



*Be not  
dismayed;  
for I am  
thy  
God.*

*Isaiah 41:10a*

*American Lutheran Church (ALC)*

215 Ninth Street SE • Long Prairie, Minnesota

Pastor Ethan Fearing • 732-2932

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

✦ 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

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

**ALL: Amen.**

PASTOR: 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.**

PASTOR: 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.*

PASTOR: 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 "Trust and Obey"

PASTOR: 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

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

**ALL: LORD, have mercy.**

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

**ALL: LORD, have mercy.**

PASTOR: 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.**

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

**ALL: LORD, have mercy.**

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

**ALL: Amen!**

♪ Hymn of Praise

PASTOR: 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

PASTOR: The LORD be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

**ALL: Almighty God, every day brings a battle, but You are with us in the fight. Help us to stand strong in Your Spirit, remembering that You came as Jesus Christ to win the war. Victory is Yours, and we are blessed to share in that heavenly promise. Amen.**

First Reading

*Genesis 32:22a, 24b-30*

Psalm 35:1-2, 3b-5, 8

READER: <sup>1</sup> Oh LORD, oppose those who oppose me!

Fight those who fight against me.

**ALL: <sup>2</sup> Put on Your armor, and take up Your shield.**

**Prepare for battle, and come to my aid!**

READER: <sup>3b</sup> Let me hear You say,

“I, the LORD, will give you victory!”

**ALL: <sup>4</sup> Shame and disgrace those who try to kill me;**

**turn them back, humiliating those who want to hurt me.**

READER: <sup>5</sup> Blow them away like chaff in the wind –  
a wind sent by the angel of the LORD.

**ALL: <sup>8</sup> Let sudden ruin come upon them!**

**Let them be caught in the trap they set for me!**

READER: Let them be destroyed in the pit they dug for me!

Second Reading

*Ephesians 6:12-13*

✦  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

PASTOR: This is the holy gospel of Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

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

*Matthew 11:28-30*

PASTOR: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Holy Baptism of Brooks Andrew Gebhardt

PASTOR: Do you believe in God the Father?

**ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of Heaven and earth.**

PASTOR: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**ALL: 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.**

PASTOR: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**ALL: 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!**

Sermon “Love and Dancing”

♪ Offering Hymn “I Surrender All”

✦ ♪ 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

PASTOR: 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 “Blessed Assurance”

Postlude

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

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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 Ron Conley in memory of sons and grandsons. 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 16, 2025**

Number 21:4-9                      Revelation 12:7-9

Psalm 58:1-7, 11                  John 3:1-3, 9-17

Sermon Title: “Love and Trust”

**Worship Leaders**

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Deacon: Betty Oliver

Organist: Mason Ellingson

Acolyte: Madison Parker

Reader: Emily Steinert



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Holy Baptism today of Brooks Andrew Gebhardt**, the son of Andrew Gebhardt and Tori Jenkins. His sponsors are Thomas Woog and Lisa Woog.

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

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

**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 19<sup>th</sup> (the morning before Easter Sunday). You can take your lilies home following the service.

**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** are available on the small table at the rear of the sanctuary and in the narthex.





🕒 5:15 p.m. MEAL    ▶ 6:00 p.m. MUSIC & MESSAGE

- |   |                          |   |
|---|--------------------------|---|
| 🕒 ▶ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5  | ASH WEDNESDAY            | Message: "The Wrestler"                 |
| 🕒 ▶ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12   | The Anderson Family Band | Message: "Just What the Doctor Ordered" |
| 🕒 ▶ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19   | The Prairie Doves        | Message: "Breaking the Fourth Wall"     |
| 🕒 ▶ WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26   | Alyssa & Ethan           | Message: "Hidden in My Heart"           |
| 🕒 ▶ WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2  | FLBC Gospel Band         | Message: "Graveyard Man"                |
| 🕒 ▶ WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9  | Lori & Sue               | Message: "The Return of Lazy Russ"      |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 13                      9:00 a.m. PALM SUNDAY                                 |                          |   |
| 🕒 THURSDAY, APRIL 17  | MAUNDY THURSDAY          | Passover Seder Meal                     |
| ▶ FRIDAY, APRIL 18  | GOOD FRIDAY              | Message: "In Denial"                    |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 20                      7:00 a.m. EASTER Sunrise Worship Service              |                          |   |
| SUNDAY, APRIL 20                      9:00 a.m. EASTER Resurrection Morning Worship Service |                          |   |

# 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 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: 83

General Fund receipts for February: \$14,302.01

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

As of February 28<sup>th</sup>, our 2025 YTD General Budget receipts were \$11,794.33 behind our YTD General Budget needs.

## **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** Larry Adamek, Karl Arenson, Joe Ayers, Bernette Burgeson, Jodi Eckel, Karin Fearing, Ron Guse, Blain Hall, Larry Hatton, Stephanie James, Donna Lardy, Aubrey Olson, Joan Pesta, Eli Poegel, Tabitha Poegel, Sam Tesch, Kevin Thole, Rose Thorp, the family of Deb Adamek, and the family of Stan Hortness.

**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

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

March 19<sup>th</sup> – Team 5 – Duke's Mixture

March 26<sup>th</sup> – Team 1 – Soupers

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> – **No Supper – Holy Week**

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

## Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

**Sun. Mar. 9<sup>th</sup>:** 8:00 am Youth & Family Committee Meeting  
9:00 am **Worship Service with Baptism**  
10:15 am **Sunday School**  
6:00 pm Board of Education Meeting

**Mon. Mar. 10<sup>th</sup>:** 8:15 am Staff Meeting

**Wed. Mar. 12<sup>th</sup>:** 9:30 am Esther Circle  
5:15 pm **Family Night Supper**  
6:00 pm **Lenten Worship Service with  
Music from the Anderson Family Band  
and Message “Just What the Doctor  
Ordered”**  
7:00 pm Church Council Meeting

**Sun. Mar. 16<sup>th</sup>:** 9:00 am **Worship Service with Communion**  
10:15 am **Sunday School**  
11:30 am Missions Committee 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.