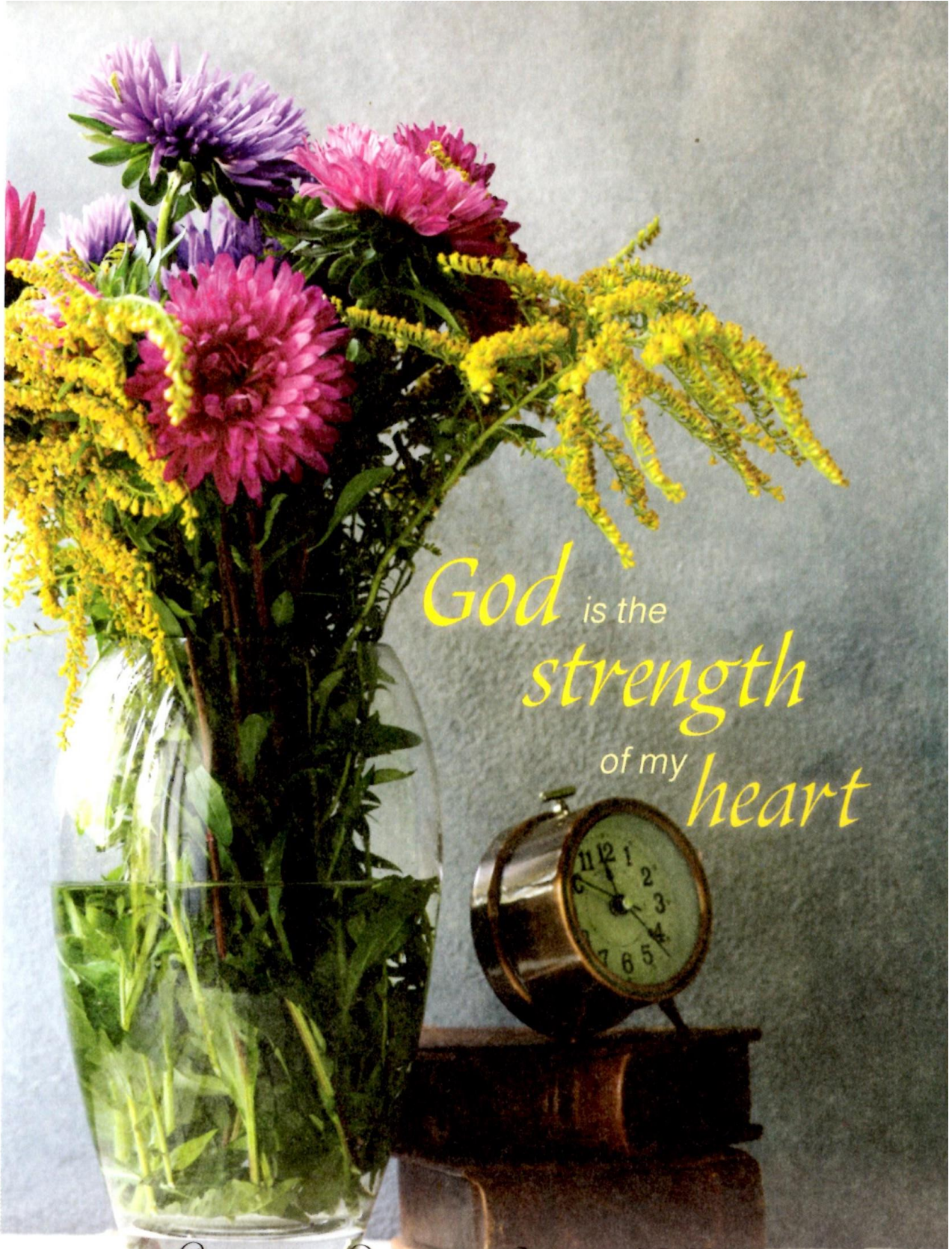


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*God* is the  
*strength*  
of my  
*heart*

*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.

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♪ Prelude Music

*We prepare for worship.*

Greetings and the Sharing of God's Peace

✦ Confession and Forgiveness

PASTOR: LORD God, we struggle to understand why You would love our enemies. And even when we accept the fact that You do, we can't believe You would tell us to love them, too.

**ALL: How can we love people who hate us? How can we possibly care for those we despise?**

PASTOR: That's not how human beings are...

**ALL: ... which shows our brokenness. It isn't natural for us to really, truly love.**

PASTOR: Good news: the Bible tells us "God is love." If anyone can fix us, ending our grudges and replacing them with honest love, it is the LORD. That's why He came to us as Jesus Christ, forgave our every sin at the cross, and rose again to give you a new and eternal life in His heavenly Kingdom. God accomplished those miracles in perfect love so that we might learn to forgive as He has forgiven, to care as He cares. That is why we worship the LORD today!

Prayer of the Day

**ALL: Almighty God, fill us with Your Spirit, guiding us to see the opportunities we have to follow Your example of generous love all the days of our lives. Amen.**

♪ Opening Song "Above All"

First Reading

*Genesis 50:14-15, 19-21*

Psalm 130:1-6

READER: <sup>1</sup> From the depths of despair, O LORD,  
I call for Your help!

**ALL: <sup>2</sup> Hear my cry, O LORD!  
Pay attention to my prayer.**

READER: <sup>3</sup> LORD, if you kept a record of our sins,  
who, O LORD, could ever survive?

**ALL: <sup>4</sup> But you offer forgiveness,  
that we might learn to revere You.**

READER: <sup>5</sup> I am counting on the LORD;  
yes, I am counting on Him.

I have put my hope in His Word!

**ALL: <sup>06</sup> I wait longingly for the LORD  
more than sentries long for the dawn,  
yes, even more than sentries long for the dawn.**

Second Reading

*Romans 12:17-21*

✦ The Gospel, God's Good News

*Matthew 5:43-48*

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 "Love Your Enemies"

♪ Our Offering of Worship "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

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 "Battle Belongs"

Sending Song "Greater"

Postlude Music

*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** Joe Ayers, Deb Adamek, Jean Bonney, Everett Bullert, Kathy Chelman, Jodi Eckel, Karin Fearing, Lee Fearing, Larry Hatton, Mike Holden, Stephanie James, Lenny Kortuem, Kay Larson, Joni Love, Karen Ness, Aubrey Olson, Rose Thorp, and the family of Dick Bonney.

**Today's KEYL Radio Broadcast** of our worship service is sponsored by Al Tirk's children and families in celebration of his 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday today. Happy birthday to a great Dad and Granddad! 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: March 19, 2023**

Jeremiah 29:11-13                  Romans 8:26-28

Psalms 18                                  Matthew 6:7-13

Sermon Title: "The Lord's Prayer"

### **Worship Leaders**

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Pianist: Alyssa Fearing

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Acolyte: Ronelle Hasse

Deacon: Janie Thole

Reader: Katrina Holman

Ushers: Karl & Beth Arenson



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Please return your 'Baby Bottles'** (filled or not) to the church office. Pregnancy Resource Center will use them again next year. Thank you for your gifts and cooperation!

**If you have pictures from our American Lutheran Church 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration**, please share any copies with the church office. The church is compiling a memorial photo album from the event.

**The March issues of The Daily Walk and March - May copies of Our Daily Bread** are on the small table at the rear of the sanctuary.

**We are in need of people to sign up to bring Easter lilies** to decorate the church for Easter Sunday. If you can help, please sign up on the sheets posted on the easel in the narthex. Be sure to mark how many you will bring and who they are in honor or memory of.

**Palm Sunday Brunch** sign-up sheets are posted on the easel in the narthex. Helpers are needed for table setters, cooks, etc. The brunch will be a fund raiser for our high school youth Summer Mission Trip.

**Please sign up for the Passover Seder Meal** on the bulletin board in the narthex if you would like to attend. The Seder Meal will be at 5:30 p.m. on Maundy Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>.

**2023 offering envelopes can be picked up** on the table by the bulletin board in the narthex.

## **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 March is our Long Prairie Food Shelf.** A box for food donations is in the narthex. Food and money donations are needed. Earmark your monetary gift "Food Shelf" and we'll make sure they get it. March is **Minnesota Food Share** month.

### **Weekly Report:**

Worship Attendance for last week: 81

General Fund receipts for last week: \$5,315.46

General Fund budgeted weekly needs: \$4,439.21

General Fund Year to Date (YTD) as of 1/31/23:

Budgeted needs: \$22,196.05

Receipts: \$16,334.87

Actual expenses: \$18,250.92

As of March 5<sup>th</sup>, our 2023 YTD General Budget receipts were \$6,230.38 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](#)



# RISE

## TO NEW LIFE LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES

🕒 5:30 P.M. MEAL    ▶ 6:15 P.M. MUSIC + MESSAGE

- 🕒 ▶ FEB 22 ASH WEDNESDAY WITH ALYSSA FEARING  
MESSAGE: "BAGGAGE"
- 🕒 ▶ MAR. 1 SARAH CIRCLE OL' TYME GOSPEL SING - ALONG  
MESSAGE: "THE BRAVE AND THE CRAVEN"
- 🕒 ▶ MAR. 8 KEYS  
MESSAGE: "BALDY - LOCKS AND THE TWO BEARS"
- 🕒 ▶ MAR. 15 THE PRAIRIE DOVES  
MESSAGE: "THE WELCOME SIGN" FEATURING JADEN WENDT
- 🕒 ▶ MAR. 22 ANDERSON FAMILY BAND  
MESSAGE: "SCARED STRAIGHT JOHNNY"
- 🕒 ▶ MAR. 29 HARPIST CHRIS WARD  
MESSAGE: "ROCKY REED"
- APR. 2 9:00 A.M. PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP
- 🕒 APR. 6 PASSOVER SEDER MEAL
- ▶ APR. 7 GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE
- APR. 9 7:00 A.M. EASTER SONRISE WORSHIP
- APR. 9 9:00 A.M. EASTER MORNING WORSHIP

# QUEST KIDS 2023 SPRING CALENDAR!

## MARCH

- March 01 - Quest Kids Family Night  
Movie Night! @ 6:00 PM
- March 08 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM
- March 15 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM
- March 22 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM
- March 29 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

## APRIL

- April 05 - Quest Kids Family Night  
Celebrating Easter! @ 6:00 PM
- April 12 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM
- April 19 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM
- April 26 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

## MAY


- May 03 - Quest Kids Family Night  
Camp Lebanon Lazer Tag!  
AND the 2023 Finale! @ 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

**POTLUCK  
&  
TIE BLANKETS  
&  
Fun**

**03/19/23  
AFTER SUNDAY  
SCHOOL-3PM**

Families come join us for an afternoon of fellowship as we share a meal, tie blankets and distribute tie blanket at the nursing home.



## Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

**Sun. Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Worship Service**  
**10:15 am Sunday School**

**Tue. Mar. 14<sup>th</sup> 8:15 am Staff Meeting**

**Wed. Mar. 15<sup>th</sup> 11:00 am Newsletter Articles Due**  
**5:30 pm Family Night Supper**  
**6:00 pm Quest Kids**  
**6:15 pm Lenten Worship Service with Music by**  
**The Prairie Doves and Message “The**  
**Welcome Sign” featuring Jaden Wendt**  
**7:15 pm Choir Practice**

**Sun. Mar. 19<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Worship Service with Communion**  
**10:15 am Sunday School**  
**11:15 am Missions Committee Meeting**  
**11:15 am – 3:00 pm Family Potluck & Tie**  
**Blankets & Fun**

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.