

**A virgin shall  
conceive, and  
bear a son,...  
Immanuel**

Isaiah 7:14

*American Lutheran Church (ALC)*

215 Ninth Street SE • Long Prairie, Minnesota

Pastor Ethan Fearing • 732-2932

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

✦ Please stand as you are able.

---

♪ Prelude Music

*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 Faith

**ALL: Loving God, You once invited Mary and Joseph to follow You on a seemingly impossible journey, but You safely guided them through every obstacle in their path. When the roads of our own lives seem difficult and dangerous, be with us in the same way. As You once brought Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, to that moment when they met You face-to-face, lead us now. Amen.**

♪ Opening Hymn “Savior of the Nations, Come” (Verses 1-4) #028 LBW

First Reading

*Isaiah 14:12-15*

Psalms 106:34-37, 40-41

READER: <sup>34</sup> Israel failed to destroy the nations in the land, as the LORD had commanded them.

**ALL: <sup>35</sup> Instead, they mingled among the pagans and adopted their evil customs!**

READER: <sup>36</sup> They worshiped their [false gods,] their idols, which led to their downfall.



**ALL: 37 They even sacrificed their sons  
and their daughters to demons.**

READER: 34 That is why the LORD's anger burned  
against His people!

The LORD came to abhor those He had chosen.

**ALL: 41 And He handed them over to pagan nations,  
so they were ruled by those who hated them.**

Second Reading

*1 Corinthians 6:19-20*

✦ The Gospel, God's Good News

*Luke 8:26-33*

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 "Demons, Our Enemy's Special Forces"

♪ Our Offering of Worship "Lo, How a Rose Is Growing" #058 LBW

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 Hymn "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" #198 LBW

Postlude Music

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

**Today's KEYL Radio Broadcast** of our worship service is sponsored by Frank & JoAnn Schrader in memory of Steve Schrader. 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 11, 2022**

Deuteronomy 20:4                      James 4:7-10

Psalms 35:1-8                              Mark 9:17-29

Sermon Title: "The Victory of Exorcism"

### **Worship Leaders**

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Deacon: Blain Hall

Pianist: Alyssa Fearing

Acolyte: Wyatt Jahnke

Reader: Marlyne Klinder



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **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](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 December is Kidstown International.**

## **Weekly Report:**

Worship Attendance for last week: 98

General Fund receipts for last week: \$3,645.00

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 27<sup>th</sup>, our 2022 YTD General Budget receipts were \$25,306.22 behind our YTD General Budget needs.

## **Contact Information:**

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

E-mail: [ethanfearing@yahoo.com](mailto:ethanfearing@yahoo.com)

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

E-mail: [Ms.sierra.kid.youth.ALC@gmail.com](mailto:Ms.sierra.kid.youth.ALC@gmail.com)

Music Coordinator, Alyssa Fearing; Cell: (320) 874-0104

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

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

Office 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](#)





# YOUTH CHRISTMAS AT ALC

- WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE
- HOT CHOCOATE
- COOKIES
- CRAFTS
- MUSIC
- AND MORE!

date: December 18th  
time: sunday school- 4pm





# QUEST KIDS 22-23 WINTER CALENDAR!

## DECEMBER

December 07 - Quest Kids Family Night

Christmas Caroling @ 6:00 PM

December 14 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

December 21 - No Quest... Merry Christmas!

December 28 - No Quest... Happy New Year



## JANUARY

January 04 - Quest Kids Family Night

The Amazing Race! @ 6:00 PM

January 6-7 - MEGA FUN @ CAMP LEBANON

January 11 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

January 18 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

January 25 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

2023!



## FEBRUARY

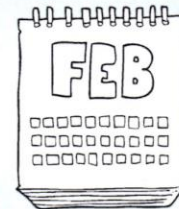
February 01 - Quest Kids Family Night

2022 Quest Kids Derby! @ 6:00 PM

February 08 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

February 15 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

February 22 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM



FBC LONG PRAIRIE

 @FirstBaptistLongPrairie  
website: fbclongprairie.org  
320-732-2179

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

 @alc.lp.mn  
website: americanlutheranchurch.org  
320-732-2932

## Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

**Sun. Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Worship Service with Communion**  
**10:15 am Sunday School**

**Tue. Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm Trustee Meeting**

**Wed. Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Staff Meeting**  
**5:30 pm Family Night Supper**  
**6:00 pm Confirmation Class**  
**6:00 pm Quest Kids**  
**7:00 pm Choir Practice**  
**8:00 pm Deacon Meeting**

**Sun. Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> 8:20 am Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary**  
**9:00 am Worship Service with Baptism**  
**10:15 am Sunday School**  
**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.