

# *Until He Comes*

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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 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

#320 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, You are who You say – the only One who can do the impossible. Help us to see that in our own lives. When we're struggling or lost, give us the confidence in Your loving power to stop and allow You to work, to do the impossible for us. Amen.**

## First Reading

*Isaiah 53:3-5, 9-11*

## Psalm 16:8-11

READER: 8 I know the LORD is always with me.

I will not be shaken, for He is right beside me.

**ALL: 9 No wonder my heart is glad, and I rejoice.**

**My body rests in safety.**

READER: 10 For You will not leave my soul among the dead  
or allow Your holy one to rot in the grave.

**ALL: 11 You will show me the way of life,  
granting me the joy of Your presence  
and the pleasures of living with You forever!**

## Special Music "Sweet Harmony!"

The Church Choir

## Second Reading

*Romans 6:8-11*

## ✦ 🎵 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 27<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

*Matthew 27:57-61*

PASTOR: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Giftng of New Bibles

## Sermon “Doing the Improbable”

### ✦ 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 “I Lay My Sins on Jesus”

#305 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

### ♪ Communion Hymns “O Living Bread from Heaven”

#197 LBW

### 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 “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

#551 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!

**Today’s KEYL Radio Broadcast** of our worship service is sponsored by Kathy Guthrie in honor of grandchildren. 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. Sign-up sheets are on the wall in the back of the sanctuary.

### **Bible Readings for Next Week: October 8, 2023**

Isaiah 25:6-9                      Acts 2:42-47

Psalms 16:8-11                      Matthew 28:1-10

Sermon Title: “Proof in an Age of Skepticism”

### **Worship Leaders**

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Organist: Mason Ellingson

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Acolyte: Olivia Browen

Deacon: Blanche Tirk



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**If you have messages for Alyssa Fearing**, our Sacred Music Coordinator, they can be left in her new mail slot in the church office.

**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!

**All boards and committees, please submit your 2024 budget requests by October 1<sup>st</sup>** so that the Trustees can begin preparing next year's budget.

**REMINDER** - for record keeping purposes as per our ALC constitution: Please fill out a communion card once each year. The cards are found in the racks in the pews. Filled out cards can be placed in the offering plate or given to an usher. **THANK YOU!** – Board of Deacons.

## **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 October is Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Project.**

### **Weekly Report:**

Worship Attendance for last week: 80

General Fund receipts for the last week: \$3,262.02

General Fund budgeted weekly needs: \$4,439.21

General Fund Year to Date (YTD) as of 8/30/23:

Budgeted needs: \$154,672.35

Receipts: \$139,026.48

Actual expenses: \$138,020.65

As of September 24<sup>th</sup>, our 2023 YTD General Budget receipts were \$19,544.24 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)

Sacred 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](#)

To: YOU, yes YOU  
**YOU'RE INVITED!**

## Sunday School



Sundays at 10:15-11:15 am  
Kick-off September 10th  
American Lutheran Church  
Preschool- 12 Grade



ALC Sunday School Registration  
[docs.google.com](https://docs.google.com)

**Come discover  
God's greatness  
through music,  
games, Bible  
stories, crafts,  
and FUN!**

## Quest Kids



Wednesdays 6-7:30 pm  
Kick-off September 13th  
4 years-old -6th grade  
Hosted at First Baptist Church



# FALL FIRE!

OCTOBER 13-15, 2023

Build it. Light it. Feel it. Feed it.

- 2 Nights 5 Meals
- Dynamic Chapels
- Youth Group Team Time
- RAGING FIRE Group Challenges
- Campfire Time
- Screaming' Eagle Zipline (\$5)
- Laser Tag (\$10)
- Flag Football
- Free Time Fun
- Espresso Coffee for Leaders
- and More!



## STUDENTS

### \$119

DUE: October 1st



# CAMP LEBANON

A MEETING PLACE WITH GOD

Cut off and return filled out

\*By signing you are indicating your student is planning to attend.

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

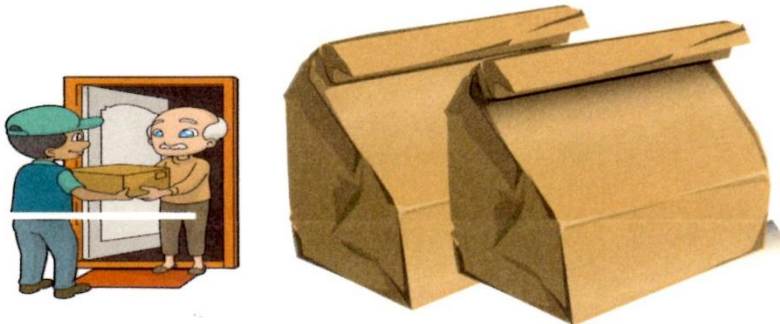
Leaving Friday 13th at 6pm

# **Volunteers Needed for Long Prairie Meals on Wheels Delivery Route!!!!**

Looking for volunteers to deliver Tuesdays through Fridays. Starting at 10 am. Delivery route takes about an hour and the meals are picked up in Long Prairie.

If interested, please call Hilltop Regional Kitchen at 218-738-5563.

This is a very rewarding experience with a way to help out your local community!



## **PRAYER LIST**

**Our current prayer list includes** Joe Ayers, Deb Adamek, Larry Adamek, Jean Bonney, Kathy Chelman, Jan Doles, Jodi Eckel, Bob Fox, Karin Fearing, Lee Fearing, Ellie Goplen, Fran Hamm, Larry Hatton, Stephanie James, Joni Love, Karen Ness, Aubrey Olson, Sam Tesch, Rose Thorp, Sharon Wiegers, and Theresa Wiegers.

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.

## Wednesday Family Night Supper 2023 – 2024 Schedule

<b>Oct. 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Spud Supper</b> – Sarah Circle fund raiser for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes
<b>Oct. 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Taco Temptations</b> – Team 4
<b>Oct. 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO SUPPER</b> (MEA Break)
<b>Oct. 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Soupers</b> - Team 6
<b>Nov. 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Thanksgiving Family Meal</b> – Youth & Family
<b>Nov. 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Duke's Mixture</b> – Team 1
<b>Nov. 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Variables</b> – Team 2
<b>Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>NO SUPPER</b> (Thanksgiving Break)
<b>Nov. 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Youth Missions Fund Raiser</b>
<b>Dec. 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Spaghetti</b> – Team 3
<b>Dec. 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Taco Temptations</b> – Team 4
<b>Dec. 20<sup>th</sup></b>	?
<b>Dec. 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO SUPPER</b> (Christmas Break)
<b>Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Soupers</b> – Team 6
<b>Jan. 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Variables</b> – Team 2
<b>Jan. 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Duke's Mixture</b> – Team 1
<b>Jan. 24<sup>th</sup></b>	?
<b>Jan. 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Spaghetti</b> – Team 3
<b>Feb. 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Taco Temptations</b> – Team 4
<b>Feb. 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Soupers</b> - Team 6
<b>Feb. 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Duke's Mixture</b> – Team 1
<b>Feb. 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Youth Missions Fund Raiser</b>
<b>Mar. 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Variables</b> – Team 2
<b>Mar. 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Spaghetti</b> – Team 3
<b>Mar. 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Taco Temptations</b> – Team 4
<b>Mar. 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO SUPPER</b> (Holy Week)
<b>Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Soupers</b> - Team 6
<b>Apr. 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Duke's Mixture</b> – Team 1
<b>Apr. 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Variables</b> – Team 2
<b>Apr. 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>ALCW</b>

## Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

- Sun. Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>**      **9:00 am** **Worship Service with Communion and Gifting of New Bibles to Third Graders**  
**10:15 am** **Sunday School**
- Mon. Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>**      **7:00 pm** **Trustee Meeting**
- Wed. Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>**      **5:30 pm** **Sarah S'ircle Super Spud Supper Fundraiser for Shoeboxes**  
**6:00 pm** **Quest Kids**  
**6:00 pm** **Confirmation Class**  
**6:30 pm** **Choir Practice**  
**8:00 pm** **Deacon Meeting**
- Sat. Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>**      **8:30 am – 4:00 pm** **Women's Retreat at Bakewicz Home**
- Sun. Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>**      **9:00 am** **Worship Service**  
**10:15 am** **Sunday School**  
**11:15 am** **Board of Education 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.