## 40 Days of Giving

**Goal amount:** $

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<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
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<td>Holy and righteous God, teach us, your church, to be honest about our sinfulness. Turn our hearts back to you to receive the fullness of your forgiveness and redemption. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.</td>
<td>We show God’s love by walking alongside our neighbors as they creatively and courageously address hunger and poverty in their communities. As we journey through these 40 days and hear some of their stories, read more by downloading a copy at ELCA.org/40Days.</td>
<td>Today would be a good day to set a goal for your giving to ELCA World Hunger as part of the 40 Days of Giving. That goal might be a specific dollar amount or one of the ideas shown throughout this calendar. Write it down on the line above and refer back to it throughout the next six weeks.</td>
<td>Use the prayer and fasting calendar days to both give something up and take something on, with Colossians 3:12-14 as your guide. On this day of prayer and fasting, I will Clothe myself in compassion and let go of discord. Colossians 3:12</td>
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Open wide your hand to satisfy the needs of every living thing. Send your Spirit to places experiencing drought or floods. Fill every habitat with life. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.


Soothe the souls of people who feel like they are beyond your mercy. Wash away the barriers that keep us far from you, and restore joy in our lives. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.


In the village of Chale, Malawi, Shadrack has been cultivating trees for two years, and the oldest are nearly ready to sell and transplant. His nursery was made possible by a small business loan, supported by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger. Read more about his story in A Legacy of Stewardship.


Your mercy is great.

**Self-Examination and Repentance:**

In repentance, we recognize the ways sin continues to disrupt communities and contribute to hunger and poverty. Use the prayers of intercession shown throughout the calendar as your focus for these days.

Prayers adapted from Sundays and Seasons (Augsburg Fortress, 2019).

**Prayer and Fasting:**

As part of this discipline, use the selected calendar days to both give something up and take something on, with Colossians 3:12-14 as your guide.

**Works of Love:**

ELCA World Hunger is our church’s ministry to end hunger and poverty in more than 60 countries around the world, including the United States. We show God’s love to others by walking alongside our neighbors as they creatively and courageously address hunger and poverty in their communities.

**Sacrificial Giving:**

As you journey through Lent, practice sacrificial giving by supporting the work of ELCA World Hunger beyond your typical offerings. Consider using a 40 Days of Giving coin jar, setting a specific goal amount (such as $2/day) or selecting one of the ideas shown throughout this calendar. See other ideas at ELCA.org/40Days.
ELCA World Hunger
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God’s work. Our hands.

**APRIL 2019**

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<td>Fill our fasting bodies with your spirit of justice. Lead us into the challenging work of feeding and freeing all people. Fulfill your purpose in us. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.</td>
<td>St. Matthew Trinity Lutheran Church’s Lunchtime Ministry offers a warm meal, hospitality and community to neighbors in Hoboken, N.J. While different things bring people there, the only requirement is respect for the space and people. Read more in One Life: a lifetime that never worried about.</td>
<td>More than 30 million children in the U.S. depend on free or reduced-price lunches each weekday. But on weekends, many students go hungry. A gift of $10 is enough to ensure children and their families have a couple of days of healthy eats, and one less thing to worry about.</td>
<td>On this day of prayer and fasting, I will: Cloteh myself in patience and let go of indifference. Colossians 3:12</td>
<td>For families in Akron, Ohio, DLM (Dare to Love More) Food and Resources is a place to find nourishing food, warm clothes and an equally warm welcome. “Our clients feel seen, heard and loved,” said Rachel Breece, special programs coordinator. Read more in Dare to Love More.</td>
<td>Millions of Americans struggle to get enough to eat. Whether looking for a refuge from the streets or a little extra help to get by, a warm meal and a seat at the table can go a long way. A gift of $100 to ELCA World Hunger can help feed 50 people at a soup kitchen.</td>
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Read today’s Gospel reading together, John 12:1-8

Reveal the treasures of heaven through the witness of all your saints. Give us the will to journey faithfully and to bear Christ’s salvation to all who yearn for it. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.


Reveal your will as you receive our prayers, and conform our ways to your ways, through the saving work of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Alleluia. Christ, our paschal lamb, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia. (1 Corinthians 5:7-8)

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