



**Sunday, September 17, 2023**  
**Today: A Restless Welcome:**  
**Prepare to Welcome**

**8:00am Worship order is on page 2 | 10:15am Worship order is on page 4**

**American Lutheran Church walks in the faith of Jesus  
as we walk with others.**

*All are welcome to be a part of God's Church. There is a place for you here at American Lutheran Church. Our mission is to "share the good news of what God has done for us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ!"*

**September Birthday Greetings this week . . .**

*- If your birthday is missing or wrong, please let Kelly in the office know or write it on the slips inserted in the Bulletin. Thanks!*

- 17) Betty Christensen, Beve Vajgrt
- 18) Jerry Sandstrom
- 20) Dennis Hale, Clasine Lester, Alfred Polzine
- 21) Lainey Colby, Al Oberloh
- 23) Jill Hinsperger
- 24) Susan Johnson

**Today's Flower arrangement is given by:**

*Roxann & Alfred Polzine  
Celebrating Alfred's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on Sept 20*

If you would like to sponsor altar flowers for 2023, contact Kelly Henkels in the office or Dee Hale at (507) 372-2786. The cost of a bouquet of flowers is \$27.00. You can keep them or donate them. Please remember to pay for your flowers in the office.

**Scripture Readings for next Sunday's worship services:**

*Hymns, prayers, and preaching will be drawn from the themes in these stories.*

*Theme: Restless Welcome: Putting it into Practice  
Matthew 19: 13-14 and Matthew 25: 31-46*

## 8 AM | First Word Worship Order

FM Ministry for this service is 88.3

### GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Confession & Forgiveness

Gathering Hymn: *Open Now the Gates of Beauty (vs. 1, 2, & 5)*

**ELW 533**

Greeting

Kyrie

**ELW p. 147**

Canticle of Praise:

*Glory to God in the Highest*

**ELW p. 148**

Prayer of the Day

### WORD

Scripture Story: Matthew 15:1-13

Gospel Acclamation:

*Alleluia*

**ELW p. 151**

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Sermon

### RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn:

*Jesus Christ is Waiting*

Apostle's Creed

The Prayers of God's Church

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Offering Invitation

Community News

Offering Hymn

*We Give Thee but Thine Own (vs. 1 & 4)*

**ELW 686**

Prayer for Hospitality & Gratitude

### MEAL

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Communion Instructions

Communion Hymn:

*Lamb of God*

**ELW p. 154**

Hymn during Communion

*What Feast of Love*

**ELW 487**

Post-Communion Blessing

Prayer After Communion

### SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn:

*To Be Your Presence*

**ELW 546**

Dismissal  
Postlude

### 8 AM | First Word Worship Leaders

**Ministers:** All people of the American Lutheran Church

**Pastors:** Anne Hokenstad and Jeremy Hallquist

**Musicians:** Cindy Anderson & Karla Kirkeby

**Ushers:** Shauna Carroll, Laura Hoffman, Russell Obermoller, Dave Nerem

**Greeters:** Bob & Sandy Demuth

## Caring News | Prayer Ministry

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### *Health Concerns: (Short and long-term sickness and illness)*

- Ruth Rusche
- Maci Their
- Gabby Peterson
- Gerald Fuerstenberg

### *In Sympathy: (Grieving the death of family).*

Those whose sorrows go unspoken.

Those who know the loss of relationships.

Our prayer list will be updated every two weeks. Please notify the office or pastors if you wish to have someone remain on the list.

### *Praise the Lord: (Joys and Answered Prayers):*

Answered prayers for health  
Community Celebrations

### *For Support: (On-going life circumstances)*

- Jo Strube- Mother of Cathy Buxengard
- Mitchell Wagner- Grandson of Keith and Kathy Harberts
- Marvella- Mother of Sherrie and Kevin Adolph
- Montana Scholten- Granddaughter of Sherrie and Kevin Adolph
- Ruth Weiland- Granddaughter of Dee Weiland
- Buddy and Sylvia Richter- Parents of Laura Bourquin
- Patrick Weiland- Son of Dee Weiland
- Mary Hamlin-Palmer- Aunt of Jeremy Hallquist
- MaryJo Duerksen- Aunt of Shirley Rempel

**GATHERING**

Prelude  
Welcome  
Call to Worship: *You are Welcome Here*  
We Bid You Welcome Litany  
Greeting  
Gathering Song: *You are Welcome Here*  
Confession & Forgiveness  
Song of Praise *Salvation's Song*  
Prayer of the Day

**WORD**

Scripture Story: Matthew 25: 1-13  
Scripture Song: *Jesus Loves Me (vs. 1 & chorus)*  
Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46  
Message

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

Hymn: *Jesus Christ is Waiting*  
Statement of Faith  
The Prayers of God's Church  
Sharing the Peace of Christ  
Offering Invitation  
Community News  
Offering *Instrumental Music*  
Prayer for Hospitality & Gratitude

**MEAL**

Communion Liturgy (*intertwined with the song, Welcome Table*)  
Communion Instructions  
Communion: *Lord Have Mercy*  
Communion Blessing  
Communion Prayer

**SENDING**

Blessing  
Sending Hymn: *Build Your Kingdom Here*  
Postlude

## 10 AM | Journey Worship Leaders

**Ministers:** All people of American Lutheran Church

**Pastors:** Anne Hokenstad & Jeremy Hallquist

**Musicians:** Cindy Anderson & Dan Horn

**Ushers:** Randy Thompson, Mark Prunty, Kay Prunty, Darren Ponto, Nicholas Raymo

**Greeter:** Bob & Sandy Demuth

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<b>This Sunday 9/17</b>	<b>Next Sunday 9/24</b>
<b>Fill:</b> Sharon Johansen	Sue Rose
<b>Refill:</b> Paul & Marlys Busse	Bob & Shirly Wieme
<b>Clean up:</b> Marlyn & Corrine Mammen	Karen Pfeifer
<b>Communion Servers:</b> 8:00-Rod Obermoller, Grant Sorensen, Pam Handevidt 10:00- Lori Dudley, Mary Turner	<b>8:00-</b> Bob & Sandy Demuth, Lori Glawe <b>10:00-</b> Jay & Melissa Jensen, Karen Pfeifer
<b>Coffee Servers:</b> Vern & Val Correll Steve & Vernietta Hansberger	<b>Church Lock-up:</b> Arvid Nielsen

## Announcements |Sept. 17-24, 2023

**Fall-Spring Worship Schedule** begins today. First Word Worship is at 8:00 a.m. and the Journey Worship is at 10:15 a.m. now until Memorial Day weekend.

**Two options for Coffee & Kinship** happen on a Sunday morning. In the Fellowship hall, join with others for a time of coffee, kinship, and donuts. Starting on September 24, there will be coffee, treats, and kinship in the Gathering Space in a ‘coffee house’ atmosphere. There is a sign-up sheet at the welcome center if you would like to help with Contemporary Coffee.

**Adult Bible Study** begins this week for the year of reading through the Bible. We begin with the book of Ezekiel. Kris Besel is the instructor. The same session is offered twice weekly on Tuesdays at 1 p.m. and Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Sign up at the Welcome Center. You can join at any time.

**Prayer Shawl Gatherings** occur this week on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. Meet in the Gathering Space. We have new yarn! Patterns available. You can join at any time.

**Operation Christmas Child-** Shipping each box for a child through this ministry costs \$10 to ship. Please consider donating a gift of \$10, \$20, or even \$30 to aid the Lutheran Women and others who have purchased and packaged nearly 140 boxes. Checks can be written to ALC with Operation Christmas Child written in the memo line.

### **Grocery Cards**

Thanks to the Grocery Gift Card program participation, our *Building Debt has been reduced by almost \$5,200 since November 1, 2021. Your generosity is a gift to the entire congregation.* Please consider contributing to that debt reduction! Purchase your Hy-Vee and Fareway Gift Cards on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, before services, or on weekdays in the church office. You receive full-value cards with 5% of each purchase going to our building debt reduction ministry. Checks are preferred, made out to American Lutheran Building Fund, with “Gift Cards” on the memo line. Contact Harlan or Pam Handevitd at 507-376-5682.

**Shetek Conference of the Women of the ELCA Fall Gathering** will be held on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. at Shetek Lutheran Ministries. All women are invited to attend this morning event. Cost is \$12 payable at the door, and covers registration, coffee and treats, the conference and brunch at 11:00. For more information, contact Diana Kvilhaug at 360-0055.

**Fall Programming Start-ups** for all ages are unrolling as September ends and October begins. Staff and Ministry Team leaders are finalizing preparing to welcome you to ministry events throughout the week. Watch for upcoming details.

**Communication of Ministry** opportunities happen in the following ways:

- Verbal Announcements during worship services on Sunday and Wednesday
- Written Announcements in the Sunday Bulletin
- Weekly Community E-News, usually sent on Tuesday each week.
- The Messenger, the church’s monthly newsletter
- Text Messages sent occasionally.

If you are not receiving the communication through these methods, please let the staff know. The staff works diligently to communicate beyond verbal announcements in a worship service so that you have current information in order that you can engage in our common faith as active participants in God’s loving and welcoming work in Jesus’ name.

September:

September 20:

Wednesday Faith Formation begins

September 24:

Sunday school begins

If you missed the Fall Kick-Off at the Barn or the Parent Orientation Meeting on Sep 13, you can **to register** your child for Faith Formation now. **Simply scan the QR code:**



AND...



For pre-k to 5th grade families, stop by the Welcome Center (in the main lobby) to grab your **Children & Family Ministry Handbook** (pictured above).

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## Youth & Family Ministry

### Fall Dates:

- **Sept 20th:** Wed Night Kickoff
- **Sept 27th:** Faith Formation
- **Oct 4th:** Faith Formation
- **Oct 11th:** Faith Formation
- **Oct 18th:** Faith Formation
- **Oct 25th:** Fall Festival: At The Barn

### SAVE THE DATES:

- **Sept 29th:** CLUB 345.
- **Oct 25th:** Fall Festival for all ages.
- **Oct 20th:** Hang Night  
6-12th grade.
- **Confirmation Sunday:** Oct 29th @ 10 am Service.
- **Nov 17th-18th.** Junior High (6-8th Grade) Youth Gathering.

# Sept. 17-24 Calendar

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## September 17

8:00am First Word  
9:00am Coffee & Kinship  
10:15am Journey Worship  
-Baptism after Service  
-Rental 11-1pm

## September 21

6:30pm Church Council

## September 18

9:30am Staff Meeting

## September 22

## September 19

7:45am Men's Fellowship  
11:00am Worship Planning  
1:00pm Bible Study Starts  
6:30pm Prayer Shawl  
7:00pm Bell Choir

## September 23

## September 24

8:00am First Word  
9:00am Coffee & Kinship  
/Contemporary Coffee  
Hour  
9:15am Sunday School, Faith  
Formation  
10:15am Journey Worship  
-Baptism

## September 20

9:00am Quilt Tying  
1:00pm Prayer Shawl  
5:30pm Meal  
6:30pm Service  
7:00pm Choir  
Bible Study  
Faith Formation

## **Church Office Hours**

### Monday – Friday

8:00am – 12:00pm

### Monday – Thursday

12:30pm – 2:30pm

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## Friday

Pastors' Sabbath Day

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