



*Add to your faith*  
*goodness;*  
*and to goodness,*  
*knowledge*

- 2 Peter 1:5 (NIV) -

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*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. WOV: *With One Voice*, the blue hymn book.

LBW: *Lutheran Book of Worship*, the green hymn book.

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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 "Crown Him" (verses 1-4)

#170 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, we struggle to trust You with our lives. We also fail to believe Your promises and plans for our deaths. Give us courage when we are afraid, hope when all seems lost, and peace during our last days in this world, knowing Your empty grave means we will not die, but go onto eternal life with You! Amen.**

## First Reading

*Zephaniah 2:1-3*

Psalm 18:2, 4-7, 9a, 13a, 16a, 19a

READER: 02 The LORD is my rock, my fortress,  
and my savior.

**ALL: My God is my rock, in Whom I find protection...  
He is my place of safety.**

READER: 04 The ropes of death entangled me,  
the destructive floods swept over me...

**ALL: 05 ... and the grave wrapped its ropes around me.  
Death laid a trap in my path!**

READER: 06 But in my distress I cried out to the LORD...

**ALL: ... and my prayer reached His ears.**

READER: 07 Then the earth quaked and trembled.

**ALL: The foundations of the mountains shook;  
they quaked because of His anger.**

READER: 09a He opened the heavens and came down.

**ALL: 13a The LORD thundered from Heaven!**

READER: 16a He reached down from Heaven and rescued me;

**ALL: 19a ... and He led me to a place of safety.**

## Second Reading

*1 Corinthians 15:51-57*

✦  Reading Response

Page 62 LBW

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

♪ The Gospel, God's Good News

Page 63 LBW

PASTOR: This is the holy gospel of Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

**ALL: Glory to You, O LORD!**

*Matthew 11:20-24*

PASTOR: The Gospel of the Lord.

**ALL: Praise to You, O Christ!**

Children's Sermon

Sermon "Grave News"

✦ 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 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

#526 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

Holy Communion

Prayers of the People

PASTOR: LORD, in Your mercy...

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

The Lord's Prayer

Page 76 LBW

**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 "From All That Dwell Below the Skies" #550 LBW

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** Joe Ayers, Deb Adamek, Jean Bonney, Kathy Chelman, Jodi Eckel, Karin Fearing, Lee Fearing, Deb Fisher, Larry Hatton, Mike Holden, Stephanie James, Joni Love, Karen Ness, Aubrey Olson, Sam Tesch, Rose Thorp, Deb Wagner, Sharon Wiegers, and Addison Young.

**Today’s KEYL Radio Broadcast** of our worship service is sponsored by Heather & Scott Marcyes in honor of their 31<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary. 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. There is a sign-up sheet on the wall in the back of the sanctuary.

**Bible Readings for Next Week: May 28, 2023**

Joel 2:28-32a            Acts 2:1-6, 13-17a, 22-24

Psalms 74:9-12        Matthew 12:38-42

Sermon Title: “The Sign of the Times”

**Worship Leaders**

Pastor: Ethan Fearing  
Altar Guild: Betty Oliver  
Deacon: Deb Fearing

Keyboard: Mason Ellingson  
Acolyte: Elliana Young  
Reader: Betty Oliver



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

The **Baccalaureate Worship Service** will be at **9:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>**.



**NEW 2 U 2023**

Friday, **JUNE 23** 8-5pm  
and Saturday, **JUNE 24th** 8-noon

Dear ALC women: You are invited to fellowship with other members in this project that serves: our community and missions projects, etc.. Youth are also welcome to help.

### **IN-GATHERING:**

**Please note: we can NOT accept donations on \*Saturday JUNE 10 this year as there will be a funeral here that day!**

We will be accepting your donation gifts beginning: **Thursday, JUNE 8\*** through **Thursday, JUNE 15th only!** The deadline, "cut off" date for donations, allows for necessary further preparations. **THANK YOU** for understanding and your cooperation! (\*\*On June 8 & 9; please bring your donations to the church **CHOIR** room! This change is also to accommodate for the June 10th funeral.\*\*)

The best hours to access the church to **drop off** your gifts is during office hours: Monday & Tuesdays 8-noon, Wednesday's 8-3pm, Thursday's 8-11.

You are also welcome to call Deb at **320 732 4184** to arrange an alternate time to bring your gifts. We can arrange for: evening, after your work or other times to receive your donations.



[PLEASE remember, we **can't** accept: TVs, electronics, large appliances, etc.. Also, we are NOT accepting BOOKS. [ALCW has great difficulty disposing of these items when left over.]] Thank you for respecting this. Please put your donations in the designated room(s). The donation room will be different than in past years! Watch for signage in the church.

**SORTING:** and other prep work will also happen during the In-Gathering time. [June 8-15] Again, NOT on **JUNE 10th though!**

**SET UP** for the sale will begin Friday June 16.

**ORGANIZING** and pricing will be ongoing June 16 through 22nd.

Our trustees ask that we work in 'teams' for safety and liability purposes.

Ladies: we can find a task for any age, energy or skill level. Sit down jobs, etc are available. 🌟

We will certainly appreciate home baked goods to serve and sell to our guests. Bring those to church kitchen by 7:30 a.m, Friday, June 23.

**Watch for:** sign up sheets and further announcements to determine how you can serve the Lord in this fundraiser event. Many hands make light the work!

Blessings and THANK YOU in advance for sharing your time and talents!

Your ALCW

## **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 May is our missionaries Dwight & Dorothy Hazard** who have served through SIM (Servants In Mission).

## **Weekly Report:**

Worship Attendance for last week: 102

General Fund receipts for last two weeks: \$8,932.66

General Fund budgeted weekly needs: \$4,439.21

General Fund Year to Date (YTD) as of 4/30/23:

Budgeted needs: \$79,545.78

Receipts: \$74,961.71

Actual expenses: \$61,392.94

As of May 14<sup>th</sup>, our 2023 YTD General Budget receipts were \$4,443.83 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](#)



Live music, an honest message, and good fellowship!  
**BRING A CHAIR & WE'LL SEE YOU THERE**

All are welcome for

# LAKE SIDE WORSHIP

June 18, 2023 • 9:00 a.m. • Charlotte Lake  
S'mores buffet and fellowship to follow!

# Long Prairie shenanigans



Come hangout for a fun evening of goofing off as we run around town

- grocery store scavenger hunt
- playground tag
- bonfire

**May 28th**

**5pm-7pm**

Hope you can come!



## **Vacation Bible School**

July 23rd - 27th

5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Dinner for everyone 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Free for children ages 4 to entering 6th Grade

Register using the QR code

or paper form on the VBS bulletin board.

Bring friends, relatives, neighbors, and grandkids!

Volunteers Needed (7th grade and up)

Please see areas of need and sign up



## Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

**Sun. May 21<sup>st</sup> 9:00 am Worship Service with Communion**

**Tue. May 23<sup>rd</sup> 8:15 am Staff Meeting**

**Wed. May 24<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm Choir Practice**

**Sat. May 27<sup>th</sup> 8:30 am Bible Study of Letters of Peter & John**

**Sun. May 28<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Baccalaureate Worship Service**

**10:00 am Prayer at Altar after Service**

**5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Youth Group Long Prairie  
Shenanigans**

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.