



Behold,
I bring you good tidings
of *great joy*

Luke 2:10



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 Announcements

✦ Greeting

Page 57 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.

Christmas Day Prayer – Saint Augustine of Hippo

**ALL: Let the just rejoice,
for their Justifier is born.**

**Let the sick and infirm rejoice,
For their Savior is born.**

**Let the captives rejoice,
For their Redeemer is born.**

**Let slaves rejoice,
for their Good Master is born.**

**Let free men rejoice,
For their Liberator is born.**

**Let All Christians rejoice,
For Jesus Christ is born.**

♪ Opening Hymn “Oh Come, All Ye Faithful”

#045 LBW

First Reading

Zephaniah 3:17-18

Psalm 100:1-5a

READER: **1 Shout with joy to the LORD, all the earth!**

ALL: 2 Worship the LORD with gladness.

Come before Him singing with joy.

READER: ³ Acknowledge that the LORD is God!

ALL: He made us, and we are His.

We are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

READER: ⁴ Enter His gates with thanksgiving;
go into His courts with praise.

Give Him thanks and praise His name.

ALL: ^{5a} For the LORD is good.

His unfailing love continues forever!

Second Reading

Colossians 3:16-17

Special Music “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Addie Ellington

✦ The Gospel, God’s Good News

Luke 2:8-20

Children’s Sermon

Sermon “How the Grinch Stole Christmas”

♪ Offering Hymn “Joy to the World”

#039 LBW

✦ Prayers of the People

PASTOR: LORD, on this blessed Christmas day...

ALL: ...grant us Your peace.

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 festive blessing.

♪ Closing Hymn “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

#070 LBW

Postlude Music *We leave in peace, ready to share the good news of Jesus!*

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 an usher. A sign-up sheet is on the wall in the back of the sanctuary.

Bible Readings for Next Week: December 31, 2023

Proverbs 22:5-6 Hebrews 10:23-25

Psalms 145:4-5, 8-13 John 4:4-11

Sermon Title: "Coffee Break"

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Deacon: Deb Fearing

Ushers: Russ & Jean Jacobsen

Reilly Jacobsen

Organist: Mason Ellingson

Acolyte: Brea Ostendorf

Reader: Jammie Hedlund



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us for a Free Community Christmas Dinner today at 11:30 a.m. here at the American Lutheran Church.

Sunday Nights at the Movies begins January 7 at 6:30 pm here at ALC. Featured film: "*Christmas with The Chosen*"(PG). Nursery provided and also light refreshments at intermission. Invite or bring your friends and neighbors to share Christ and/ or Christian values via film. Refer to the poster in the narthex for future titles throughout the winter season. See you then!

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 December - February 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.

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 December is Kidstown International.

Weekly Report:

Worship Attendance for last week: 84

General Fund budgeted weekly needs: \$4,439.21

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 December 10th, our 2023 YTD General Budget receipts were \$2,020.71 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](#)

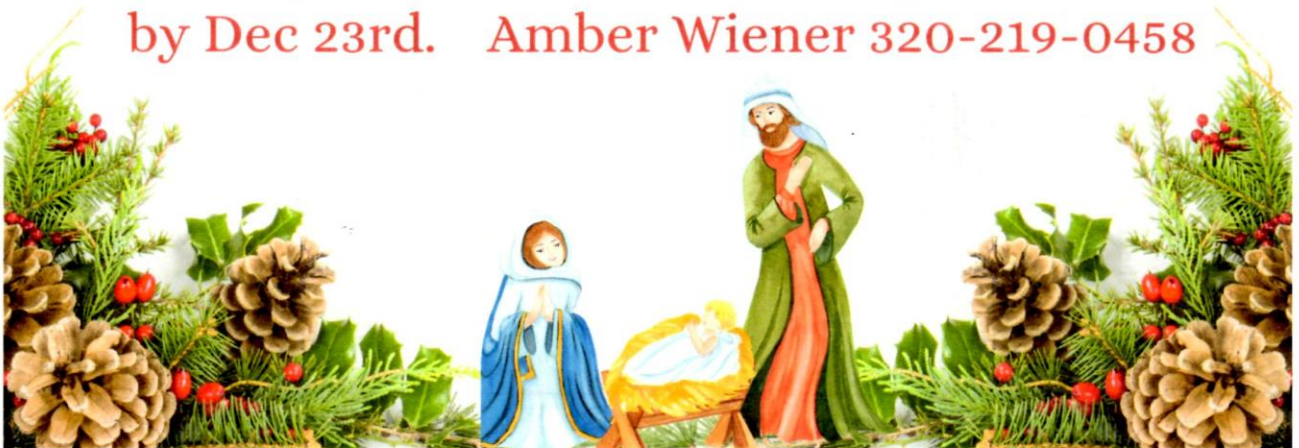
Sunday Worship Livestream: [on Facebook](#)

FREE COMMUNITY Christmas Dinner

*American Lutheran Church
219 9th St. SE
Long Prairie, MN 56347*

*Dinner will be served
Dec 25th @ 11:30 am*

If delivery is needed for shut-ins please contact
by Dec 23rd. Amber Wiener 320-219-0458



NEW YEARS EVE PARTY

END 2023 WITH WORSHIP

START 2024 WITH PRAYER

December 31 | 7PM-12AM | FBC Long Prairie

All are welcome to this family friendly event, but children grade 6 and under need to be accompanied by an adult

Indoor & Outdoor Activities, so dress accordingly!

Bring a snack to share

❄️ QUEST KIDS 23-24 ❄️ WINTER CALENDAR!

DECEMBER

December 06 - Quest Kids Family Night
Christmas Caroling @ 6:00 PM

December 13 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

December 20 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

December 27 - No Quest... Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



JANUARY

January 03 - Quest Kids Family Night
The Amazing Race! @ 6:00 PM

January 5-6 - MEGA FUN @ CAMP LEBANON

January 10 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

January 17 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

January 24 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

January 31 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

2024!



FEBRUARY

February 07 - Quest Kids Family Night
2024 Quest Kids Derby! @ 6:00 PM


February 14 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

February 21 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM

February 28 - Quest Kids @ 6:00 PM



FBC LONG PRAIRIE

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

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Mission Trip Reveal

Come join us for a spaghetti lunch as we reveal where we are going for our missions trip

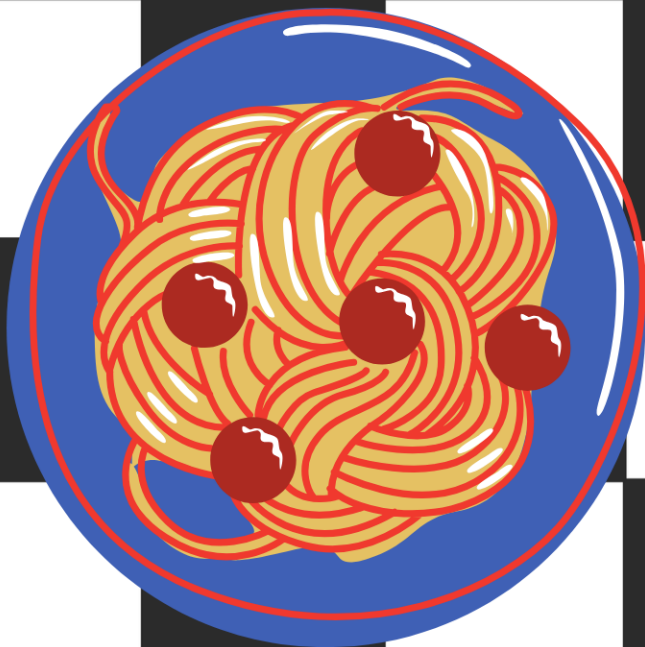
Meal Date January 7th at 11:30am

ALL WELCOMED, free will donations

**MARK
YOUR
CALENDAR!**



**Mission Trip
Dates: July
14th-20th
2024**



HINTS:

- 6 hours away
- We are Driving
- Not in MN

PRAYER LIST

Our current prayer list includes Deb Adamek, Larry Adamek, Joe Ayers, Kathy Chelman, Jodi Eckel, Karin Fearing, Lee Fearing, Bob Fox, Blain Hall, Larry Hatton, Stephanie James, Lois Johnson, Joni Love, Karen Ness, Aubrey Olson, Roger Schultes, Sam Tesch, Rose Thorp, Sharon Wiegers, and the family of Ginny Bruder.

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:

- Kyle Drum, husband of Toni Drum
- 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

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

Mon. Dec. 25th 10:00 am Christmas Morning Worship Service
11:30 am Free Community Christmas Dinner

Tue. Dec. 26th: 6:00 pm Staff Meeting

Sun. Dec. 31st: 9:00 am Worship Service with Communion
10:00 am Prayer in the Library after Service
7:00 pm Family New Year's Eve Party for all
ages at First Baptist Church

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.