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I will
give thanks
to you
forever

American Lutheran Church (ALC)

215 Ninth Street SE • Long Prairie, Minnesota

Pastor Ethan Fearing • 732-2932

americanlutheranchurch.org

✦ Please stand as you are able.

♪ Prelude Music

We prepare for worship.

Greetings and the Sharing of God's Peace

✦ Confession and Forgiveness

PASTOR: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

PASTOR: Almighty God, we have so much for which we can be thankful, and so we dedicate this time of year to gratitude. Even so, we fail to truly consider the bounty of our blessings.

ALL: We take our lives for granted.

PASTOR: Do we honor the good gifts the LORD God has given us?

ALL: Not always, no.

PASTOR: But this is an opportunity for change. We have gathered for thanksgiving, so let us pause. Let's reflect. Let's see the perfect goodness God working in our lives despite the chaos and ruin of the world around us. How is God blessing you today, and what has He done for your yesterday and tomorrow?

Silence for personal reflection.

PASTOR: Most merciful God...

ALL: ...You came in person to give us the greatest gifts. As Jesus Christ, You lived, suffered, died, and defeated death by rising again. Those miracles forgive sins, delivering Your people from eternal death, giving them a new and eternal life!

Announcement of forgiveness.

Prayer of the Day

ALL: Heavenly Father, we thank You tonight for every good thing. We count our blessings, knowing some have been overlooked. Help us to see, to know, and to cherish, to truly give

You thanks for this life and every opportunity it offers. Guide us by Your Spirit, that we would live in gratitude, and show us how we might best share our gifts with those in need. We pray all of this in the holy Name of Jesus Christ. Amen!

♪ Opening Hymn “Give Thanks”

First Reading

1 Chronicles 16:34-35

Psalm 95:1-3, 6-7a

READER: ¹ Come, let us sing to the LORD!

Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.

ALL: ² Let us come to Him with thanksgiving.

Let us sing psalms of praise to Him.

READER: ³ For the LORD is a great God,
a great King above all gods.

ALL: ⁶ Come, let us worship and bow down.

Let us kneel before the LORD our maker,

^{7a} for He is our God.

READER: We are the people He watches over.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

✦ The Gospel, God’s Good News

Matthew 5:1-12

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.

♪ Hymn of the Day “Wonderful, Merciful Savior”

Sermon “Counting Every Blessing”

An Offering of Worship “Gonna Be Alright”

The Words of Institution

Holy Communion

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 Hymn “Glorify Thy Name”

Postlude Music

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!

Please consider signing up to serve as a greeter. A sign-up sheet is on the wall in the back of the sanctuary.

Bible Readings for Next Week: November 26, 2023

Deuteronomy 22:1-4 Acts 9:10-19

Psalm 139:7-12 Matthew 4:23-25

Sermon Title: "Where is Everybody?"

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Deacon: Janie Thole

Pianist: Alyssa Fearing

Acolyte: Riece Falzone

Reader: Larry Eckel



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent Festival (Christmas Decorating) will be Sunday, November 26th following the worship service. Please bring a dish of food to share before we decorate.

2023 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes are on their way! Thanks to YOUR generous donations of gifts, \$\$\$'s, time and labor, we have sent 628 beautiful, FULL boxes! Picture the joy and excitement of children across the globe as they open their gift! Imagine their awe as they learn of Jesus for the first time! **THANK YOU!**

Sunday School Children and Youth Christmas Program: Please join us Sunday, December 17th at 9:00am as our youth lead us in the story of the birth of Jesus. A reception will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

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!

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.

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

If you are asked by the Nominating Committee to serve in one of our church's elected positions (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Deacon, Trustee, Youth & Family committee, Board of Education, etc.) please pray about it and ask for the Lord's guidance.

For those folks missing the use of: "Daily Walk" devotional, which is no longer in print, it has been replaced with a donation of 2024 "Daily Texts". It is a yearlong devotional. Using it will guide the reader, to read through the entire Bible in two years and the book of Psalms in one year. FREE copies are available here at church. *(Those members who 'signed up' and ordered the "Daily Texts" via Karen Bakewicz, have received their copies, also at no charge.)* Get yours today, supply limited. If you'd like a copy and they are all gone, let Lori, our church secretary know, and perhaps more can be ordered.

Project: Spread Christmas Joy! This is very similar to the Mama Marla program that ran for many years, but with a few changes.

What's the same?

We are still serving Todd County. You will still be able to pick up envelopes with the age and gender of a child and some things that are on their list for Christmas at participating churches and businesses. You will be able to pick up envelopes the week of Thanksgiving. We will contribute some money in the envelope and you will contribute some of your money to buy gifts for the child. You are making Christmas super special for children who may not receive any other gifts.

What's different?

You will be able to get all the siblings in a family to buy for if you would like. We will be contributing \$25, and you will be contributing \$25, you will have \$50 to spend.

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. 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 November is Dan & Nancy Butkowski with CRU.

Weekly Report:

General Fund budgeted weekly needs: \$4,439.21

General Fund receipts for last week: \$3,196.50

General Fund Year to Date (YTD) as of 10/31/23:

Budgeted needs: \$194,445.24

Receipts: \$173,550.04

Actual expenses: \$171,825.09

As of November 19th, our 2023 YTD General Budget receipts were \$23,064.25 behind our YTD General Budget needs.

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

Sacred 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](#)

QUEST KIDS 2023 FALL CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

September 13 - Quest Kick Off Carnival! @ 6:00 PM

September 20 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

September 27 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

OCTOBER

October 04 - Quest Kids Family Night
Pumpkin Painting/Carving! @ 6:00 PM

October 11 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

October 18 - NO QUEST - MEA Weekend

October 25 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

October 31 - Trunk Or Treat! 5:00-6:30 PM

NOVEMBER

November 01 - Quest Kids Family Night
Thanksgiving Dinner @ 6:00 PM at ALC

November 08 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

November 15 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

November 22 - No Quest (Happy Thanksgiving!)

November 29 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

Questions?
Contact Pastor Jackson!
715-530-3602
jackson@fbclongprairie.org



FBC LONG PRAIRIE

 @FirstBaptistLongPrairie
website: fbclongprairie.org
320-732-2179

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

 @alc.lp.mn
website: americanlutheranchurch.org
320-732-2932

This game just got real.



Clues

a murder mystery dinner party

WtW
WatchWord

December 2, 2023

10:00 a.m. start time

\$10 ticket covers your lunch, dessert, and entertainment.

Enjoy an interactive parable with strategy, challenges, and puzzles!

Players ages 12+ should RSVP one week prior to Sierra Larson: 320-766-4153

American Lutheran Church 215 9th Street SE,
Long Prairie, MN 56347

PRAYER LIST

Our current prayer list includes Deb Adamek, Larry Adamek, Joe Ayers, Marjorie Berry, Joanne Bokinskie, Kathy Chelman, Jodi Eckel, Karin Fearing, Lee Fearing, Bob Fox, LaMoine Hatton, Larry Hatton, Shane Hoemberg, Stephanie James, Lois Johnson, Joni Love, Karen Ness, Aubrey Olson, Roger Schultes, Sam Tesch, Rose Thorp, and Sharon 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 Kaniski
- Brian Schultes, son of Dean & Julie Schultes
- Pete John, cousin to Janie Thole
- Barry Tirk, son of Allan & Blanche Tirk
- Tony Solseth, grandson of Carole Thompson
- 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

Nov. 22nd	NO SUPPER (Thanksgiving Break)
Nov. 29th	Youth Missions Fund Raiser
Dec. 6th	Spaghetti – Team 3
Dec. 13th	Taco Temptations – Team 4
Dec. 20th	?
Dec. 27th	NO SUPPER (Christmas Break)
Jan. 3rd	Soupers – Team 6
Jan. 10th	Variables – Team 2
Jan. 17th	Duke’s Mixture – Team 1
Jan. 24th	?
Jan. 31st	Spaghetti – Team 3
Feb. 7th	Taco Temptations – Team 4
Feb. 14th	Soupers - Team 6
Feb. 21st	Duke’s Mixture – Team 1
Feb. 28th	Youth Missions Fund Raiser
Mar. 6th	Variables – Team 2
Mar. 13th	Spaghetti – Team 3
Mar. 20th	Taco Temptations – Team 4
Mar. 27th	NO SUPPER (Holy Week)
Apr. 3rd	Soupers - Team 6
Apr. 10th	Duke’s Mixture – Team 1
Apr. 17th	Variables – Team 2
Apr. 24th	ALCW

Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

Wed. Nov. 22nd 6:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service with Communion

Thu. Nov. 23rd: Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Sun. Nov. 26th 8:15 am Choir Practice
9:00 am Worship Service
10:00 am Prayer at Altar after Service
10:15 am Advent Festival

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.