



Peace,  
the gift of  
God's love

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American Lutheran Church (LEMC)

215 Ninth Street SE • Long Prairie, Minnesota

Pastor Ethan Fearing • 732-2932

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

# **FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**      September 10, 2023

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✦ 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 "Rise Up, O Saints of God"

#383 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, help us to see how our choices affect the world around us. Before we act, guide us in making the world better, not worse, as we live to represent Your perfect love. Amen.**

First Reading

*Exodus 34:5-7*

Psalm 145:1, 3-7

READER: <sup>1</sup> I will raise You up, my God and King,  
and praise Your name forever and ever.

**ALL: <sup>3</sup> The LORD is great!**

**More than anyone, He deserves praise!**

**No one can measure God's greatness.**

READER: <sup>4</sup> May every generation tell their children  
about Your mighty acts!

**ALL: We'll tell them about Your power!**

READER: <sup>5</sup> I will ponder Your majesty,  
Your glorious splendor,  
Your wonderful miracles!

**ALL: <sup>6</sup> And every tongue will buzz with news  
of Your awe-inspiring deeds!**

**We will proclaim Your greatness.**

READER: <sup>7</sup> Everyone will share the story  
of your wonderful goodness!

**ALL: We will joyfully sing about Your righteousness!**

Second Reading

*Romans 5:18-19*

✦  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 27th chapter.

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

*Matthew 27:20-26*

PASTOR: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children's Sermon

Sermon "Generational Guilt"

✦ 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 "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

#327 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 “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven” #549 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 John & Jane Hasse in honor of our grandchildren and great-grandchildren on Grandparent’s Day. 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: September 17, 2023**

Proverbs 3:33-35                      Galatians 6:7-10  
Psalm 1:1-3                              Matthew 27:27-31  
Sermon Title: “Mocking God”

### **Worship Leaders**

Pastor: Ethan Fearing	Organist: Mason Ellingson
Altar Guild: Betty Oliver	Acolyte: Katylin Saarela
Deacon: Jon Fevig	



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Women of American Lutheran** - Please attend a brief ALCW meeting at 11:30 AM on Saturday, Sept. 30 to elect a new president! (This will be during our Baby Care Kit packing day, just before potluck lunch.) **Please consider whether the Lord is calling you to help lead ALCW**, and feel free to talk to Jane Hasse about what is involved - 320-733-2554.

**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!

**If you are the last one to leave the church building**, please check the front entry door and parking lot door to be sure they are locked and then exit the building through the kitchen door.

**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.

## **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 the month of September** is Chris Mikkelson Evangelistic Ministries, which seeks to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the most remote and unreached parts of the earth.

**Weekly Report:**

Worship Attendance for last week: 72

General Fund receipts for the last two weeks: \$11,814.58

General Fund budgeted weekly needs: \$4,439.21

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 September 3<sup>rd</sup>, our 2023 YTD General Budget receipts were \$16,071.15 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

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

Facebook Page: [American Lutheran Church](#)

Sunday Worship Livestream: [on Facebook](#)

# 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.

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





American Lutheran Church's

# FALL KICK-OFF BONFIRE

Hotdogs, Chips, a S'mores Buffet, and Christian Fellowship!

**6:00 P.M.**  
**SATURDAY,**  
**SEPT. 16TH**

215 9th Street SE, Long Prairie, MN 56347

## **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 Kanaski
- 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. Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Worship Service**

**10:15 am Sunday School Kick-Off**

**11:15 am Board of Education Meeting**

**Tue. Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> 8:15 am Staff Meeting**

**Wed. Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> 9:30 am Esther Circle**

**10:00 am Shoebox Workday**

**5:30 pm Family Night Supper**

**6:00 pm Quest Kids Kick-Off**

**6:00 pm Confirmation Class**

**7:00 pm Choir Practice**

**8:00 pm Church Council Meeting**

**Sat. Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm Fall Kick-Off Bonfire**

**Sun. Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> 8:30 am Choir Practice**

**9:00 am Worship Service with Communion**

**10:15 am Sunday School**

**11:15 am Mission Committee 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.