



Those who  
receive HIM,  
become  
the sons of GOD

Hands in worship ©Brian A Jackson, courtesy iStock • Printed in USA

*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 “Light of the World (Sing Hallelujah)” *We prepare for worship.*

Welcome and the Sharing of God’s Peace

✦ Confession and Forgiveness

PASTOR: LORD God, You show us what is right and good, but we fight that teaching whenever it feels like rules, like restrictions.

**ALL: Even though You want what’s best for us, we rebel. At the same time, to make ourselves feel better, we twist the truth by suggesting that You, O LORD, are the problem.**

PASTOR: What a slap in the face! And yet, You continue to help this world, to bring us and our culture back to life, back into good relationship with You.

**ALL: You even save us from ourselves.**

PASTOR: That was Your mission as Jesus Christ – to remove everything weighing us down, everything that drags us into death. Your cross and empty grave are proof that You can fix the worst consequences of our rebellion. You give us life once more, life forever, and so we also have opportunities every day to accomplish the greatest possible good. That is why we worship You today, O LORD!

Prayer of the Day

**ALL: Loving God, continue to call everyone back to You.**

**Continue giving us hearts to share Your love, to truly restore and repair the problems of this world. Continue to guide us in that good work. Amen.**

♪ Opening Song “The First Noel”

First Reading

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

Psalm 51:1, 4, 9-10

READER: 1 Have mercy on me, O God,  
out of Your unfailing love.

**ALL: Out of Your great compassion,  
blot out the stain of my sins.**

READER: 4 Against You, and You alone, have I sinned;  
because I have done evil according to Your standards.

**ALL: You will always be proved right in what You say,  
because Your judgment against me is fair.**

READER: 9 But don't keep looking at my sins!  
Remove the stain of my guilt.

**ALL: 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God.  
Renew a loyal spirit within me.**

Second Reading

*2 Corinthians 9:6-8*

✦ The Gospel, God's Good News

*Matthew 6:19-21*

The Nicene Creed

**ALL: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of  
Heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from  
Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being  
with the Father. Through Him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation He came down from Heaven; by the  
power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the virgin  
Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered  
death and was buried. On the third day He rose again in  
accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into Heaven and is  
seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in  
glory to judge the living and the dead, and His Kingdom will  
have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Children's Sermon

Sermon "A Heart for the Work"

♪ Our Offering of Worship  
"In the Bleak Midwinter"

Prayers of the People

PASTOR: LORD, in Your mercy...

**ALL: ...hear our prayer.**

♪ The Lord's Prayer

**ALL: Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever! Amen.**

Benediction

*A word of blessing.*

♪ Closing "We Three Kings"

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, Mike Holden, Stephanie James, Jay Kennedy, Kay Larson, Linda Maus, Karen Ness, Benjamin Poegel, JoAnn Schrader, Tim Schroeder, Rose Thorp, Sharon Wiegers, the family of David Berry, and the family of Brian Alnes.

**Today’s KEYL Radio Broadcast** of our worship service is sponsored by Doris Holler in memory of husband, Lenny and granddaughter, Becky. 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 16, 2022**

Esther 3:8-9, 4:1-4, 13-14

2 Peter 3:8-9

Psalms 27:1, 4, 14

John 16:12-15

Sermon Title: “At a Time Like This”

### **Worship Leaders**

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Music: Worship Team

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Acolyte: Ellianna Young

Deacon: Deb Fearing

Reader: Janie Thole

Ushers: Russ, Jean & Reilly Jacobsen



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**On February 6<sup>th</sup> there will be an opportunity for members of our church to meet Pastor Ethan.** The Meet and Greet will take place in the fellowship hall after the worship service.

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

## **Weekly Report:**

Worship Attendance for last week: 40

General Fund receipts for last week: \$4,346.00

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

As of January 2<sup>nd</sup>, our 2022 YTD General Budget receipts were \$1,160.10 ahead of our YTD General Budget needs.

## **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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January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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SAVE  
THE  
DATE

January 30<sup>th</sup>: Deposit due for mission trip  
February 2<sup>nd</sup>: Quest Family Night  
February 6<sup>th</sup>: Open Skate

## *Open Skate*

*Let's meet as a church family  
for some fun on the ice!*



*Sunday Evening · February 6<sup>th</sup>  
Todd Co. Expo Arena  
5-7:00pm  
No cost!  
Skate rental \$3*

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 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup>, 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. 9<sup>th</sup>**    **9:00 am** **Worship Service**  
                         **10:15 am** **Sunday School**  
                         **10:15 am** What About ?” Adult Bible Study  
                         **7:00 pm** Bible Readers Meeting

**Mon. Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>** **5:30 pm** Audio/Visual Committee Meeting  
                         **6:30 pm** Youth Worship Team Practice

**Tue. Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>**    **9:00 am** Staff Meeting

**Wed. Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>** **9:30 am** Esther Circle  
                         **5:30 pm** **Family Night Supper**  
                         **5:50 pm** Confirmation Class  
                         **6:00 pm** Quest Kids at Baptist Church  
                         **6:30 pm** Choir Practice  
                         **8:00 pm** Church Council Meeting

**Sun. Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>** **9:00 am** **Worship Service with Communion**  
                         **10:15 am** **Sunday School**  
                         **10:15 am** What About ?” Adult Bible Study  
                         **11:30 am** Missions Committee 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.