



*Fear God, and keep
his commandments*

Ecclesiastes 12:13

Fence in Zion National Park, Utah ©Robert Ford/Stock • Printed in USA

American Lutheran Church (ALC)

215 Ninth Street SE • Long Prairie, Minnesota

Pastor Ethan Fearing • 732-2932

americanlutheranchurch.org

✦ Please stand as you are able.

♪ Welcoming Song “Light of the World”

We prepare for worship.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Advent is the period of four weeks that prepare us for Christmas. The word itself means ‘forthcoming’ in Latin, because Advent is a celebration of waiting, of anticipating Christ Jesus’ arrival in our world.

There are three episodes of ‘forthcoming’ that Christians observe during Advent. The first happened about 2,000 years ago when Jesus – God Himself – entered into our human existence as a baby. He then lived a wholly good life, a life He came to willingly sacrificed on the cross. Three days later, Jesus Christ rose again, promising forgiveness of sins and eternal life to all who know and follow Him. This gives us the second ‘forthcoming’ – yes, it happens to us today! Jesus offers to enter into our lives, to guide us through every twist and turn. Finally, the third ‘forthcoming’ will happen in the future. Jesus has promised to return to us, to complete the never-ending age of God’s Kingdom.

Please join us now as we eagerly await the coming of Christ Jesus!

Greetings and the Sharing of God’s Peace

✦ Confession and Forgiveness

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

ALL: Amen.

PASTOR: Almighty God, we have gathered today to wait. We join the people of the Bible who, from the very beginning, have waited for their reunion with You.

ALL: We wait for Heaven on earth, for Your eternal Paradise.

PASTOR: But our patience is tested. As every day passes, we discover more reasons for despair, for apathy, for depression and restlessness. Besides You, O LORD, everything is tainted and everyone is flawed. How can we survive such a broken world?

ALL: We need a Savior! Rescue us, LORD God. Find us in the darkness and bring us into Your light!

PASTOR: In this season of Advent, we wait. Christmas is almost here, and it is then that we will celebrate what God has done. When He came to us, when God Himself was born as Jesus Christ, it was to give us what we need most: hope, love, joy, and peace. Jesus' perfectly honorable life, and His sacrificial suffering and death, save us. Our Lord and Savior rescues us, forgiving our sinful failures while keeping us from the consequence of death. Then, by His defeat of the grave, Jesus promises a new and eternal life with Him.

ALL: We wait for the perfection of that new life. Until the fullness of Heaven comes, we gladly wait! Amen.

Prayer of the Day – Advent of Prophecy

ALL: Loving God, You have promised to come to us, to be with us, and to return to us as our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Give us patience as we wait for those prophecies – for Your perfect promises – to come to pass. Amen.

♪ Opening Song “Here I Am to Worship”

First Reading

Proverbs 4:23

Psalm 1:1, 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

Romans 7:15-17

Special Music "Healer of My Heart"

The Church Choir

✦ The Gospel, God's Good News

John 3:1-6, 16-17

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 “The Flesh, Our Enemy’s Defensive Tactic”

♪ Our Offering of Worship “Create in Me a Clean Heart”

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 Song “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

Sending Song “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Postlude

We depart in peace, ready to serve the LORD!

Individual prayer at the altar is offered after the worship service today.

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 Joe Ayers, Deb Adamek, Everett Bullert, Elaine Clementson, Bob Fox, Lisa Guse, Larry Hatton, Mike Holden, Stephanie James, Kay Larson, Karen Ness, Rose Thorp, nephew Dave, niece Joni, and the family of Marlys Poegel.

Today's KEYL Radio Broadcast of our worship service is sponsored by Al & Tami Priebe in memory and honor of their parents. 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.

Bible Readings for Next Week: December 4, 2022

Isaiah 14:12-15 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

106:34-37, 40-41 Luke 8:26-33

Sermon Title: "Demons, Our Enemy's Special Forces"

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Pianist: Alyssa Fearing

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Acolyte: Peyton Hukriede

Deacon: Jon Fevig



ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be an Advent Festival at 10:15 a.m. today after worship service. Everyone is invited to join in church Christmas decorating and potluck.

Sunday School Christmas Program

Save the date!!!! The Sunday School Christmas Program will be held Sunday, December 18th during normal worship time. Please come support our children as they celebrate the birth of Jesus. Join us in the Fellowship Hall following the program for a Christmas reception. If you are able, please bring a treat to share.

The December, January, February issue of Our Daily Bread are on the small table at the rear of the sanctuary.

If you are asked by the Nominating Committee 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.

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 November is Dan & Nancy Butkowski with CRU.

Weekly Report:

Worship Attendance for last week: 83

General Fund receipts for last week: \$3,597.15

General Fund budgeted weekly needs: \$4,521.21

General Fund Year to Date (YTD) as of 10/31/22:

Budgeted needs: \$198,933.24

Receipts: \$178,074.89

Actual expenses: \$170,743.95

As of November 20th, our 2022 YTD General Budget receipts were \$24,430.01 behind our YTD General Budget needs.

Contact Information:

Pastor Ethan Fearing; Cell: (320) 874-0104

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Youth & Family Coordinator, Sierra Larson; Cell: (320) 766-4153

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Church Secretary, Lori Zellmann; Office: (320) 732-2932

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Website: americanlutheranchurch.org

Facebook Page: [American Lutheran Church](#)

Sunday Worship Livestream: [on Facebook](#)

QUEST KIDS 2022 FALL CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

September 14 - Quest Kick Off Carnival! @ 6:00 PM

September 21 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

September 28 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

OCTOBER

October 05 - Quest Kids Family Night
Pumpkin Painting/Carving! @ 6:00 PM

October 12 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

October 19 - NO QUEST - MEA Weekend

October 26 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

October 31 - Trunk Or Treat! 5:00-6:30 PM

NOVEMBER

November 02 - Quest Kids Family Night
Thanksgiving Dinner @ 6:00 PM

November 09 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

November 16 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

November 23 - No Quest - Happy Thanksgiving!

November 30 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

Questions?
Contact Pastor Jackson!
715-530-3602
jackson@fbclongprairie.org



FBC LONG PRAIRIE

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Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

Sun. Nov. 27th 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal
9:00 am Worship Service
10:00 am Prayer at Altar after Service
10:15 am Sunday School
10:15 a.m. Advent Festival with Potluck

Mon. Nov. 28th 5:30 p.m. Audio-Visual Committee Meeting

Wed. Nov. 30th 9:00 am Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Family Night Supper
6:00 pm Confirmation Class
6:00 pm Qwest Kids
7:00 pm Choir Practice

Sun. Dec. 4th 9:00 am Worship Service with Communion
10:15 am Sunday School

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.