

✦ 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, we are not loyal. You offer us perfect love, truth, and life, but we reject it all.

ALL: We follow fake gods instead, uncaring idols.

PASTOR: Sometimes, they're other people. Sometimes, we worship ourselves. Sometimes, our gods are the things we enjoy, the stuff we fill our time with, making it more important than You.

ALL: Sometimes, it's a fake version of You. We imagine a god we can control, one we can use.

PASTOR: But, if we're honest, this leaves us feeling empty...

ALL: ... unloved, lost in lies, dead inside.

PASTOR: We are not loyal, but God always is. That's why He came to us in-person, why His mission has always been to bring us back to Him. As Jesus Christ, He went to the cross to suffer the consequences of our unfaithful hearts. That and every other sin died with Him there. Three days passed, and Jesus returned, rising again to win a new and never-ending life for you. It's Heaven, where God's dedicated people will someday live in constant and close relationship with Him. This is why we worship the LORD today!

Prayer of the Day – *Isaiah 64:1-2; Revelation 22:20b*

ALL: Loving God, if only You would burst from the heavens and come down! The mountains would quake in Your presence. In the same way, and as fire causes wood to burn or water to boil, Your arrival would make the nations tremble.

Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

□ Opening Song "Thank You, Jesus, for the Blood"

First Reading

1 Kings 17:1; 18:20-24, 41

Psalm 40:1-4

READER: 1 I waited patiently for the LORD to help me, and He turned to me and heard my cry.

ALL: 2 He lifted me out of the pit of despair, out of the mud and the mire.

READER: 3 He has given me a new song to sing, a hymn of praise to our God!

ALL: Many will see what He has done and be amazed. Then they will put their trust in the LORD.

READER: 4 Oh, the joys of those who trust the LORD!

ALL: They have no confidence in the proud or in the worship of false gods, of idols.

Second Reading

James 5:16-18

+ The Gospel, God's Good News

Matthew 6:24

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 "Love and Loyalty"

☐ Our Offering of Worship "King of Kings"

The Words of Institution

□ Holy Communion "Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me"

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 "Who You Say I Am"

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 the Wednesday Family Supper Team 1 in honor of all shut-ins. 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 6, 2025

Isaiah 5:18-20 Acts 16:16-18 Psalm 34:15-19 Luke 8:26-39

Sermon Title: "Love and Life"

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Ethan Fearing
Altar Guild: Betty Oliver
Pianist: Alyssa Fearing
Acolyte: Taylor Lubbers

Deacon: Betty Oliver Reader: Jane Hasse

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LCMC Lenten Devotional Booklets are available in the narthex on the table next to the bulletin board.

The Family Night Supper for Wednesday, April 2nd at 5:15 pm is Potluck. Please bring sides or desserts by 5pm on Wednesday. Helpers are needed for clean-up after the meal.

Please sign up for the Passover Seder Meal on the easel in the narthex by April 10th if you would like to attend. The Passover Seder Meal will be at 5:15 p.m. on Maundy Thursday, April 17th.

Please join us for a Palm Sunday Brunch on April 13th after worship service. This is a Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser.

We are in need of people to sign up to bring Easter lilies to decorate the church for Easter Sunday. If you can help, please sign up on the sheets posted on the easel in the narthex. Be sure to mark how many you will bring and who they are in honor or memory of. The last day to sign up will be Palm Sunday so we are able to get it in the Easter bulletin. Please bring your lilies by 8:30 am Saturday, April 19th (the morning before Easter Sunday). You can take your lilies home following the service.

NEW2U 2025: ALC Women's project will be accepting your GIFTS, May 1 through May 7th.. [Daily 8a.m- 4pm] Closing out donations at 4pm on May 7th.. LADIES: your help will also be needed to sort and prep during that time. The sale is scheduled for Friday May 16 and Saturday May 17. THANK YOU in advance for your help and support! Reminder: we are NOT able to accept: TVs, large appliances, books, electronics, etc.. Thank you for understanding. If you have any questions or concerns: please don't hesitate to contact Deb @ 701-471-9384 or Julie S @ 320-533-1070.

The Spring Sunday School Program will be at 10:30 am on Sunday, May 11th in the sanctuary. The Sunday School children will meet before the program at 10:20 am in the choir room.

Vacation Bible School will be Sunday, June 15th through Thursday, June 19th. VBS Meals will be served at 5:30 pm each day and the VBS programs are from 6 pm to 8 pm.

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.

The March - May copies of Our Daily Bread and the Daily Devotional "The Word for you Today" are available on the small table at the rear of the sanctuary and in the narthex.



C 5:15 p.m. MEAL

C ▶ WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

▶ 6:00 p.m. MUSIC & MESSAGE

Message: "Graveyard Man"

C ▶ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5 ASH WEDNESDAY Message: "The Wrestler"

C ▶ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12 The Anderson Family Band Message: "Just What the Doctor Ordered"

C ▶ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19 The Prairie Doves Message: "Breaking the Fourth Wall"

C ▶ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26 Alyssa & Ethan Message: "Hidden in My Heart"

FLBC Gospel Band

C ▶ WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9 Lori & Sue Message: "The Return of Lazy Russ" 9:00 a.m. PALM SUNDAY

C THURSDAY, APRIL 17 MAUNDY THURSDAY Passover Seder Meal

FRIDAY, APRIL 18 **GOOD FRIDAY** Message: "In Denial"

SUNDAY, APRIL 20 7:00 a.m. EASTER Sonrise Worship Service

SUNDAY, APRIL 20 9:00 a.m. EASTER Resurrection Morning Worship Service



Palm Sunday April 13th Pancake Breakfast





EASTER Egghunt Egghunt

Joinuson

April 18th at 9am

for some egg-citing fun for the whole family!

Please Register your family





SAVE THE DATE

We love to sing at American Lutheran Church!

Sunday School children are invited to sing songs during the 4:00am service. We will practice at 8:15am in the choir room.



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 March is our Long Prairie Food Shelf. A box for food donations is in the narthex. Food and money donations are needed. Earmark your monetary gift "Food Shelf" and we'll make sure they get it. March is Minnesota Food Share month.

Long Prairie Emergency Food Pantry 2024 Recap:

Source of income: Community members, churches, businesses and some grants

Cost of operation: Approximately \$7,000.00 per month

Food sources: Coborns (15 tons), Walmart (Sauk Centre) (26 tons), Local garden produce

Volunteers: 50 volunteers serve Wednesdays and Fridays 9:00am – 11:30am and endless hours behind the scenes driving, loading, unloading, ordering and cleaning.

Served in 2024: 1891 households (7166 individuals) receiving 194,624 pounds (97 tons) of food

The clientele grows each year.

Open hearts, wallets, and volunteers are always welcome and appreciated.

Source: Kris Mechels, President of Long Prairie Food Pantry

Weekly Report:

Worship Attendance for last week: 127

General Fund receipts for February: \$14,302.01

General Fund budgeted 2025 February needs: \$18,803.80

General Fund Year to Date (YTD) as of 2/28/25:

YTD Budgeted needs: \$37,607.60

YTD Receipts: \$25,813.27

YTD Actual expenses: \$28,401.33

As of March 2nd, our 2025 YTD General Budget receipts were \$11,073.29 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: <u>fearingalyssa@gmail.com</u>

Church Secretary, Lori Zellmann; Office: (320) 732-2932

Office E-mail: americanlutheranchurchlp@gmail.com

Website: americanlutheranchurch.org

Facebook Page: <u>American Lutheran Church</u> Sunday Worship Livestream: <u>on Facebook</u>

PRAYER LIST

Our current prayer list includes Larry Adamek, Joe Ayers, Bernette Burgeson, Jodi Eckel, Karin Fearing, Blain Hall, Larry Hatton, Stephanie James, Donna Lardy, TJ and Cassie Mead, Aubrey Olson, Joan Pesta, Eli Poegel, Tabitha Poegel, 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

April 2nd – Team 2 – Potluck

April 9th – Team 3 – Spaghetti

April 16th – **No Supper – Holy Week**

 $April\ 23^{rd}-Team\ 4-Taco\ Temptations$

April 30th – ALCW

Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

Sun. Mar. 30th: 9:00 am Worship Service with Communion

10:00 am Prayer at Altar after Service

10:15 am Sunday School

Mon. Mar. 31st: 8:15 am Staff Meeting

Wed. Apr. 2nd: 5:15 pm Potluck Family Night Supper

6:00 pm Lenten Worship Service with

Music from FLBC Gospel Band and Message "Graveyard Man"

7:15 pm Choir Practice8:00 pm Deacon Meeting

Fri. Apr. 4th: 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Visitation for Deb Adamek

Sat. Apr. 5th: 10:00 am Visitation for Deb Adamek

11:00 am Funeral for Deb Adamek

Sun. Apr. 6th: 8:15 am Choir Practice

9:00 am Worship Service with Communion

10:15 am Sunday School

5:00 pm Board of Education Meeting

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.