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American Lutheran Church (ALC)

215 Ninth Street SE • Long Prairie, Minnesota

Pastor Ethan Fearing • 732-2932

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.

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 "For the Beauty of the Earth"

#561 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, Your plans are perfect. You have given us good goals. As individuals, as families, and as communities, we can live for You! Guide us by Your Holy Spirit, showing us where to go and what to do. Amen.

First Reading

Exodus 20:1, 12

Psalm 127:3-5

READER: ³ Children are a gift from the LORD;
they are a reward from him.

**ALL: ⁴ Children born to a young man
are like arrows in a warrior's hands.**

READER: ⁵ A man is joyful when his quiver is full of them!

**ALL: He will not be put to shame
when he confronts his accusers at the city gates.**

Second Reading

Colossians 3:18-21

✦ 🎵 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 nineteenth chapter.

ALL: Glory to You, O LORD!

Matthew 19:1-6

PASTOR: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to You, O Christ!

Children's Sermon

Sermon "Family Values"

✦ 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 “Children of the Heavenly Father” #474 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.

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 “This is My Father’s World”

#554 LBW

Postlude

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!

Today’s KEYL Radio Broadcast of our worship service is sponsored by John & Helen Monson in honor of their 59th 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 or greeter. Sign-up sheets are on the wall in the back of the sanctuary.

Bible Readings for Next Week: July 30, 2023

Isaiah 58:6-11 Acts 1:3, 6-8

Psalm 112:5, 7-10 John 9:1-7

Mission Trip Review! Skit Sermon: “Here’s Mud in Your Eye”

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Keyboard: Mason Ellingson

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Acolyte: Wyatt Jahnke

Deacon: Jon Fevig



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The June-Aug copies of Our Daily Bread are on the small table at the rear of the sanctuary.

CHURCH OUTREACH

Missionaries: Dan and Nancy Butkowski; Dwight and Dorothy Hazard; Chris Mikkelson.

Our Mission Focus for July is our local outreach, Long Prairie missions. Spanish language bibles are purchased and distributed at the food shelf and fair stand. Coborns gift cards have been given out to people coming to the church in crisis.

Weekly Report:

Worship Attendance for last week: 85

General Fund budgeted weekly needs: \$4,439.21

General Fund Year to Date (YTD) as of 5/31/23:

Budgeted needs: \$97,222.62

Receipts: \$89,002.46

Actual expenses: \$90,124.02

As of July 2nd, our 2023 YTD General Budget receipts were \$10,702.58 behind our YTD General Budget needs and \$1,121.56 behind our YTD actual expenses.

Contact Information:

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

E-mail: ethanfearing@yahoo.com

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

E-mail: Ms.sierra.kid.youth.ALC@gmail.com

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

E-mail: fearingalyssa@gmail.com

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

Office E-mail: americanlutheranchurchlp@gmail.com

Website: americanlutheranchurch.org

Facebook Page: [American Lutheran Church](#)

Sunday Worship Livestream: [on Facebook](#)



Are you looking for easy ways to help with VBS?



Our mission focus this year is Operation Christmas Child/Shoebox. We are collecting the following items to help fill shoeboxes:

- Combs and brushes
- Notebooks
- Crayons
- Large erasers

Drop off any of these items at the church July 23rd - 27th.

Stick around after church on July 23rd to help set up, decorate, and see what all the excitement is about!



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



PRAYER LIST

Our current prayer list includes Deb Adamek, Larry Adamek, Jean Bonney, Kathy Chelman, Jodi Eckel, Bob Fox, Karin Fearing, Lee Fearing, Larry Hatton, Stephanie James, Joni Love, Karen Ness, Aubrey Olson, Sam Tesch, Rose Thorp, Sharon Wiegers, and Addison Young.

We are so frequently reminded of the extreme danger those involved in Law Enforcement face. Within our congregation, there are many individuals and families who have friends and loved ones serving in these roles. Therefore, several of us are requesting that we regularly include these names in our weekly congregational prayers.

Presently we are requesting prayers for:

- Nick Eldred, son of Chuck & Nancy Eldred
- Tom Haugen, son of Bryan & Linda Haugen, grandson of Ione Krause
- Tim Schroeder, son of Sue & Dennis Kaneski
- Brian Schultes, son of Dean & Julie Schultes
- Pete John, cousin to Janie Thole
- Barry Tirk, son of Allan & Blanche Tirk
- Dave Greaver, Todd County Sheriff's Department Chaplain

We are perhaps not aware of all who should be included in this list. We have begun compiling and ask you to give the church office names of additional law enforcement personnel and their families.

Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

- Sun. July 23rd 9:00 am Worship Service**
10:15 am Setup for Vacation Bible School
5:00 pm Vacation Bible School
- Mon. July 24th 5:00 pm Vacation Bible School**
- Tue. July 25th 8:15 am Staff Meeting**
5:00 pm Vacation Bible School
- Wed. July 26th 5:00 pm Vacation Bible School**
- Thu. July 27th 5:00 pm Vacation Bible School**
7:00 pm Vacation Bible School Program
- Sat. July 29th Performing Arts Camp Begins**
- Sun. July 30th 9:00 am Worship Service with Communion**
10:00 am Prayer in Library after Service

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.