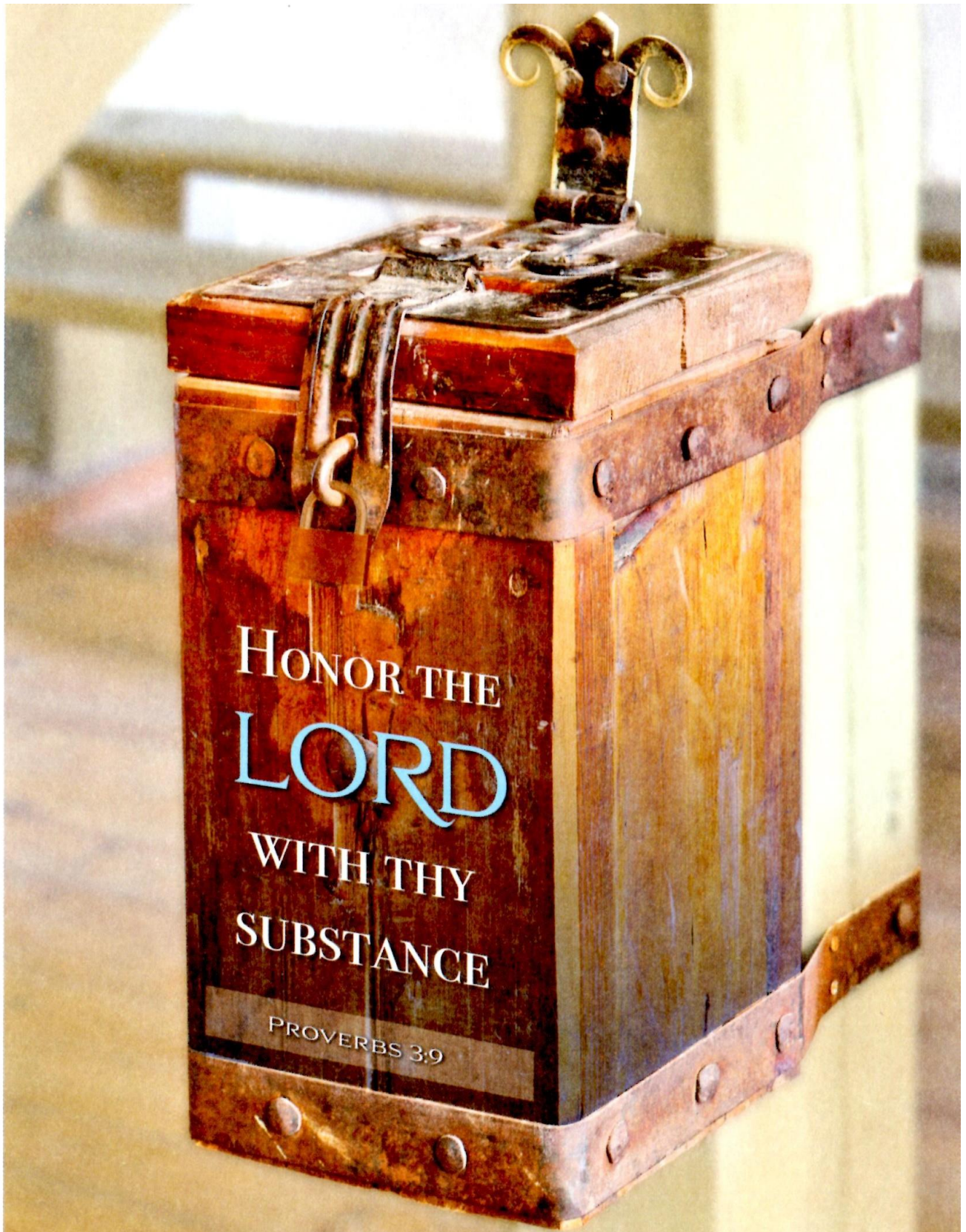


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American Lutheran Church (ALC)

215 Ninth Street SE • Long Prairie, Minnesota

Pastor Ethan Fearing • 732-2932

americanlutheranchurch.org

✦ Please stand as you are able.

♪ Welcoming Song

We prepare our hearts 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, help me to see others as You see them. By Your Holy Spirit, give me love for them, Your perfect and sacrificial love that is honest, vulnerable, and life-changing. Amen.

♪ Opening Song "Open the Eyes of My Heart"

First Reading

Proverbs 24:23-25

Psalm 51:1, 4, 9-10

READER: 1 Have mercy on me, O God,
out of Your unfailing love.

**ALL: Out of Your great compassion,
blot out the stain of my sins.**

READER: ⁴ Against You, and You alone, have I sinned;
because I have done evil according to Your standards.

**ALL: You will always be proved right in what You say,
because Your judgment against me is fair.**

READER: ⁹ But don't keep looking at my sins!
Remove the stain of my guilt.

**ALL: ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Renew a loyal spirit within me.**

Second Reading

James 2:1, 8-9

Special Music "He is Exalted" with "Praise Him"

The Church Choir

✦ The Gospel, God's Good News

Matthew 7:1-5

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 "Favor"

♪ Our Offering of Worship "King of Kings"

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 "Living Hope"

Sending Song

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!

Today’s KEYL Radio Broadcast of our worship service is sponsored by American Lutheran Church Women (ALCW) in honor of the women of ALCW. 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!

Bible Readings for Next Week: April 21, 2024

Lamentations 3:22-26

James 2:14-17

Psalms 118:1-2, 19-21

Matthew 8:5-10, 13

Sermon Title: “Action”

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Pianist: Alyssa Fearing

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Acolyte: Brea Ostendorf

Deacon: Betty Oliver

Reader: Marvin Poegel



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Time to start organizing our 2024 shoeboxes! Shoebox Workday
Wednesday, April 17th at 10:00 a.m.

Choir Practice is cancelled for Wednesday, April 24th.

SPRING CLEANING: please consider donating your "cast-offs" to NEW 2 U sale. ALCW will be accepting your **GIFTS** from APRIL 25 through May 1. Ladies: your help will also be needed to sort and prep during that time. The sale is scheduled for Friday, May 9 and Saturday, May 10. **THANK YOU** in advance for your help and support!

REMINDER; we are NOT able to accept: TVs, large appliances, books, electronics. Thank you for understanding. If you have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Deb 320 732-4184 or Julie at 320 533- 1070.

Our ALCW annual New 2 U sale is coming up soon. If you'd like to share your Talents by **baking** something [rolls, cookies, bars] to serve with coffee or to sell....please have those items in the church kitchen by 7:30 a.m on Friday May 9. In the past, sometimes folks have donated jam, jelly, home canned goods, etc as well. These are a nice addition too. 😊 Thank you so much!

Youth/Sunday School Program will be May 12th. Practice for the program will take place after the church service on May 5th. Please contact Sierra, our Youth and Family Coordinator, along with your Sunday School teachers for details.

VBS dates are June 9th – 13th. There are volunteer sign-up sheets and family registration forms in the narthex.

The March - May 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!

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 April is the Todd County Chaplaincy, a program designed to develop trusting relationships with law enforcement, emergency personnel and provide intervention for those who are in crisis, and to offer a mentorship that will help them with accountability, making better choices, lending support, and acquiring necessary skills to be productive people. Our Todd County Chaplains act as first responders giving emotional and spiritual help to any agency or corporation where there is a critical incident or an accidental or natural fatality. The chaplains are on call for emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Weekly Report:

Worship Attendance for last week: 68

General Fund receipts for previous two weeks: \$12,202.88

General Fund budgeted weekly needs: \$4,631.53

General Fund Year to Date as of 1/31/24:

Budgeted needs: \$18,679.96

Receipts: \$13,347.70

Actual expenses: \$15,006.14

As of March 31st, our 2024 YTD General Budget receipts were \$8,407.62 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](#)

PRAAYER LIST

Our current prayer list includes Deb Adamek, Larry Adamek, Joe Ayers, Jodi Eckel, Karin Fearing, Lee Fearing, Blain Hall, Larry Hatton, Stephanie James, Lois Johnson, Donna Lardy, Joni Love, Karen Ness, Aubrey Olson, Roger Schultes, Matt Stacey, Sam Tesch, Kevin Thole, Rose Thorp, and Sharon Wiegers.

Our ongoing prayer list includes Pratik Biswakarma and Chintapalli Divya, ALCW's Kidstown International sponsorship children.

If you would like someone added to these lists for special prayer or know of someone who would like a pastoral visit, please contact Pastor Ethan and let him know of your request.

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 our law enforcement officers:

- 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 Schedule

Apr. 17th Variables – Team 2

Apr. 24th ALCW

Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

Sun. Apr. 14th: 9:00 am Worship Service

10:15 am Sunday School

**6:30 pm Sunday Nights at the Movies – The
Passion of the Christ (R)**

Mon. Apr. 15th: 6:15 pm Sarah Circle Singing at Meadow Place

7:00 pm Sarah Circle Bible Study

Tue. Apr. 16th: 8:15 pm Staff Meeting

Wed. Apr. 17th: 10:00 am Shoebox Workday

11:00 am Newsletter Articles Due

5:30 pm Family Night Supper

6:00 pm Quest Kids

6:00 pm Confirmation Class

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Sun. Apr. 21st: 9:00 am First Communion Worship Service

10:15 am Sunday School

**10:15 am First Communion Reception in
Fellowship Hall**

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.