

A large wooden windmill with a tiled roof and a circular observation deck, situated in a park. The foreground is filled with a field of red and yellow tulips. The background shows green trees and a clear sky.

*Serve the LORD  
with gladness.*

*Psalms 100:2a*

*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.

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♪ Welcoming Song

*We prepare our hearts for worship.*

Greetings and the Sharing of God's Peace

✦ Confession and Forgiveness

PASTOR: LORD God, we promise one thing, then do another. We say...

**ALL: "God, I will be bold in goodness! And when I see wrong, I will be brave, helping to make it right."**

PASTOR: But we don't. Instead of facing risks, we avoid them. Again and again, we hide in our comfort zones.

**ALL: We let fear make us cowards.**

PASTOR: But the LORD came to make us new! As Jesus Christ, God entered the human world to repair the human condition. Facing all the powers of evil, He went to the cross, and our faults and failures died there with Him. Three days later, Jesus returned to life, promising the same for everyone who follows Him: a fresh start, a new life, and a path to the perfect eternity of Heaven. We are not what we were, and so we bravely face the days to come. That is why we worship the LORD today!

Prayer of the Day

**ALL: Loving God, change me! By Your Holy Spirit, give me the courage, strength, wisdom, and love I need to live for You, both now and forever. Amen.**

♪ Opening Song "Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks"

#671 WOV

First Reading

*Joel 2:28-32a*



Psalm 145:1, 3-7

READER: <sup>1</sup> I will raise You up, my God and King,  
and praise Your name forever and ever.

**ALL: <sup>3</sup> The LORD is great!**

**More than anyone, He deserves praise!**

**No one can measure God's greatness.**

READER: <sup>4</sup> May every generation tell their children  
about Your mighty acts!

**ALL: We will tell them about Your power!**

READER: <sup>5</sup> I will ponder Your majesty,  
Your glorious splendor,  
Your wonderful miracles!

**ALL: <sup>6</sup> And every tongue will buzz with news  
of Your awe-inspiring deeds!**

**We will proclaim Your greatness.**

READER: <sup>7</sup> Everyone will share the story  
of your wonderful goodness!

**ALL: We will joyfully sing about Your righteousness!**

Second Reading

*Acts 5:12-20*

✦ The Gospel, God's Good News

*John 20:19-31*

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 "Changed for Good"

♪ Our Offering of Worship "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" #684 WOV

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 "Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise" #801 WOV

Sending Song

*We go 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.



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**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.

**Our ALCW annual NEW2U sale is coming up May 16 and 17th.** If you'd like to share your Talents by **baking** something [rolls, cookies, bars, etc.]to serve or sell during the sale .... please have those items in the church kitchen by **7:30 a.m.** on Friday, MAY 16. Historically, some folks have donated jam, jelly, home canned goods, etc. as well. These are nice additions too! Thank you so much!

**You're invited!** **Our Sunday School Spring Program** will be Mother's Day, May 11th at 10:30am. We're so excited for our students to showcase what they've been doing and learning this year! This is a great opportunity to invite family and friends to recognize our Sunday School students, and we'll be done in time for Mother's Day lunch. We can't wait to see you there!

**Save the date: Vacation Bible School** will be June 15th-19th, 2025 with supper starting at 5:30pm and VBS ending at 8pm. Mark your calendars for a fun week of worship, growth, and learning! Share your helping hands - we have jobs for all! Talk to a Board of Education member about the talents you can bring to the table.

**The Prayer Shawl Ministry has many shawls available.** Shawls may be given to people who may be ill, in some kind of stressful situation, or who are in special need of an act of love and friendship. These shawls have been

knitted or crocheted by crafters who work with a pray-ful attitude, thoughtful of the love of Jesus the shawl is intended to represent. Contact Jan Jorgenson or Lori in the office for a shawl to gift.



**Our 2025 Shoebox project surges ahead!** "Our Room" has already started to gather MANY gifts. Any items you have to share are welcome! WE CANNOT SEND SOAP this year. (Any bars of soap already donated will be passed on to the Baby Care Kit ongoing project).

REMEMBER THIS COMING WEEK TO check clearance sales for Easter themed items that will be perfect for Shoeboxes, ie: stuffies/pencils/toys/erasers/other school supplies/clothing etc.

There will be another workday in May. Watch for coming announcements.



# 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 Mikkelsen.

**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 April is the Todd County Chaplaincy**, a program designed to develop trusting relationships with law enforcement, emergency personnel and provide intervention for those who are in crisis, and to offer a mentorship that will help them with accountability, making better choices, lending support, and acquiring necessary skills to be productive people. Our Todd County Chaplains act as first responders giving emotional and spiritual help to any agency or corporation where there is a critical incident or an accidental or natural fatality. The chaplains are on call for emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### **Weekly Report:**

Worship Attendance for last week: 255

General Fund receipts for March: \$17,793.36

General Fund budgeted 2025 March needs: \$23,504.75

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 30<sup>th</sup>, our 2025 YTD General Budget receipts were \$17,505.72 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

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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, Joe Ayers, Bernette Burgeson, Barb Comfort, Jodi Eckel, Karin Fearing, Blain Hall, Larry Hatton, Stephanie James, Dennis Kaneski, Donna Lardy, Josie Marcyes, Francie Maynard, TJ and Cassie Mead, Aubrey Olson, Joan Pesta, Eli Poegel, Tabitha Poegel, Sam Tesch, Al Tirk, Kevin Thole, Rose Thorp, and the family of Shelly Engfer-Triebebach.

**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, 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 30<sup>th</sup> – ALCW

### **Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church**

**Sun. Apr. 27<sup>th</sup>:** 8:30 am Youth & Family Committee meeting  
9:00 am **Worship Service**  
10:15 am Prayer at Altar after Worship Service  
10:15 am **Sunday School**  
11:30 am Missions Committee Meeting

**Mon. Apr. 28<sup>th</sup>:** 8:15 am Staff Meeting

**Wed. Apr. 30<sup>th</sup>:** 5:15 pm **Family Night Supper**  
6:00 pm Confirmation Class

**Thu. May 1<sup>st</sup> – Wed. May 7<sup>th</sup>:** **New2U Ingathering**

**Sat. May 3<sup>rd</sup>:** 9:00 am Holy Communion Class

**Sun. May 4<sup>th</sup>:** 9:00 am **Worship Service with Communion**  
10:15 am Prayer at Altar after Worship Service  
10:15 am **Sunday School** (No Little Lambs Sunday School Today)  
10:20 am Sunday School Students Meet in Choir Room  
10:30 am **Spring Sunday School Program**  
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.