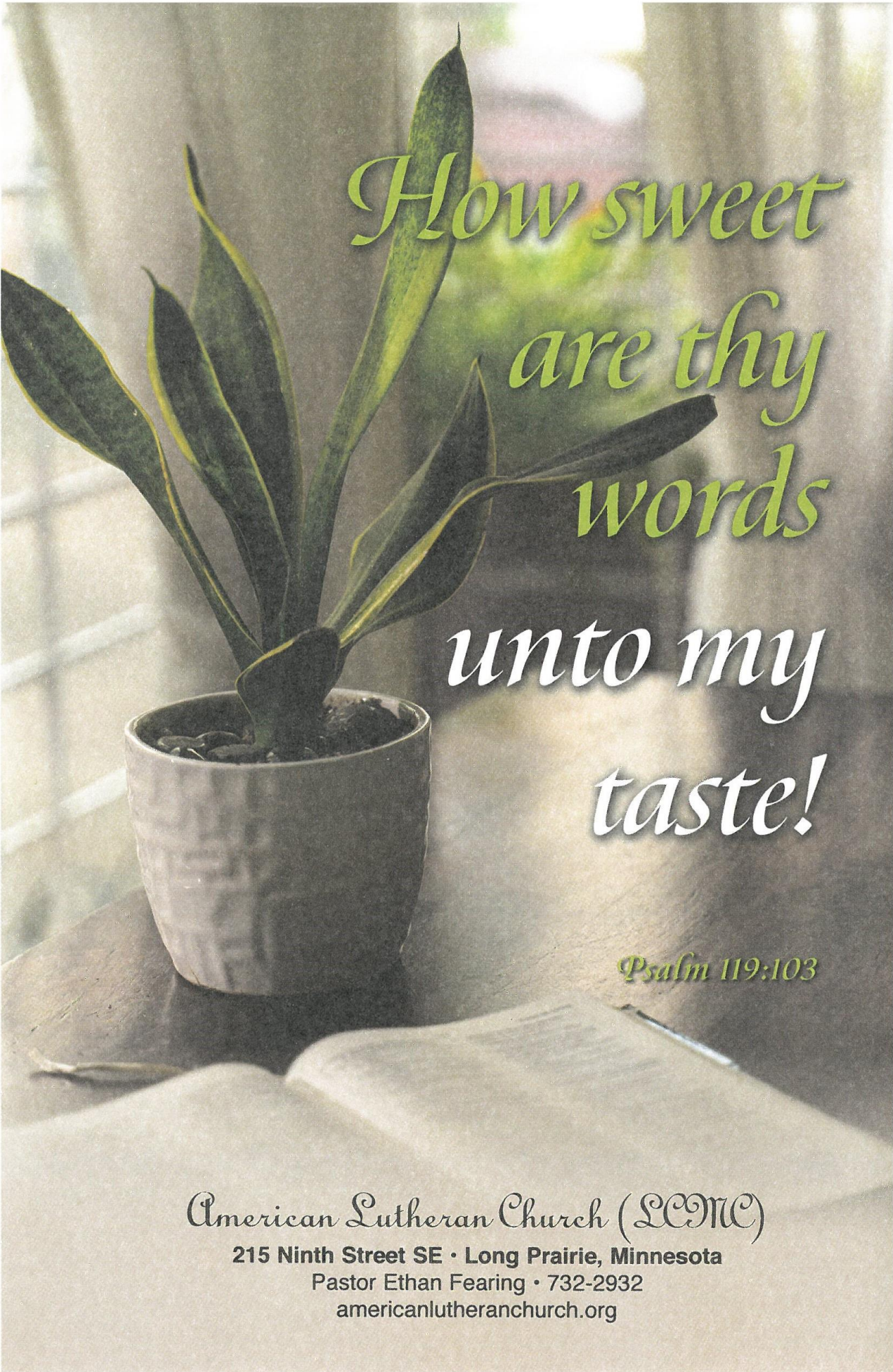


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*How sweet  
are thy  
words  
unto my  
taste!*

*Psalm 119:103*

*American Lutheran Church (ALC)*

215 Ninth Street SE • Long Prairie, Minnesota

Pastor Ethan Fearing • 732-2932

[americanlutheranchurch.org](http://americanlutheranchurch.org)

**SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**      February 23, 2025

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✦ 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

LEADER: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL: Amen.**

LEADER: 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.**

LEADER: 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.*

LEADER: 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 "Children of the Heavenly Father"

#474 LBW

LEADER: 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

LEADER: In peace, let us pray to the LORD.

**ALL: LORD, have mercy.**

LEADER: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the LORD.

**ALL: LORD, have mercy.**

LEADER: 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.**

LEADER: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the LORD.

**ALL: LORD, have mercy.**

LEADER: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious LORD.

**ALL: Amen!**

♪ Hymn of Praise

LEADER: 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

LEADER: The LORD be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**



## Prayer of the Day

**ALL: Loving God, help us to see the needs of the people around us, the brokenness that can only be fixed by You, the emptiness that can only be filled by You. Then, by Your Holy Spirit, give us the courage and strength to share that love. Remind us that we will live, not only here and now, but forever and for You. Amen.**

## First Reading

*Jonah 3:10-4:5*

## Psalm 103:8-10, 12, 17-18

READER: <sup>8</sup> The LORD is compassionate and merciful,  
slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love.

**ALL: <sup>9</sup> He will not constantly accuse us,  
nor remain angry forever.**

READER: <sup>10</sup> He does not punish us for all our sins;  
He does not deal harshly with us, as we deserve.

**ALL: <sup>12</sup> Instead, He has removed our sins as far from us  
as the east is from the west.**

<sup>17</sup> This is how we know the love of the LORD remains forever  
with those who respect Him.

**ALL: His salvation extends to the children's children  
<sup>18</sup> of those who are faithful to His covenant,  
of those who obey His commandments!**

## Second Reading

*Romans 12:14, 17-21*

## ✦ 🎵 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

LEADER: This is the holy gospel of Luke, the sixth chapter.

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

*Luke 6:27-28, 32-33, 35-37*

LEADER: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

✦ 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 “When Peace, like a River”

#346 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.**

Prayers of the People

**LEADER: LORD, in Your mercy...**

**ALL: ...hear our prayer.**

The Lord’s Prayer

Page 76 LBW

**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 “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”

#343 LBW

Postlude

*We depart in peace, ready to serve the LORD!*

Individual prayer at the altar is offered after the worship service today.

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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 Dean & Julie Schultes in memory and in honor of their parents. 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: March 2, 2025**

Micah 6:6-8                      Revelation 3:14-16, 19

Psalms 25:8-12                  Matthew 17:1-9

Sermon Title: "Too Warm"

### **Worship Leaders**

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Organist: Mason Ellingson

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Acolyte: Gracie Hukriede

Deacon: Jon Fevig



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\$1,571.57 total Baby Bottle campaign gifts.** THANK YOU, American Lutheran Church! However, if you still have a bottle, it's not too late. Please return it to the church office or directly to the Pregnancy Recourse Center. God bless your generosity!

**The Family Night Supper for Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm is Potluck.**

**Women's Event:**

**Gather: Long Prairie**

**When:** Friday, 2/28/25 (5:30-9:30PM) and Saturday, 3/1/25 (10AM-5PM)

**Where:** First Baptist Church in Long Prairie - Registration through church website and Facebook event page. This event is free to all who attend.

**All women ages 10 and older are welcome to join us for this 2-day event. Supper will be served Friday. Coffee and Muffins will be available Saturday morning and lunch is provided.**

**2025 offering envelopes, 2024 annual reports, 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.



# 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.

February 23<sup>rd</sup> — Postponed!

March 23<sup>rd</sup>

April 13<sup>th</sup>

May 11<sup>th</sup> — 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](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 February is Samaritan's Purse Disaster Relief.** Samaritan's Purse follows Christ's command by going to the aid of the poor, sick and suffering. They reach out to hurting people in our own country and countries around the world with food, medicine, and other assistance in the name of Jesus Christ. This, in turn, earns a hearing for the Gospel, the Good News of eternal life through Jesus Christ.

### **Weekly Report:**

Worship Attendance for last week: 74

General Fund receipts for January: \$11,511.26

General Fund budgeted 2025 monthly needs: \$20,370.78

### **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](#)

## **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, Eli Poegel, Tabitha Poegel, 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**

February 26<sup>th</sup> – Team 2 – Potluck

March 5<sup>th</sup> – Team 3 – Spaghetti

March 12<sup>th</sup> – Team 4 – Taco Temptations

March 19<sup>th</sup> – Team 5 – Soupers

March 26<sup>th</sup> – Team 1 – Duke's Mixture

April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Team 2 – Potluck

April 9<sup>th</sup> – Team 3 – Spaghetti

April 16<sup>th</sup> – Team 4 – Taco Temptations

April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Team 5 – Soupers

April 30<sup>th</sup> - ALCW

## Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

**Sun. Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>:** 8:30 am Youth and Family Committee Meeting  
9:00 am **Worship Service**  
10:00 am Prayer at Altar after Service  
10:15 am **Sunday School**

**Mon. Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>:** 8:15 am Staff Meeting

**Wed. Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>:** 5:00 pm **Potluck Family Night Supper**  
6:00 pm Confirmation Class  
6:00 pm Youth Group Grades K-6  
6:30 pm – 7:00 pm Short Choir Practice  
7:00 pm Group Grades 7-12

**Fri. Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>:** 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm Women's Gather Event at First Baptist Church

**Sat. Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>:** 10:00 am – 5:00 pm Women's Gather Event at First Baptist Church

**Sun. Mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>:** 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.