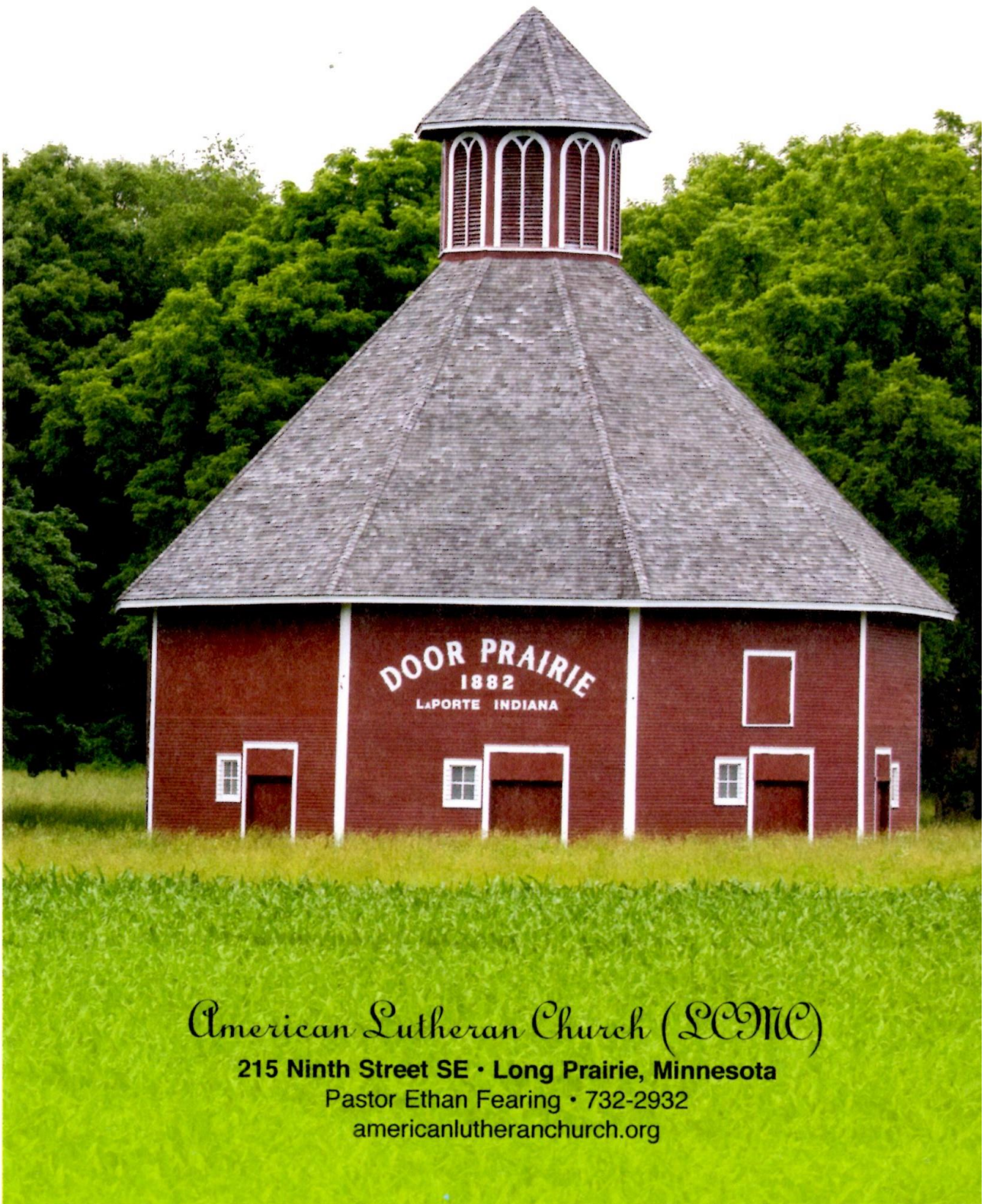


The unsearchable riches of *Christ*

Vintage barn • Laporte, IN • ©Susan B Sheldon/Shutterstock • 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.

Welcome to Outdoor Worship! Today, we gather outside to meet with the LORD, to celebrate His love as we breathe in the beauty of His creation. God gave us this sunshine, this ground, these plants, and each other, so let's prepare to experience and enjoy this holy time with Him.

Welcoming Song "10,000 Reasons"

Greetings and the Sharing of God's Peace

✦ Confession and Forgiveness

PASTOR: LORD God, we don't always prioritize You.

ALL: We're so busy, we sometimes only give You one hour of one day every week.

PASTOR: We imagine our life with You as something we have to wait for, as that distant Paradise called Heaven.

ALL: We fail to live with You here and now.

PASTOR: But God came to give you that life! As Jesus Christ, He died on the cross, suffering the fate of our faults. His death rescues us from the consequence we find when wandering from His life-giving love. And after three days, Jesus returned to life, promising the same for you, promising a new and never-ending life in His heavenly Kingdom that begins now. That is why we worship the LORD today!

Prayer of the Day

ALL: Loving God, guide us by Your Holy Spirit. Help us to live for You! Amen.

♪ Opening Song "In the Garden"

I come to the garden alone

While the dew is still on the roses

And the voice I hear, falling on my ear

The Son of God discloses

CHORUS

**And He walks with me
And He talks with me
And He tells me I am His own
And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known**

**He speaks and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing
And the melody that He gave to me
Within my heart is ringing CHORUS**

**I'd stay in the garden with Him
Though the night all around me is falling
But He bids me go, through the world of woe
His voice to me is calling CHORUS**

First Reading

Isaiah 41:13

Psalm 37:3-7

READER: ³ Trust in the LORD and do good.

Then you will live safely in the land and prosper.

**ALL: ⁴ Take delight in the LORD,
and He will give you your heart's desires.**

READER: ⁵ Commit everything you do to the LORD.

Trust Him, and He will help you.

**ALL: ⁶ He will make your innocence radiate
like the dawn,
and the justice of your cause will shine
like the noonday sun.**

READER: ⁷ Be still in the presence of the LORD,
and wait patiently for Him to act.

**ALL: Don't worry about evil people who prosper
or fret about their wicked schemes.**

Second Reading

1 Timothy 4:6-10

♪ Meditation “Father, I Adore You”

Internalizing God’s Word

**Father, I adore You,
And I lay my life before You.
How I love You!**

**Jesus, I adore You,
And I lay my life before You.
How I love You!**

**Spirit, I adore You,
And I lay my life before You.
How I love You!**

✦ The Gospel, God’s Good News

Matthew 6:25, 31-34

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.**

Sermon “The Good Fight: Spent or Wasted”

♪ Our Offering of Worship “Better is One Day”

**How lovely is Your dwelling place,
Oh Lord Almighty
For my soul longs and even faints for You
For here my heart is satisfied
Within Your presence
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings**

CHORUS

**Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere REPEAT**

**One thing I ask and I would seek
To see Your beauty
To find You in the place Your glory dwells
One thing I ask and I would seek
To see Your beauty
To find You in the place Your glory dwells CHORUS**

**My heart and flesh cry out
For You, the living God
Your Spirit’s water to my soul
I’ve tasted and I’ve seen
Come once again to me
I will draw near to You!
I will draw near to You! CHORUS**

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.**

♪ Edelweiss Benediction

A song of blessing.

**May the LORD, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever;
Grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in ev'ry endeavor.
Lift up your eyes and see His face. Trust His grace forever!
May the LORD, Mighty God, bless and keep you forever.**

♪ Closing Song "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

**What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear;
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!**

**Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged,
Take it to the LORD in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness,
Take it to the LORD in prayer!**

**Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge –
Take it to the LORD in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the LORD in prayer!
In His arms He'll take and shield you,
You will find a solace there.**

Sending Song "I Can Only Imagine"

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 Carole Thompson in honor of grandchildren and 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: September 1, 2024

Proverbs 19:17, 21:13 Hebrews 13:1-3, 15-16

Psalms 112:1, 4-7 Luke 6:38

Message by Blanche Tirk

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Deacon: Kathy Guthrie

Acolyte: Brea Ostendorf

Reader: Jane Olson



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The June - August copies of Our Daily Bread are on the small table at the rear of the sanctuary.

The poster for ordering *Daily Texts 2025* is up! The information about this year's theme and ordering information is given. This book provides a method of reading through the Bible in a year using readings from both Old Testament and New Testament. It also provides readings and prayer for each day.

Any questions or want to see a copy? Call or text Karen: 320-533-0378

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 Larson, Kirk Olson, Pat Schultz, 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 the month of August is our radio broadcast ministry through KEYL. We are thankful for all of you who are willing to support this with your donations.

Weekly Report:

Worship Attendance for last week: 65

General Fund budgeted weekly needs: \$4,669.99

General Fund Year to Date as of 4/30/24:

Budgeted needs: \$79,389.83

Receipts: \$67,931.16

Actual expenses: \$67,318.85

As of August 4th, our 2024 YTD General Budget receipts were \$29,356.31 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, Bernette Burgeson, Kim Dols, Jodi Eckel, Karin Fearing, Lee Fearing, Blain Hall, Larry Hatton, Eugene Holmquist, Stephanie James, Donna Lardy, Joni Love, Aubrey Olson, Roger Schultes, Matt Stacey, Sam Tesch, Kevin Thole, Rose Thorp, and the family of Frank Barthel Jr.

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
- Colton Larson, deputy sheriff in Waseca County, MN, grandson of Sue & Dennis Kaneski
- 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

Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

Sun. Aug. 25th: **8:30 am** Youth & Family Committee Meeting
 9:00 am Outdoor Worship Service
 10:00 am Prayer at Altar after Service
 10:15 am Potluck Dinner after Worship Service
 2:00 pm Play Performance – Samson Jones and
 the Aiders of the Tossed Ark

Tue. Aug. 27th: **8:15 am** Staff Meeting

Sun. Sept. 1st: **9:00 am** **Worship Service with Communion**

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.