

SIERRA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MONDAY MESSENGER - June 1, 2020

Pastor's Message:

*“He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?”*

Micah 6:8

As I wrote last week, COVID-19 already prompts anxiety for a lot of us. It is made that much more anxious and fearful a time now by the violence and destruction around our country that has occurred alongside angry yet peaceful protests in response to the death of George Floyd. But, of course, this isn't just about anger over one death. It's expressing anger, frustration and impatience with too many other injustices over too many years heaped upon our African-American siblings and other people of color. We decry and denounce the destruction of property and physical injury. We can understand the depth of pain that is behind these protests. While there has been progress in civil rights since the '60's, all this reveals how far we have yet to go.

Micah's call has become more relevant and urgent than ever before. While we pray to God to calm our fears and we try to limit our news intake to keep from being over-loaded, we also pray that true justice might be done in our country. We lament with those who are crying. We pray for the safety of our law enforcement personnel, National Guard, and protestors. We pray for wisdom and compassion on the part of our elected decision-makers. We look for ways to advocate for reforms and improvements in our legal system and our law enforcement policies and practices. We don't remain silent in the face of prejudice and bigotry but seek to model and lift up Christ-love for all. We practice deep listening to our aggrieved neighbors of color. We participate in and give thanks for the classes that Intern Pastor Paul is leading on these exact issues, focused on our Native American siblings. Most of all, we witness to the way that, at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was gifted upon “all flesh” (Acts 2:17), all people, regardless of their cultural background, ethnic origin, gender, ages and stages of life. That energizes us to speak up, speak out, and keep acting against the diminishment and disregard of all those God calls His children. It is the universal Love of God for ALL creation that keeps us working to fulfill the prayer, “thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

Loving and serving God together,
Pastor Mark Perry

THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS

Members and friends of SELC are sewing cloth masks for our community, NELM and LWR. Thrivent has provided seed money to help purchase supplies and cover shipping expenses. Many will benefit for their generosity. Thank you, Thrivent!

“NEIGHBOR LOVE IN A TRAUMA INFORMED APPROACH TO MINISTRY” SESSION THIS SUNDAY

We were very blessed to have guest speaker, Shaneequa (Isaiah Brokenleg), a Lakota Episcopalian minister, lead us in our class this past Sunday. You're invited Sunday, June 7th, at 1:00 pm, on Zoom and Livestream to join us in Part Three in our Education Module series in conjunction with our Service Journey with the Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission. This coming Sunday, we will finish the slides from Part One in our series which focused on “A Trauma Informed Approach to Ministry.” We will also send out previous slides as requested from those at our first module on Zoom. If you live-streamed or if you interested in reading through these slides in preparation for the Sunday, June 7th session, please email Intern Pastor Paul at intern@selcaz.org, and the slides will be emailed to you.

THANK YOU to all who have donated towards this Project! Over \$9000 has been given and 604 cloth face masks have been handmade and already sent to NELM!

ALSO, for those interested in the online musical event “Indigi-Aid” on June 11th, 3-7 pm, please contact Intern Pastor Paul. Indigi Aid is an online event hosted and featuring Indigenous Performers from tribes all over North America. The proceeds will go towards Indigenous communities affected by COVID-19.

COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM UPDATE

Our next SELC COVID-19 Response Team meeting is this Thursday, June 4th, 6:30 pm. We will again assess and evaluate the most current information received and update the congregation of our decisions soon after that. It is important to note that Bishop Hutterer of the Grand Canyon Synod emailed a letter on May 28th that included these words:

“To date, infections number over 17,000 in Arizona and over 8,000 in both Nevada and Utah. Over 1,300 people have died in the three states... Such statistics testify this is not the time to gather in-person...I have encouraged that there be no in-person gathering until the deaths or cases of newly infected decrease for a minimum of 14 days. At that point, small groups under ten could begin to gather. After 28 days of decrease, groups of less than 50 could begin to gather.” If you'd like to read the full letter, go to our website, www.selcaz.org or call the office and we'll mail it to you.

NAVAJO CHRISTMAS AIRLIFT UPDATE

It is with great sadness that I share there will be no Navajo Christmas airlift this year from SELC. My company is selling the airplane due to losing our contract with Northrup-Grumman. Many thanks to all of you for your contributions in the past. - George Pohlman

FAITH5

Every Night In Every Home!

Our FAITH5 verse of the week is

1 Corinthians 12:4-6:

⁴Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

(Post or keep this weekly scripture in a handy place and every morning or evening share the following as a couple, or with family members in the home or even with a dear friend over the phone.)



Share your highs and lows of the day with one another.



Read the verse of the week and if time permits, the Bible story that pertains to the Scripture of the week.



Talk about how the Bible reading might relate to your highs and lows of the day or how it's speaking to you.



Pray for one another's highs and lows and other prayer requests.



Bless one another. Make the sign of the cross on each other's forehead or the palm of your hands and say something simple such as: "God bless you and keep you in His love and care!" Or feel free to make up your own blessing that incorporates a part of the FAITH5 verse of the week.

SUNDAY LECTIONARY DAILY READINGS

The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

Monday

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Joel 2:18-29
Romans 8:18-24

Tuesday

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Ezekiel 39:7-8, 21-29
Romans 8:26-27

Wednesday

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
Numbers 11:24-30
John 7:37-39

Week around Holy Trinity

Thursday

Psalm 8
Job 38:1-11
2 Timothy 1:8-12a

Friday

Psalm 8
Job 38:12-21
2 Timothy 1:12b-14

Saturday

Psalm 8
Job 38:22-38
John 14:15-17

The Holy Trinity Sunday

Genesis 1:1–2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20