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American Lutheran Church (LCLC)

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.

2025 Summer Mission Trip Reveal

Greetings and the Sharing of God's Peace

✦ Confession and Forgiveness

PASTOR: LORD God, You find me when I am lost.

ALL: You rescue me from the darkness, bringing me into Your light!

PASTOR: You break every trap that holds me. When I fall into the pit of death, You bring me back to life!

ALL: But to push me out, You take my place in that pit.

PASTOR: That is why God came to us as Jesus Christ. He came to find us, to rescue us, to bring us from our sinful death and into the eternal life of His heavenly Kingdom. These miracles were won through His death on the cross and by His empty grave. And that's why we worship the LORD today!

Prayer of the Day

ALL: Loving God, You know my problems and my needs. I trust You! Save me, rescue me, and show me Your perfect love. Amen.

♪ Opening Song "Shout to the Lord"

First Reading

Proverbs 3:33-35

Psalms 5:1-3, 11-12

READER: ¹ Oh LORD, hear me as I pray;
pay attention to my groaning.

**ALL: ² Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God,
for I pray to no one but You.**

READER: ³ Listen to my voice in the morning, LORD.
Each morning I bring my requests to You and wait expectantly.

ALL: ¹¹ But let all who take refuge in You rejoice; let them sing joyful praises forever.

READER: Spread Your protection over them,
that all who love Your name may be filled with joy.

ALL: ¹² For You bless the godly, O LORD; You surround them with Your shield of favor.

Second Reading

Romans 8:26-28

✦ The Gospel, God's Good News

Luke 4:16-21

Special Music

The Sunday School Singers

Sermon "Do Me a Favor"

♪ Our Offering of Worship "You are My All in All"

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 "In Christ Alone"

Sending Song

We go 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 an anonymous donor. 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: February 2, 2025

Proverbs 22:29

Acts 1:6-11

Psalms 145:4-5, 8-13

Matthew 4:12-17

Sermon Title: "Kingdom Come"

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Deacon: Janie Thole

Pianist: Alyssa Fearing

Acolyte: Brea Ostendorf

Reader: Stephanie Wehrenberg



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Annual Meeting will be today 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.

"EVERY child deserves a birthday", theme for Baby Bottle Campaign 2025. Please consider filling a Baby Bottle to help support our local Pregnancy & Life Resource Center. Bottles are available in the entryway. Please pick up today and return by FEBRUARY 16th. Help to give these "little ones" and their families a "birth"day! Those "birth"days are of utmost importance to God, our creator, Who teaches us: "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, before you were born I set you apart." Jeremiah 1:5a NIV **THANK YOU** in advance for your generosity!

2025 offering envelopes, 2024 annual reports, 2025 membership directories, and 2025 service group booklets can be picked up on the table by the bulletin board in the narthex.

We are in need of sponsors for our 2025 Radio Broadcasts. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

The December - February copies of daily devotionals “Our Daily Bread” and “Guidance For the Journey Through” are at the rear of the sanctuary and in the narthex.

Proposed Changes to Constitution Bylaws:

Proposed clarification to the Constitution Bylaws regarding council meetings. The proposed language intends to define 'Whole Council' and 'Executive Council' as well as how often members are required to attend.

Current Language:

The Church Council shall conduct meetings of the whole council at least one each quarter; as a whole or executive committee (consisting of the officers and the chairperson of each board or designee) shall meet at least monthly; at a time and place as the council itself shall decide.

The members of the Church Council shall be:

- 1. Officers of the congregation;*
- 2. All members of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Deacon;*
- 3. A representative of the Board of Education, Fair Stand Board, and Memorial Board;*
- 4. Pastor(s), serving as advisory member(s) by virtue of office, but without vote;*
- 5. Immediate past-president to serve one year.*

Proposed change to language: The Church Council shall conduct meetings of the Executive Council (consisting of the officers and the chairperson of each board) at least monthly at a time and place as the council itself shall decide. The whole council shall meet 2 times a year with one being in January prior to the annual meeting and the other being in September or October.

The primary difference between the Whole Council and the Executive Council is regarding the Trustees and Deacons. The Whole Council includes all members of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Deacons while the Executive Council includes a requirement for a representative from the Board of Trustees and Board of Deacons.

According to the Constitution, bylaws may be adopted or amended at any legally called and conducted meeting of the congregation by a two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting. The proposed bylaws or amendments must be read at a public service of the congregation or mailed to the voting members, no less than ten days prior to the meeting.

SAVE THE DATE

We love to sing at American Lutheran Church!

Sunday School children are invited to sing songs during the 9:00am service. We will practice at 8:15am in the choir room.

January 26th

February 23rd

March 23rd

April 13th

May 11th – Spring Program



Questions?

Call Alyssa Fearing 320-304-3691

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

Weekly Report:

Worship Attendance for last week: 64

General Fund receipts for December: \$48,659.44

General Fund budgeted monthly needs: \$20,236.62

General Fund Year to Date (2024 YTD) as of 12/31/24:

Budgeted needs: \$242,839.48

Receipts: \$228,674.52

Actual expenses: \$214,732.34

As of January 5th, our 2025 YTD General Budget receipts were \$234.54 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, Karl Arenson, Joe Ayers, Bernette Burgeson, Jodi Eckel, Karin Fearing, Blain Hall, Larry Hatton, Stephanie James, Donna Lardy, Joni Love, Aubrey Olson, Joan Pesta, Julie Schultes, Roger Schultes, Sam Tesch, Kevin Thole, and Rose Thorp.

Our ongoing prayer list includes Philip Rawat 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
- Kristi Ruess & Tim Huston, Todd County Sheriff's Department Assistant Chaplains

2024-25 Wednesday Night Family Supper Schedule

January 29th – Team 4 – Taco Temptations

February 5th – Team 5 – Soupers

February 12th – Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser

February 19th – Team 1 – Duke's Mixture

February 26th – Team 2 – Potluck

March 5th – Team 3 – Spaghetti

March 12th – Team 4 – Taco Temptations

March 19th – Team 5 – Soupers

March 26th – Team 1 – Duke's Mixture

April 2nd – Team 2 – Potluck

April 9th – Team 3 – Spaghetti

April 16th – Team 4 – Taco Temptations

April 23rd – Team 5 – Soupers

April 30th - ALCW

Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

- Sun. Jan. 26th: 9:00 am Worship Service**
10:00 am Prayer at Altar after Service
10:15 am Sunday School
10:15 am “Time to Talk” in Fellowship Hall
11:30 am Annual Meeting with Potluck Following
- Tue. Jan. 28th: 8:15 am Staff Meeting**
- Wed. Jan. 29th: 5:00 pm Family Night Supper**
6:00 pm Choir Practice
6:00 pm Confirmation Class
6:00 pm Youth Group Grades K-6
7:00 pm Group Grades 7-12
- Sun. Feb. 2nd: 8:15 am Choir Practice**
9:00 am Worship Service with Communion
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.