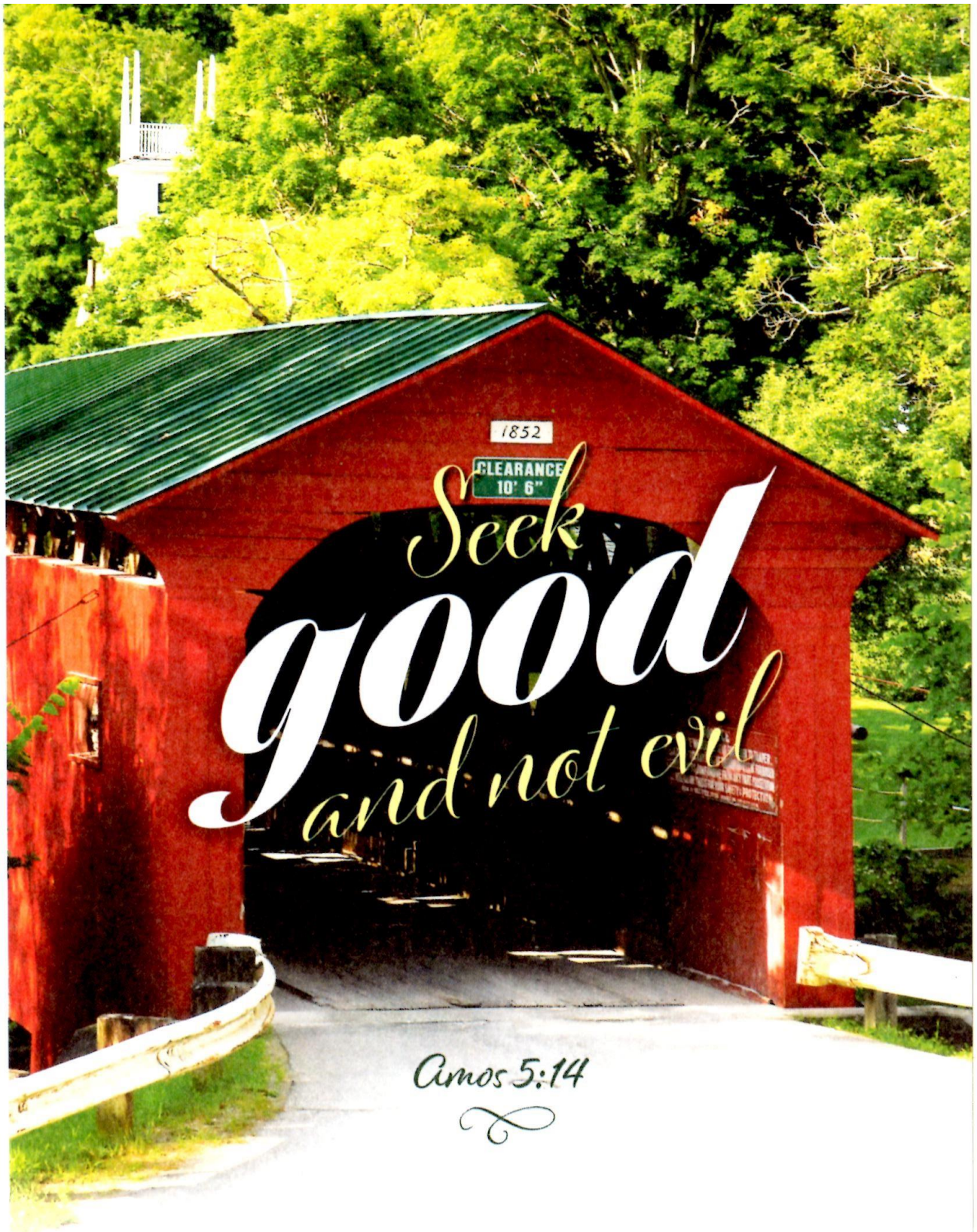


Covered bridge • Arlington, Vermont • ©kirkkiris/123RF • Printed in USA



Seek
good
and not evil

Amos 5:14
∞

American Lutheran Church (LCMC)

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: Loving God, what are Your plans for my life?

ALL: Where do You want me to go? What do You want me to do? Who do you want me to be?

PASTOR: We know Your plans are perfect, but we often choose other paths, other actions, trying to create an identity that fits in this broken world.

ALL: But You want to change our lives for good and forever!

PASTOR: That is why the LORD came to us in-person as Jesus Christ. We turn from the life He offers and toward death, so He came to bring us back to life. That's why He sacrificed Himself on the cross, dying along with our every and fault and failure, and it is why He returned to life three days later. God has forgiven you, given you the destiny of eternity in Heaven, and so has changed your life. That is why we worship the LORD today!

Prayer of the Day – Martin Luther's Morning Prayer

ALL: We thank You, heavenly Father – in the name of Your dear Son Jesus Christ – for bringing us safely through the night, for protecting us from all harm and danger. Please also bless this day, shielding us against sin and every evil, so our every action would be pleasing to You. We trust our lives to You, our bodies and souls – everything! Send Your holy angels to be with us, that the evil enemy would have no power over us. Amen!

♪ Opening Song "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

#535 LBW

First Reading

Lamentations 3:22-26

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-21

READER: ¹ Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!
His faithful love endures forever.

**ALL: ² Let all of God's people sing this chorus:
"His faithful love endures forever."**

READER: ¹⁹ Open the gates for us! Allow the righteous in
so we can go and thank the LORD.

**ALL: ²⁰ These gates lead into the LORD's presence,
and the godly may enter there.**

READER: ²¹ And as we enter these gates, we thank You.
You, O LORD, have answered our prayers.
Because of You, we now have victory!

Second Reading

James 2:14-17

✦ The Gospel, God's Good News

Matthew 8:5-10, 13

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 "Action"

♪ Our Offering of Worship "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" #487 LBW

The Words of Institution

First Communion Blessing

† Luke Baker † Lily Hukriede † Addison Miller
† Tiana Osborne Phipps † Jase Wagner

♪ The Lord's Supper

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" #210 LBW

"Let Us Break Bread Together" #212 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 “Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”

#221 LBW

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 the Variables Family Night Supper Team in honor of our church 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!

Bible Readings for Next Week: April 28, 2024

Proverbs 12:1-3, 13:1-3 James 3:1-2, 5b-10

Psalms 145:1, 3-7 John 1:1-5, 10-14a

Sermon Title: “Words”

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Deacon: Betty Oliver

Organist: Mason Ellingson

Acolyte: Haydn Goff

Reader: Gavin Hasse



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 10th and Saturday, May 11th. **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 10th. 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: 92

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](#)

PRAYER 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, Jason Manlove, Karen Ness, Aubrey Olson, Jerry Pederson, 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. 24th ALCW

Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

**Sun. Apr. 21st: 9:00 am First Communion Worship Service
10:15 am Sunday School
10:15 am First Communion Reception in
Fellowship Hall**

Mon. Apr. 22nd: 6:00 pm Youth & Family Committee Meeting

Tue. Apr. 23rd: 8:15 pm Staff Meeting

**Wed. Apr. 24th: 5:30 pm Family Night Supper
6:00 pm Quest Kids
6:00 pm Confirmation Class**

Thu. Apr. 25th: 9:00 am Audio-Visual Committee Meeting

**Thu. Apr. 26th – Wed. May 1st: New 2 U Ingathering in the
Fellowship Hall**

**Sun. Apr. 28th: 9:00 am Worship Service
10:00 am Prayer at Altar after Service
10:15 am Sunday School
11:30 am Missions Committee Meeting
6:30 pm Sunday Nights at the Movies – “I Can
Only Imagine” (PG)**

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.