



*Fear
the Lord
and serve
Him
in truth*

Printed in USA

American Lutheran Church (ALC)

215 Ninth Street SE • Long Prairie, Minnesota

Pastor Ethan Fearing • 732-2932

americanlutheranchurch.org

✦ Please stand as you are able.

♪ Welcoming Music

We prepare for worship.

Greetings and the Sharing of God's Peace

✦ Confession and Forgiveness

PASTOR: LORD God, You have created us to be social and blessed us with community.

ALL: But we don't always connect with the people You have given us. We don't always make time for each other.

PASTOR: Forgive our tendencies to isolate. When You came to us as Jesus Christ, You surrounded Yourself with people. Then, You showed Your perfect love for everyone by suffering the cost of our sins on the cross. Three days later, You returned to life to offer us Heaven, an eternal community with You in Paradise.

ALL: And so, help us also to value togetherness with You and each other here and now.

PASTOR: That is why we have gathered, and it is why we worship the LORD today!

Prayer of the Day

ALL: Loving God, bless this time together. Give us rest, recovery, and life as we spend this holy time with You. Amen.

♪ Opening Song "Good Christian Men, Rejoice"

#055 LBW

First Reading

Proverbs 22:5-6

Psalm 145:4-5, 8-13

READER: ⁴[My God and King,] Your acts are mighty!

May each generation pass on this truth to its children;
may they proclaim Your power.

ALL: ⁵I will ponder Your majestic, glorious splendor

and marvel at Your wonderful miracles!

READER: 8 For the LORD is merciful and compassionate,
slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.

ALL: 9 The LORD is good to everyone.

He showers compassion on all His creation.

READER: 10 Everything You make will thank you, LORD,
and Your faithful followers will praise You!

**ALL: 11 They will applaud the glory of Your Kingdom;
listing endless examples of Your good power.**

READER: 12 They will boast about Your mighty deeds,
about the majesty and glory of Your reign.

**ALL: 13 Because Your Kingdom is an everlasting kingdom.
You rule throughout every generation!**

Second Reading

Hebrews 10:23-25

Special Music “See in the Manger”

The Church Choir

✦ The Gospel, God’s Good News

John 4:4-11

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 "Coffee Break"

♪ Our Offering of Worship "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" #054 LBW

The Words of Institution

Holy Communion

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" #060 LBW

"The First Noel" (verses 1-3) #056 LBW

"All Hail to You, O Blessed Morn!" #073 LBW

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 "For All That You Have Done"

Sending Music

We depart in peace, ready to serve the LORD!

Individual prayer at the altar is offered after the worship service today.

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 Kali Christensen in memory of her Godparents Myron & Angie Ohland. 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. A sign-up sheet is on the wall in the back of the sanctuary.

Bible Readings for Next Week: January 7, 2024

Deuteronomy 13:4 1 John 2:15-17

Psalms 25:1-5 Luke 9:57-62

Sermon Title: “The Cost”

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Pianist: Alyssa Fearing

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Acolyte: Haydn Goff

Deacon: Deb Fearing

Reader: Joanne Hillman

Ushers: Larry & Bonnie Alsleben

Gary & Betty Martin



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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: 349

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](#)

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

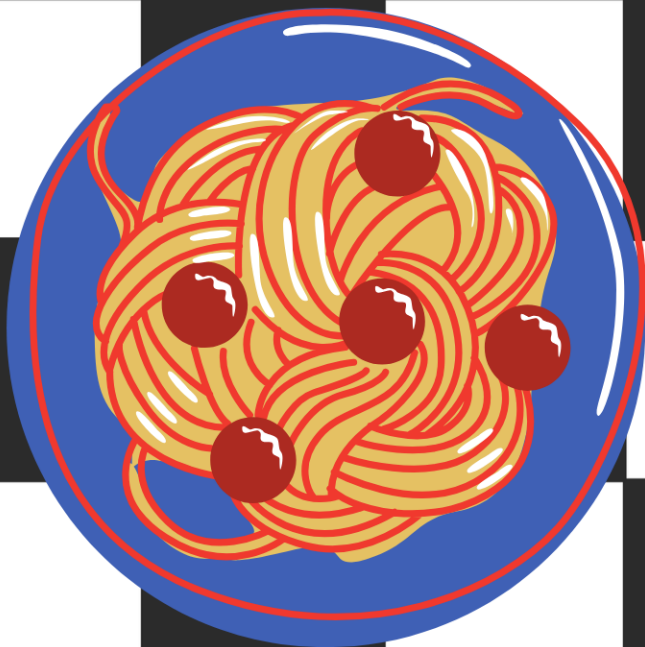
Meal Date January 7th at 11:30am

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, 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, 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:

- 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 Kaneski
- 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

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

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

Mon. Jan. 1st: Church Office is Closed New Year's Day
7:00 pm Trustee Meeting

Tue. Jan. 2nd: 8:15 am Staff Meeting

Wed. Jan. 3rd: 5:30 pm Family Night Supper
6:00 pm Quest Kids Family Night – The Amazing
Race!
6:00 pm Confirmation Class
6:30 pm Choir Practice
8:00 pm Deacon 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.