

Printed in USA



*He saith  
to the  
snow,  
Be thou  
on the  
earth*

*Job 37:6*

*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 "Bright and Glorious is the Sky" (verses 1-4) #075 LBW

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.**

♪ The Kyrie, a Prayer for Mercy

Page 57 LBW

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

Pages 58-59 LBW

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

Page 62 LBW

PASTOR: The LORD be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day – Francis of Assisi

**ALL: Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.**

**Where there is hatred, let me sow love;**

**where there is injury, pardon;**

**where there is doubt, faith;**

**where there is despair, hope;**

**where there is darkness, light;**

**and where there is sadness, joy.**

**O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek**

**to be consoled as to console;**

**to be understood as to understand;**

**to be loved as to love.**

**For it is in giving that we receive;**

**it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;**

**and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

**Amen.**

First Reading

*Deuteronomy 13:4*

Psalm 25:1-5

READER: <sup>1</sup> O LORD, I give my life to You.

<sup>2</sup> I trust in You, my God!

**ALL: Do not let me be disgraced,**

**or let my enemies rejoice in my defeat.**

<sup>3</sup> No one who trusts in You will ever be disgraced,

but disgrace comes to those who try to deceive others.

**ALL: <sup>4</sup> Show me the right path, O LORD;**

**point out the road for me to follow.**

<sup>5</sup> Lead me by Your truth and teach me,

for You are the God who saves me.

**ALL: All day long I put my hope in You.**

Second Reading

*1 John 2:15-17*

✦ **♫ 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 Luke, the ninth chapter.**

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

*Luke 9:57-62*

**PASTOR: The Gospel of the Lord.**

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

Children's Sermon

Sermon "The Cost"

✦ **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 "As with Gladness Men of Old"**

#082 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.**

♪ Communion Hymns

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

#646 WOV

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

#649 WOV

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 “O Morning Star” (verses 1-4)

#076 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 Ione Krause in honor of her family. 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 14, 2024**

Joel 2:28-32a

Acts 2:1-6, 41

Psalms 145:1, 3-7

Matthew 10:1, 5-8

Sermon Title: “Ready for the Impossible”

### **Worship Leaders**

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Organist: Mason Ellingson

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Acolyte: Kylie Goff

Deacon: Janie Thole

Ushers: Kevin Faust

Kirk & Jane Olson



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**We need helpers for taking down the Christmas decorations** today after the worship service.

**There will be a Spaghetti Lunch and Mission Trip Reveal** today at 11:30 am.

*Sunday Nights at the Movies* begins tonight 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!

**All boards and committees** are asked to submit their annual reports to the church office as soon as possible. Thank you!

**2024 offering envelopes can be picked up** on the table by the bulletin board in the narthex.

**We need people to sign up for radio sponsorships for 2024.** There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

**Our Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.** There will be a "Time to Talk" at 10:15 a.m. for any questions before the annual meeting. A potblessing (potluck) dinner will follow the meeting.

**If you have changed your address or phone number** please call the church office and let us know. We are currently updating our church directory for 2024.

**There are still a few free, large print copies of "Daily Text" devotionals available** on the small table at the rear of the sanctuary. It's not too late to pick one up for yourself or someone else, to use as encouragement in life's journey!



**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.

### **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!

## **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 January is the Long Prairie Pregnancy and Life Resource Center – Medical Clinic.**

## **Weekly Report:**

Worship Attendance for last week: 70

General Fund receipts for previous two weeks: \$12,029.80

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 24<sup>th</sup>, our 2023 YTD General Budget receipts were \$1,130.67 ahead of 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](#)

# ❄️ 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

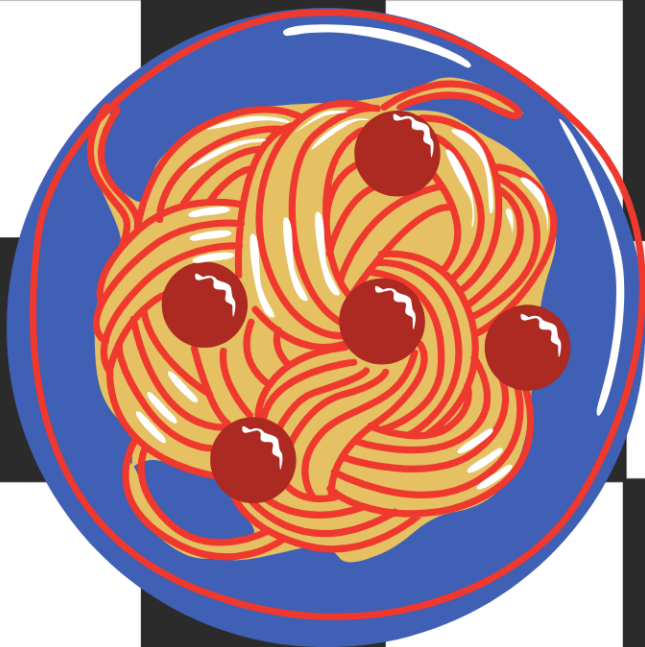
**Meal Date January 7th at 11:30am**

**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

Sun, Feb 11, 2024

SUPER BOWL PARTY

meet at church at 5pm

watching at Sierra's parents new home located in Long Prairie

FOOTBALL, FOOD, FUN AND GAMES



## **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

<b>Jan. 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Variables – Team 2</b>
<b>Jan. 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Duke's Mixture – Team 1</b>
<b>Jan. 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>?</b>
<b>Jan. 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Spaghetti – Team 3</b>
<b>Feb. 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Taco Temptations – Team 4</b>
<b>Feb. 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Soupers - Team 6</b>
<b>Feb. 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Duke's Mixture – Team 1</b>
<b>Feb. 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Youth Missions Fund Raiser</b>
<b>Mar. 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Variables – Team 2</b>
<b>Mar. 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Spaghetti – Team 3</b>
<b>Mar. 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Taco Temptations – Team 4</b>
<b>Mar. 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>NO SUPPER (Holy Week)</b>
<b>Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Soupers - Team 6</b>
<b>Apr. 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Duke's Mixture – Team 1</b>
<b>Apr. 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Variables – Team 2</b>
<b>Apr. 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>ALCW</b>

## Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

**Sun. Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>:**    **9:00 am** Worship Service with Communion  
                         **10:15 am** Sunday School  
                         **10:15 am** Take Down Christmas Decorations  
                         **11:30 am** Spaghetti Lunch and Mission Trip  
   **Reveal**  
                         **6:30 pm** Sunday Nights at the Movies –  
   **Christmas with the Chosen (PG)**

**Mon. Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> :**   **6:00 pm** Trustee Meeting

**Tue. Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>:**   **8:15 am** Staff Meeting

**Wed. Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>:** **9:30 am** Esther Circle  
                         **5:30 pm** Family Night Supper  
                         **6:00 pm** Quest Kids  
                         **6:00 pm** Confirmation Class  
                         **6:30 pm** Choir Practice  
                         **8:00 pm** Church Council Meeting

**Sun. Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>:**   **8:00 am** Board of Education Meeting  
                         **9:00 am** Worship Service  
                         **10:15 am** Sunday School

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.