

PHILIPPIANS 4:4A

Rejoice
in the Lord

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American Lutheran Church (ALC)

215 Ninth Street SE • Long Prairie, Minnesota

Pastor Ethan Fearing • 732-2932

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.

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 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

#479 LBW

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, break my chains! I add link after link by my sins, by my faults and failures, anchoring myself to the grave. Forgive me! Save me! Bring me back to life! Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 5:18-20

Psalm 34:15-19

READER: 15 The LORD watches over those who do right;
His ears are open to their cries for help.

**ALL: 16 But the LORD turns away from those who do evil;
He will erase their memory from the earth.**

READER: 17 The LORD hears His people.
When they call to Him for help,
He saves them from all their troubles!

**ALL: 18 The LORD is close to the brokenhearted;
He rescues those whose spirits are crushed.**

READER: 19 The righteous person faces many troubles...
ALL: ...but the LORD comes to the rescue each time!

Choral Medley “You are My All in All / Beautiful / Redeemer”

Second Reading

Acts 16:16-18

✦ 🎵 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 Luke, the eighth chapter.

ALL: Glory to You, O LORD!

Luke 8:26-39

PASTOR: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to You, O Christ!

Children’s Sermon

Sermon “Love and Life”

✦ 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 “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

#439 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.

The Words of Institution

Page 69 LBW

♪ Communion Hymns

“I Lay My Sins on Jesus”

#305 LBW

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

#503 LBW

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 “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”

#389 LBW

Postlude

We depart in peace, ready to serve the LORD!

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 in honor of family. 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 13, 2025

Isaiah 56:1-2, 6-7 Philippians 2:5-11

Psalms 8:1-2, 9 Matthew 21:1-11

Sermon Title: "The King is Coming!"

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Ethan Fearing

Altar Guild: Betty Oliver

Deacon: Blanche Tirk

Organist: Mason Ellingson

Acolyte: Kaida Menge

Reader: Tammie Chapin



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 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.

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.

2025 offering envelopes and 2024 annual reports 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.

Our 2025 Shoebox project surges ahead! "Our Room" has already started to gather MANY gifts. We will begin organizing these "gifts" on our first 2025 Shoebox Workday on Wednesday, April 23, beginning at 10 AM! Details remain as on past Workdays:

EVERYONE is welcome! We find tasks for all abilities!

Potluck lunch is shared!

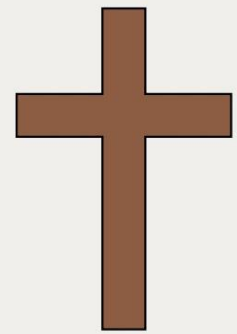
Any items you have to share are welcome! **WE CANNOT SEND SOAP** this year. (Any bars of soap already donated will be passed on to the Baby Care Kit ongoing project).

Come, share the fun, fellowship and Mission!



🕒 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 | | |



Palm
Sunday
April 13th
Pancake
Breakfast

**Mission Trip 2025 to
Kansas City, Missouri
Fundraiser
10:15-11:30
EVERYONE WELCOME!**

American Lutheran Church

EASTER

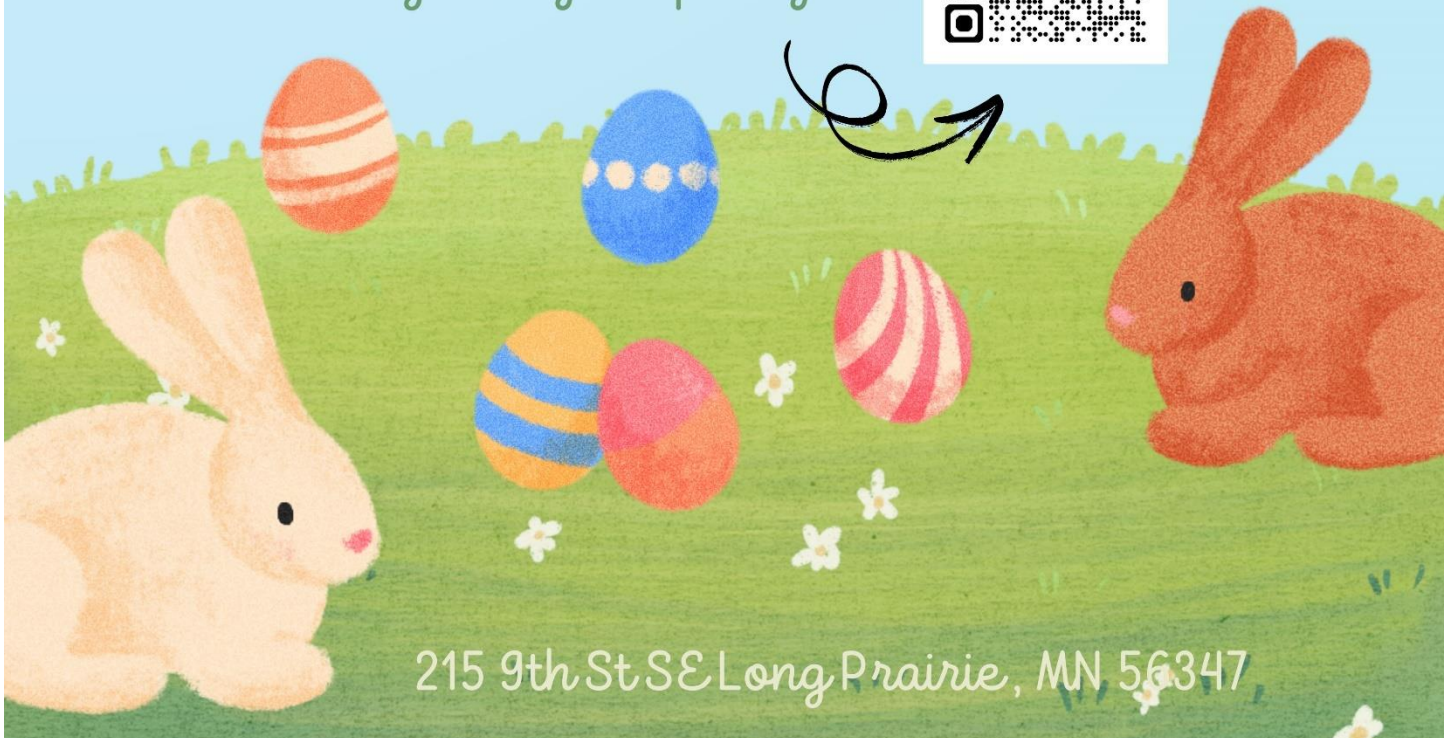
Egg hunt

Join us on

April 18th at 9am

for some egg-citing fun for the whole family!

Please Register your family



215 9th St SE Long Prairie, MN 56347

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 23rd — Postponed!

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 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: 115

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: 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 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 9th – Team 3 – Spaghetti

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

April 23rd – Team 4 – Taco Temptations

April 30th – ALCW

Weekly Schedule at American Lutheran Church

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

Mon. Apr. 7th: 6:00 pm Staff Meeting
7:00 pm Trustee Meeting

Wed. Apr. 9th: 9:30 am Esther Circle
5:15 pm **Family Night Supper**
6:00 pm **Lenten Worship Service with**
Music from The Lamplighters
and Message “The Return of Lazy
Russ”
7:15 pm Choir Practice
7:00 pm Deacon Meeting
8:00 pm Church Council Meeting

Sun. Apr. 13th: 9:00 am **Palm Sunday Worship Service**
10:15 am **Sunday School**
10:15 am – 11:30 am **Pancake Breakfast Youth**
Mission Trip Fundraiser

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.