Miller, Karen Ness, Benjamin Poegel, JoAnn Schrader, Rose Thorp, Sharon Wiegers, and the family of Jerry Pachan.

Today’s KEYL Radio Broadcast of our worship service is sponsored by Marvin Poegel in memory of Laurie Poegel. 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: January 9, 2022

Ezra 7:8-10; Nehemiah 2:11-12a, 16b, 17-18 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Psalms 51:1, 4, 9-10 Matthew 6:19-21

Sermon Title: “A Heart for the Work”

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Organist: Ruth Zinter

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Acolyte: Elianna Young

Deacon: Deb Fearing

Reader: Marlyne Klinder

Ushers: Russ, Jean & Reilly Jacobsen



ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are in need of sponsors for our KEYL radio broadcasts for Sundays in 2022. The new sign-up sheet is available in the narthex if you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast. The cost is \$75.00 per Sunday which can be turned in to the church office.

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

From the Nominating Committee, if you are asked to serve in one of our church's elected positions (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Deacon, Trustee, Youth & Family committee, Board of Education, etc.) please pray about it and ask for the Lord's guidance. If you are interested in serving, please contact Blanche Tirk, Betty Oliver or Jammie Hedlund.

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. 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 January is the Long Prairie Pregnancy and Life Resource Center – Medical Clinic.

Weekly Report:

Worship Attendance for last week: 301

General Fund receipts for last week: \$11,083.91

General Fund budgeted weekly needs: \$4,584.67

General Fund Year to Date (YTD) as of 11/30/21:

Budgeted needs: \$222,093.92

Receipts: \$203,653.54

Actual expenses: \$193,233.30

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

Website: americanlutheranchurch.org

Facebook Page: American Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship Livestream: on Facebook

YOUTH & FAMILY

January 2nd, 2021

SAVE
THE
DATE

January 5th: Quest Kids Family Night

January 7-8th: Mega Fun!

January 9th: Sunday School resumes

MEGA FUN!

Who: 3rd-6th graders

What: the funnest fun!

Where: Camp Lebanon

When: January 7-8, 2022

Why: to learn about "Holy Habits":
Life Practices that Help Christ
Followers Live Jesus Everyday

How: Cost is \$39 which covers one
night stay at camp and meals

Sign up on Y&F board and/or talk
to Kari Christians for more details!

How's life? Want to talk about it?

Feel free to contact me.

Kari Christians (320)533-3021

karichristians@yahoo.com

ALC MISSION TRIP SUMMER 2022

Plans are underway for mission trip
planning for next summer. Here is
what we know so far:

Destination: Pine Ridge
Reservation, South Dakota

Dates of Trip: July 29-Aug 7

This trip is open to current 6th-12th
graders. The cost is currently being
formulated, but will be able to be
covered by fundraisers, including the
Todd County Fair Stand.

More materials will be sent out about
the trip as soon as they become
available. The registration deadline
will be January 30th, 2022. A deposit
of \$50 will be required at that time.

Contact Kari with any questions!



Are you looking for a fun way for your child to learn about Jesus?

Join us on Sundays starting January 9th, 2022 from 10:15 am - 11:15am for an all new Sunday school program!

How is this different from Sunday school now? We will have all new:

GAMES

Crafts

Music

Bible Lessons

All while we grow our relationship with Jesus!!!!

Come see what all the excitement is about... and bring a friend!

Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

Sun. Jan. 2nd 9:00 am **Worship Service with Communion**
10:15 am What About ?” Adult Bible Study

Mon. Jan. 3rd **Church Office Closed**
6:30 pm Youth Worship Team Practice

Tue. Jan. 4th 9:00 am Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Youth & Family Committee Meeting
7:30 pm Trustee Meeting

Wed. Jan. 5th 5:30 pm **Family Night Supper**
5:50 pm Confirmation Class
6:00 pm Quest Kids Family Night at Baptist Church
6:30 pm Choir Practice
7:30 pm Deacon Meeting

Fri. Jan. 7th & Sat. Jan. 8th MEGA FUN at Camp Lebanon –
Grades 3-6

Sun. Jan. 9th 9:00 am **Worship Service**
10:15 am **Sunday School**
10:15 am What About ?” Adult Bible Study
7:00 pm Bible Readers Meeting

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 our website.