

My soul  
finds  
rest in  
*God*  
alone

Psalm 62:1  
(NIV)

American Lutheran Church (ALC) (LCA)

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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♪ Welcoming “Brighter Days”

*We prepare our hearts for worship.*

**CHORUS**

**I know there’s gonna be some brighter days  
I swear that love will find you in your pain  
I feel it in me like the beating of life in my veins  
I know there’s gonna be some brighter days  
I know there’s gonna be some brighter days**

**Oh, ashes fall from burning dreams  
Oh, never lived through times like these  
Oh, if you’re trying hard to breathe in the dark  
In the dark CHORUS**

**Oh, if your screams don't make a sound  
Oh, if your walls are crashing down  
Oh, if your heart just cries too loud all the time  
All the time. Whoa! CHORUS**

**Oh, oh, oh  
Brighter days! CHORUS**

Greetings and the Sharing of God’s Peace

✦ Confession and Forgiveness

PASTOR: LORD God, sometimes we only pretend to love you.

**ALL: Our faith is just a show, a mask we use to impress others.**

PASTOR: But You are never fake with us.

**ALL: Your love for me is real, and You have always been faithful.**

PASTOR: God fully commits Himself to us. That is why He came as Jesus Christ, why He chose to die on a cross to win forgiveness for our sins, and it is why He rose again three days later to give us the

gift of Heaven. Your new and never-ending life with God begins now. That is why we worship the LORD today!

Prayer of the Day

**ALL: Loving God, we pray for true faith. Cut through the lies, remove our masks, and give us the belief in Your perfect love. Amen.**

♪ Opening Song “Holy is the Lord”

**We stand and lift up our hands  
For the joy of the Lord is our strength  
We bow down and worship Him now  
How great, how awesome is He  
And together we sing:**

**CHORUS**

**Holy is the Lord God Almighty  
The earth is filled with His glory  
Holy is the Lord God Almighty  
The earth is filled with His glory  
The earth is filled with His glory**

**We stand and lift up our hands  
For the joy of the Lord is our strength  
We bow down and worship Him now  
How great, how awesome is He  
And together we sing  
And everyone sing CHORUS**

**Yeah, it's rising up all around  
It's the anthem of the Lord's renown  
It's rising up all around  
It's the anthem of the Lord's renown  
Together we sing  
And everyone sing:**

**Holy is the Lord, God Almighty**

**The earth is filled with His glory  
Holy is the Lord, God Almighty  
The earth is filled with His glory (x3)  
Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty  
Holy, Holy (x3)**

First Reading

*Isaiah 33:1-2*

Psalm 130:1-6

READER: <sup>1</sup> From the depths of woe, 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

*Jude 1:3-4, 8, 10-11*

✦ The Gospel, God's Good News

*Matthew 23:1-7*

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 "Woe is Me!"

♪ Our Offering of Worship "Sanctuary"

**Lord, prepare me  
To be a sanctuary  
Pure and holy  
Tried and true  
And with thanksgiving  
I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for You**

**CHORUS**

**We exalt thee  
We exalt thee  
We exalt thee  
Oh Lord!  
We exalt thee**

**We exalt thee  
We exalt thee  
Oh Lord!**

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 "King of Kings"

**In the darkness, we were waiting  
Without hope without light  
Till from Heaven You came running  
There was mercy in Your eyes  
To fulfil the Law and Prophets  
To a virgin came the Word  
From a throne of endless glory  
To a cradle in the dirt**

**CHORUS**

**Praise the Father  
Praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit – three-in-one  
God of Glory  
Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of kings**

**To reveal the Kingdom coming  
And to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation  
You did not despise the cross  
For even in Your suffering  
You saw to the other side  
Knowing this was our salvation  
Jesus for our sake You died CHORUS**

**And the morning that You rose  
All of heaven held its breath  
Till that stone was moved for good  
For the Lamb had conquered death  
And the dead rose from their tombs  
And the angels stood in awe  
For the souls of all who'd come  
To the Father are restored**

**And the Church of Christ was born  
Then the Spirit lit the flame  
Now this Gospel truth of old  
Shall not kneel, shall not faint**

**By His blood and in His Name  
In His freedom, I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ  
Who has resurrected me CHORUS**

Sending "My Life Is In You"

*We depart 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** Deb Adamek, Larry Adamek, Jean Bonney, Kathy Chelman, Jodi Eckel, Bob Fox, Karin Fearing, Lee Fearing, Ellie Goplen, Larry Hatton, Stephanie James, Joni Love, Karen Ness, Aubrey Olson, Sam Tesch, Rose Thorp, Sharon Wiegers, and Theresa Wiegers.

**Today’s KEYL Radio Broadcast** of our worship service is sponsored by Bob & Tammie Chapin in honor of their 46<sup>th</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 or greeter. Sign-up sheets are on the wall in the back of the sanctuary.

**Bible Readings for Next Week: August 27, 2023**

Proverbs 19:17                      Hebrews 13:1-3, 15-16

Psalms 112:1, 4-7                  Matthew 25:31-40

Guest Preacher: Woody

**Worship Leaders**

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Worship Leaders: Alyssa Fearing and Heather Marcyes

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver                      Acolyte: Ashley Saarela

Deacon: Blain Hall





## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The September - November copies of Our Daily Bread** are on the small table at the rear of the sanctuary.

### **WE ARE IN NEED OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS!**

We are looking for anyone interested in helping serve one Sunday a month with our kids' Sunday school program or willing to be a substitute when needed. Lessons are planned out and easy to follow, and supplies can be provided if needed. Please talk to Sierra, Jody, or Pastor Ethan if interested!

## **CHURCH OUTREACH**

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

**Our Mission Focus for the month of August is our radio broadcast ministry** through KEYL. We are thankful for all of you who are willing to support this with your donations.

### **Weekly Report:**

General Fund budgeted weekly needs: \$4,439.21

General Fund receipts for last week: \$5,904.00

General Fund Year to Date (YTD) as of 7/31/23:

Budgeted needs: \$136,995.51

Receipts: \$120,194.40

Actual expenses: \$121,980.53

As of August 13<sup>th</sup>, our 2023 YTD General Budget receipts were \$16,891.18 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

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

Facebook Page: [American Lutheran Church](#)

Sunday Worship Livestream: [on Facebook](#)

# Youth and Parents



Come join us for a evening of pickleball,  
learning, competition and fun

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 27th**

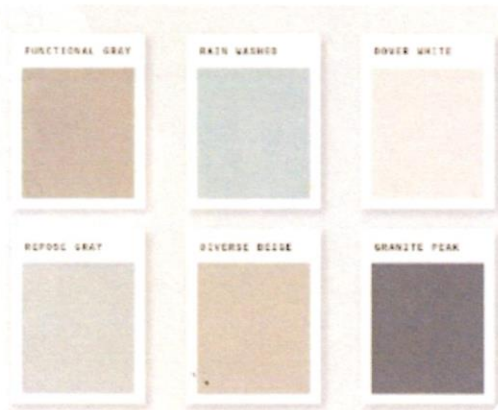
**5:30-7:30pm**

**@ LONG PRAIRIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**NO SKILL REQUIRED**



# YOUTH ROOM PAINTING



**Date: Wednesday,  
August 30th  
Time: 7pm- 9pm**



## **PAINTING SUPPLYS DONATIONS APPRECIATED!!!**

**OLD OR NEW**

- Paint brushes
- Rollers
- Drop cloths
- Tape



**AUGUST 25-27, 2023**



**R.U.R.A.L.  
MUSIC  
FEST**

**Isle, MN - \$0 admission  
ruralmusic.org**



**DANNY GOKEY BRANDON HEATH MARK SCHULTZ  
TASHA LAYTON RHETT WALKER RARE OF BREED  
ANDREW RIPP SANCTUS REAL STEVEN MALCOLM  
CHRISTAFARI BEN FULLER DAVID LEONARD  
MATT SASSANO EAGLE BROOK MUSIC LIGHT45  
MN TEEN CHALLENGE CHOIR**

**BOUNCY HOUSES! KID'S ZONE!  
FOOD TRUCKS! VENDORS!**



# FORGIVIN' LIVIN'

In 2024, the **Daily Texts** will affirm the message that God puts a new heart and a new spirit into our lives.

**I will give you a new heart  
and put a new spirit in you.** Ezekiel 36:26

Often, we live as if we are not connected to our Creator Lord. We forget that He has made us in His image and conformed us to His divine presence. Through Jesus, our hearts are changed by the Holy Spirit's work through His redemption for us on the cross. In the Spirit we are a new person in Christ to bear fruit for the kingdom. The old is gone, the new is here!

Each day we meet Jesus who is transforming our hearts to be His followers. Through the reflection on the **Daily Texts** and making the connections, our hearts are inspired and made new.

To reserve your copy, please add your name to the poster on or before **September 10!** Cost is \$11.00.

## **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. Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Outdoor Worship Service with  
Communion and Potluck After**

**Mon. Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> Sarah Circle at Manlove Home**

**Tue. Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> 8:15 am Staff Meeting**

**Wed. Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup> 7:30 pm Family Drive-In Movie Night**

**Sun. Aug. 27<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Worship Service**

**10:00 am Prayer in Library after Service**

**5:30 pm – 7:30 pm Youth and Parents Pickleball at  
Long Prairie Elementary 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.