



# Mission Interpretation

Telling stories of our hands doing God's work

## Mission Memo #482

June 16, 2020

### 3rd Sunday after Pentecost (June 21, 2020)



God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

#### Readings

- [Jeremiah 20:7-13](#) - *The prophet must speak despite opposition*
- [Psalm 69:7-10 \[11-15\] 16-18](#) - *Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind. (Ps. 69:16)*
- [Romans 6:1b-11](#) - *Buried and raised with Christ by baptism*
- [Matthew 10:24-39](#) - *The cost of discipleship*

#### **God Comes First**

God is, the theologians say, transcendent—beyond us, always exceeding our easy grasp. Recognizing God's awesome transcendence brings a reevaluation of other values. The God of vertigo-inspiring infinitude is also the God who know the hairs of our head. Trusting this God, fear is defanged and faith becomes a sort of courage. We live in faithful relationship to the hair-counting God as we joyfully "acknowledge" the one who acknowledges us. And as we do so, reveling in the intimacy of God's loving regard for us, other relationships, even familial ones, take on a different cast. God comes first, we realize, not only in priority, but ontologically, "in the beginning." Before the God who is at once gracious and transcendent, we "lose" our lives and discover the true life in following the way of Jesus the crucified Son.

## 34th Annual Lutherdale Fest Quilt Auction - Saturday, August 8, 2020 - 9am to 3pm

With proper precautions being taken annual fundraiser to support the life changing ministry of Lutherdale is on. Remind folks to set their calendars and join in for a day full of craft sales, tiny treasures, fabric sales, silent auction bidding, and of course the LIVE AUCTION! This event is outdoors. Physical distancing is requested and masks are encouraged. The Live Auction begins at 10am and will

feature over 200 quilts of all sizes, made and donated by many talented and dedicated quilters.

**NEW THIS YEAR!** Special quilt viewing, in 1-hour time slots, will be available Monday, August 3 - Thursday, August 6 for up to 10 people at a time. Participants will have the opportunity to view quilts and place bids. Limited viewing will be available on Friday, August 7 to preview the quilts. Quilt viewing will be inside the Chapel and the new Conference Center. Mask will be required inside the buildings for quilt viewing.

Please call (262)742-2352 or email [Casey@lutherdale.org](mailto:Casey@lutherdale.org) to reserve a time slot. For more information visit <https://www.lutherdale.org/quilts/>

Lutherdale Fest



QUILT AUCTION

## Emanuel Nine day of commemoration and repentance

CHICAGO (June 11, 2020) — June 17 marks the fifth anniversary of the shooting at Mother Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, S.C., where nine people were killed during a Bible study.

To honor this day, the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly [adopted a resolution](#) to establish June 17 as "Emanuel 9 Day of Repentance," commemorating the martyrdom of the Rev. Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, Depayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, the Rev. Daniel L. Simmons, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton and Myra Thompson by Dylann Roof, who grew up in the ELCA. Pinckney and Simmons were graduates of Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, one of the ELCA's seven seminaries.

The ELCA resolution calls for the commemoration to be grounded in prayer, the development of litanies and worship around repentance from racism, and for deepening conversation with the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME Church) on ways of reconciliation and repentance on the matters of racism and white supremacy.

The ELCA Prayer Service for Commemoration of the Emanuel Nine will be available [online](#) at 12 p.m. Eastern time on June 17. Participants include ELCA

leaders representing various leadership groups and ethnic-specific associations, and those who authored and organized the "Emanuel 9 Day of Repentance" resolution. Additionally, several ecumenical partners will participate, including the Rt. Rev. Adam J. Richardson Jr., senior bishop of the AME Church; Mr. Jim Winkler, general secretary and president of the National Council of Churches; and the Rev. Dr. W. Franklyn Richardson, chair of the Conference of National Black Churches. The Rev. Herman Yoos, bishop of the South Carolina Synod, and the Rt. Rev. Samuel L. Green Sr., presiding bishop of the 7th Episcopal District of the AME Church, will co-host the service. The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, ELCA presiding bishop, will deliver the sermon.

The service will conclude with a call to action from three ELCA leaders, including the presiding bishop, Vice President William Horne and the Rev. Tracie Bartholomew, chair of the Conference of Bishops.

More information about the ELCA's ecumenical relationship with the AME Church and resources to help congregations honor this day are available [here](#).

<https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8042>

## **COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE - SITUATION REPORT 4**

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect countless lives across the country. As of June 14, there have been a total of 2 million cases in the United States and over 114,000 people have lost their lives. This number continues to grow daily, despite the many preventative actions that communities are taking.



Lutheran Disaster Response is supporting ELCA synods and affiliated social ministry organizations around the U.S. in response to the pandemic, with attention to vulnerable communities, e.g. homeless, senior, and unemployed populations. LDR is helping synods to support congregational feeding ministries, such as food pantries, hot meal delivery, and meal distribution. These ministries prioritize ethnic communities, underrepresented groups, and those whose livelihoods have been affected by the COVID19 pandemic. LDR has most recently supported the following synods:

Rocky Mountain Synod  
Delaware-Maryland Synod  
Southeast Michigan Synod  
South Dakota Synod  
Sierra Pacific Synod  
Minneapolis Area Synod

Southwest California Synod  
Greater Milwaukee Synod  
Central States Synod  
Montana Synod  
Virginia Synod

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Give Contribute to Lutheran Disaster Response (General Fund).
- Pray Let us pray for the people who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need.
- Connect Share our posts on your social media sites and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. \*Please see previous reports for ongoing responses

## WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2020

June 20th is World Refugee Day - a time when we acknowledge the overwhelming adversity faced by the more than 70 million displaced people worldwide.

At Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS), it is our deepest belief that these vulnerable individuals should be protected, embraced, and empowered in a world of just and welcoming communities.

Join us this week in celebrating the incredible resilience and contributions of refugees in America - and remembering those overseas who look to us for protection.

Explore their interactive page (<https://www.lirs.org/world-refugee-day>) to learn more about refugees, to advocate for compassionate policy solutions, to share and uplift their voices and to [support our work](#) at LIRS. The page includes video of a special **worship service** honoring our refugee and immigrant brothers and sisters.

You can find more stories from LIRS on their blog <https://www.lirs.org/blog/>

**Coming Events:** We look forward to the day we can again meet in person

	Event/Activity	Resources
August 8, 2020	34th Annual Lutherdale Fest Quilt Auction	For more information visit <a href="https://www.lutherdale.org/quilts/">https://www.lutherdale.org/quilts/</a>
Oct.3, 2020	Mission Moments - 33rd Annual Synod Assembly of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod, Tinley Park Convention Center	For more information visit <a href="http://www.mtselca.org/assembly/">http://www.mtselca.org/assembly/</a>
August 8-13, 2022.	2022 Churchwide Assembly Columbus, OH at the Greater Columbus Convention Center	For more information check <a href="http://www.elca.org">www.elca.org</a>

If you have stories of things your congregation is doing to help address current challenges in our congregations, communities, states or the nation please send them to me ( [mic@mtselca.org](mailto:mic@mtselca.org) ) and we can share them through future issues of the Memo and on our Facebook page.