FEBRUARY 2021

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17. 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 based on a personal commitment or on the goal of a world where all are fed. Christ’s love for us gives life “and justice flow like streams” (Psalm 71:12).

18. “So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is appealing through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake (God) made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God” (2 Corinthians 5:19-21).

19. “Loving for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. Christ be our light!” (ELW 715)

20. “One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless, and we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.” (ELW 496)


22. Being the church will require a definition of community that is more expansive, more diverse and more beautiful than we may imagine. Explore what this means with ELCA World Hunger in this week’s study, “A Bigger ‘We.’”

23. What does your church community look like? In what ways are people of every life journey invited to share their experiences and ideas freely? Gracious and loving God, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, you bring light and life for all the world. We confess the light and love until your light and life fill every community. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

24. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, the rate of hunger around the world was on the rise after a decade of decline. Now, forecasts warn that hunger and poverty could increase with nearly unprecedented speed. A gift of $100 to ELCA World Hunger can make a significant impact on someone’s life with a gift of $20 a day. Consider setting aside that amount through the season to donate to ELCA World Hunger.

25. “Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long” (Psalm 25:4-5).

26. “By your hand you feed your people, food of angels, heaven’s bread. For these gifts we did not labor by your grace we have been fed.” (ELW 496)

27. “By your hand you feed your people” (ELW 496).

28. Read and reflect on Mark 8:31-38.

MARCH 2021

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1. The honesty to which we are called forces us to confront the pain of the world with a vision to transform it.

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3. “Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer” (Psalm 19:14).

4. “Let righteousness roll on as others’ growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.” (ELW 717)

5. “By your hand you feed your people” (ELW 496).

6. “Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure; enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.”

7. “Crumble walls that still divide us; make one body in Christ our Lord.”

8. “By your hand you feed your people” (ELW 496).

9. “Covenant God, since ancient times you have led and fed your people through many wilderness journeys. In this time, give us strength to invest your gifts in our neighbors and communities, that all might be fed. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.”

10. “Let us enter into the joy of our Lord” (ELW 715).

11. “By your hand you feed your people, food of angels, heaven’s bread. For these gifts we did not labor by your grace we have been fed.” (ELW 496)

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22. Ending hunger takes action within community. It is fostered by the hope and trust that, with each step, God is moving our world closer to the goal of a world where all are fed. Read this week’s study, “Action.”

23. Where is there a need for action to end hunger in your community? What will it take to move this action forward?

24. God of promise, God of hope, God of fullness, God of peace, guide us, your people, to be your hands and feet, to work together as you build on our rocky soil a new, just world where all are fed. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

25. “Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us; our competence is from God, who has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of letter but of spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life” (2 Corinthians 3:4-6).

29 O God, your Son chose the path that led to pain before joy and to the cross before glory. Plant his cross in our hearts, so that in its power and love we might come at last to joy and glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

30 Gracious and holy God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

31 Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you. Grant that our love might not grow cold in your service, and that we might not fail or deny you in the time of trial, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Read, reflect on and rejoice in Mark 16:1-8 or John 20:1-18.

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APRIL 2021

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God (Hebrews 12:1-2).

2 “Hope and freedom join the circle: Mary to the garden came, saw the radiance of the marvel, heard the Risen call her name; boldly may we heed Christ’s call, step beyond the garden wall: beautiful the feed proceeding with good news of death’s defeating.”

“Signs and Wonders” (ELW 672)

3 Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Read, reflect on and rejoice in Mark 16:1-8 or John 20:1-18.

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**WORSHIP:** Begin your week with the word of God, preparing your heart and mind to learn more about what it means to hope during the season of Lent.

**STUDY:** Use ELCA World Hunger’s 40 Days of Giving weekly Lenten study at home or with your church community to dive deeper into stories of hunger and hope this Lent. Download at ELCA.org/40Days.

**REFLECT:** Use these days to revisit and reflect on the weekly study readings, either in small groups or individually.

**PRAY:** Use the prayers of intercession shown throughout the calendar this Lent as, together, we humbly ask for God’s care and blessing over all creation. Some prayers have been adapted from Sundays and Seasons (Augsburg Fortress, 2019).

**GIVE:** As you journey through Lent, consider the ways in which your own gifts to ELCA World Hunger can create hope throughout the world. Consider using a 40 Days of Giving jar, setting a specific goal amount (such as $2/day) or selecting one of the ideas shown through this calendar. See other ideas at ELCA.org/40Days.

**HEAR:** Read and reflect on each week’s selected Bible verses on your own, with your family or with a small group, to listen to the word of God this Lent.

**SING:** To close each week — and to remind yourself of the salvation to come in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ — read the included hymn text, either to yourself or out loud as a group, or consider singing the full hymn in your prayer group, Bible study or worship service.

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**Goal amount: $_____**