



Turn, O Lord! How Long? Have compassion on your servants! Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all of our days. Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil. Let your work be manifest to your servants, and show your glorious power to your children. -Psalm 89:13-16

One of the most common complaints in the psalms—and perhaps in most of scripture—is the cry “How long, O Lord!” How long must we endure suffering? It is a good and fervent prayer that faithful people of every generation have prayed in moments of despair and grief. It is also the most common question I get as a pastor during a pandemic. How long must our building remain closed? How long must we wear masks and be careful? When can we get together again in person? Unfortunately, the answer is much the same as it always has been: namely that God will act when God will act, and in God’s own time. This is not the same as the time that we, the impatient, want God to act. And therein lies the rub of the prayer. We will continue to have to, frustratingly, and for the foreseeable future, remain on an alternate COVID plan of action. We will do so until such time as this pandemic has truly ended. Which is not the same as when we wish it was over.

But I do have some good news in the meantime. First, we continue to have vibrant and meaningful worship over Zoom every Sunday morning at 10:30am. We’ve had people far and wide join in, and attendance has been rather good. You can join us by clicking on the weekly link published on our Facebook page and website, or by downloading Zoom and entering the meeting ID. You can also call in to the meeting if you do not have access to a computer or are otherwise experiencing difficulties connecting to the meeting. The number to call is 929-205-6099 and then enter our meeting ID which is now easy to remember because it’s our church phone number (with the 906 area code). Just in case you need it, our meeting ID is 906 341 5427. You will also need the meeting password which is our zip code 49854. Secondly, we are going to be starting something new this month. Beginning on Saturday July 25th, we will be adding back Saturday evening services at 5:00pm, except we will be doing them while socially distanced in our cars! Thanks to a generous donation, we now have a shortwave transmitter so that we can broadcast the service directly to your car radios. It’ll be almost like a drive-in movie theater, but with a worship service! These services will be weather dependent, as it involves using sensitive equipment that cannot get wet outdoors. So if it rains on a Saturday evening we will only have Zoom worship that weekend. Hope to see you there (from a safe distance).

On Saturday August 1st we will celebrate my official installation at Zion as minister of word and sacrament. Because we’ve been doing church remotely we haven’t had a chance to gather with the synod officials and other local pastors to mark the blessing of our new relationship together as Pastor and Congregation. The installation service will be part of our Saturday drive-up worship at 5pm. However, if there is inclement weather, the rain date will be the following Sunday at 3pm (also socially distanced in our cars).

I also want to let you know that Zion now has a digital giving option through Tithe.ly . This means there are now two additional ways you can give to support the life of this congregation. The first way is online. You can give online from the giving tab which will be available once our new website goes live (more on that later). Or you can also type this address into your web-browser: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1935669> . The second way you can give digitally is with the Tithe.ly app which you can download from Google Play or Apple stores. Setting up an account takes only a minute, and then you can give from your phone by searching for Zion Lutheran Manistique.

When you give securely using any of the above ways, you can chose to make a one-time donation or set up recurring donations. By default a small amount will be deducted automatically from your donation to cover the fees. This automatic deduction is the only way Tithe.ly charges Zion for this service. However, if you so desire, you may click the box next to the *cover fees* option. This will slightly increase the cost charged to your account and allow Zion to receive the full amount of your desired donation. Either way, your generosity is greatly appreciated. Your continued giving shares life with all of the good things happening at Zion!

Finally, I have one more exciting bit of news. I am currently hard at work redesigning our website from scratch! In this time of quarantine and isolation, it was my desire to make visiting us on the web more like visiting us in person. My ideas were so detailed and fantastical though, that our current website manager decided it was beyond what he was willing to do. There were also several practical functionality updates that we could not get with our previous website manager. Luckily, you have called a pastor who knows a thing or two about web design. So off we go! If, while looking at our old website you had any thoughts like “oh, I wish this other thing was up there!” or “Why don’t we have such and such information?” I will gladly take your ideas into consideration. I won’t make any promises, but feel free to send me an e-mail at pastor.tommyrichter@gmail.com . The more detailed you can be the better! I’m really excited for how my dreams for the new webpage are coming together, and I hope you will enjoy it once it goes live later this month.

-Pastor Tommy.

Roofing Project Contributors May 2020

James & Pastor Ellie Russey
Sheila Clark
Gary & Cindy Kayser
Liz Macklem
Randy & Kelly Hatinger
Frank & Shirley Leitgeb
Joanne Nelson
Lila Panek

To help to support our church during this time of crisis, you can mail your pledges in. The envelopes are made to be mailed or you can save a stamp and drop it in our **locked** mailbox

If you have email, please send your email address to the church office—shirley.leitgeb@zionmanistique.org.



The Families of Sally Ketchem and Eleanor Jackson.

The Delta Conference has decided not to participate in the State Fair. (The State Fair board has since decided to cancel the Fair until 2021). Immanuel Lutheran in Escanaba is collecting diapers for the Mission of Hope. They will also accept monetary donations to help purchase items that are needed. If you would like to donate to the Mission of Hope, you can drop them off to the church office Monday-Thursday from 9:00 am to 12:00pm. Please knock on the door as they are kept locked.

Upcoming Scripture Readings

July 5—Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Zechariah 9:9-12, Psalm 145:8-14, Romans 7:15-25a,
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

July 12—Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 55:10-13, Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13, Romans 8:1-11,
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

July 19—Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 44:6-8, Psalm 86:11-17, Romans 8:12-25,
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

July 27—Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Kings 3:5-12, Psalm 119:129-136, Romans 8:26-39,
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Gifts to our congregation have been given in memory of

Robert Panek

Will & Kathy Barker—Memorial
Anna, Karin, Elsa—Nordic Paint Fund
Jeanne Jenerou—Quilters
Darryl & Kathy Peterson—Quilters
Steve & Kim Fannin—Memorial
Joanne Nelson—Altar Guild
Dorothy Brandstrom—Memorial
Tom & Carla Flodin—Nordic Fund
Jean Selling & Family—Memorial
Tom Broullire—Memorial
Joel & Adele Panek—Memorial
John & Donna Gauthier—Quilters
Lois Bentley—Quilters
Liz Macklem—Quilters
Jeanne McHugh—Memorial
Dorothy Love—Memorial
Joel & Sherri Krause—Pew Cushions
Betty DeSautel—Quilters
David & Gloria McGuire—Memorial
Karen Klaus—Memorial
Don & Sue Clobes—Memorial

Eleanor Jackson

Nancy & Gary Demers & Family—BackPack Buddies
Keith & Mary Rochfort & Family—BackPack Buddies
Jeff & Polly Champeau & Family—BackPack Buddies

Lois Bentley—Pew Cushions
James & Janice Jackson—BackPack Buddies
Eleanor Jackson
Betty DeSautel—Quilters
Amy Johnson
Virginia Scherer—Memorial
Betty Desautel—Quilters
Carol Carlson
Betty DeSautel—Quilters
Betty Slining
Joel & Sherri Krause—Pew Cushions
Sally Ketchum
Betty DeSautel—Quilters

MEET OUR GRADUATE:

Brittnay Bellville is the daughter of Deb Arenz and Carl Bellville. While in school Brittnay was involved in YETI, National Honor Society, Band, Volleyball, Cross Country and Track & Field. She enjoyed making friends and creating lots of memories and she was crowned Homecoming Queen. What she liked most about growing up at Zion was watching the kids program and being a part of them. Brittnay was also our Sankta Lucia in 2019. Her future plans include attending Bay College for two years and then transferring to Central Michigan University for her last two years. Brittnay will be majoring in Biology. Congratulations and God's Blessings on your future endeavors.

From Bishop Finegan

*"They have treated the wound of my people carelessly,
saying, 'Peace, peace,' when there is no peace."*

~Jeremiah 8:11

Dear People of the Northern Great Lakes Synod,

It was one of the many times in 2019 that I was staying at a hotel for in-person meetings. I got on the elevator and pushed the button for the lobby, and I saw a gentleman walking purposefully down the hall toward the elevator I was in. He could see that I saw him coming, and as the doors to the elevator were closing, I fumbled to find the button that would hold the doors open. The doors were almost all the way closed, but I pushed the button in time to have them open again just as the man reached the elevator threshold. I watched as his brown face brightened into a wide friendly smile and I realized with aching clarity that he was pleasantly surprised... surprised that I had held the door for him, surprised that he had been extended this simple courtesy, perhaps even surprised, that a white woman, alone on an elevator, had not been afraid to hold the door for him.

How many times, I wondered, had this man had the doors closed to him that my holding them open had been a surprise? How many times had the color of his skin been perceived as threatening? How many times had simple courtesy been denied him?

In these last days and weeks, the news has reported horrible stories of not just courtesies denied to people of color, but lives taken away: a woman asleep in her own apartment is shot dead in her bed (Breonna Taylor), a young man out for a jog is gunned down (Ahmaud Arbery), and George Floyd is arrested, restrained, and killed as he begs for his life and cries out for his mother. At no other time in my memory have white people been more vocal with the questions, "What is wrong with the world?!?! and What can I do?"

I had new awareness of the way our United States is experienced differently by people of color after yet another story of a young African American man who gets pulled over for some minor infraction only to end up dead. As the mother of three 20-something young men, I have the same hopes and fears for them that any other mother has for her children, except that I have not had the worry that my sons will get shot and killed during a traffic stop. It is a reality that parents of color have to "have the talk" with their children. They are instructed, not just to follow the law, not just to be respectful, but to actually be prepared to be the calm and non-anxious presence in the face of prejudice and fear that seems to be looking for an excuse to escalate the tension and might just get them killed. So, what is wrong with our world? And what can you and I and the church do?

We begin with a fearless inventory of our own thoughts, feelings, and discomfort with issues

of race. We begin with a willingness to listen deeply and with compassion. We begin by putting the temptation to defensiveness aside and adopt an attitude of learning. The dangers of white supremacist ideology are real. Such attitudes continue to influence bank loans, education, public funding, housing, immigration policies and more. We need to be aware, and more than just aware, but actively call out what is destructive to ourselves and our neighbors. Hear the word of the Lord through the prophet Jeremiah, we cannot treat this wound carelessly. We cannot pretend there is peace for all when there is only peace for some. This is not justice. This is not obedience to Jesus' commandment to love our neighbors as ourselves. People are in pain, and you and I and us together CAN do something about it.

While we collectively can make a difference, dismantling racism and the systems that perpetuate it begins as a personal and individual journey of discovery and repentance. I know my own journey has gathered momentum in these past days. I suggest a first step is prayer, and a petition to the Holy Spirit of Christ to open eyes, ears, and hearts to God's will for all of creation and for all the people for whom Jesus died. A next step: [check out the resources on our website](#). Read the books, watch the videos, hear the stories. Listen well.

If you are not yet ready for that, simply begin in your own imagination. You've seen the video, the images of Mr. George Floyd, laying on the pavement, his neck under the knee of the arresting officer. Now imagine your son, your husband, your father, your brother, your loved one in the place and posture of George Floyd in his final 8 minutes of life.

Maybe it's not fair, or in poor taste, for me to ask you to do that. But I suspect that until this pain is everyone's pain, until this fear is everyone's fear, not much will change. And that disturbing, heartbreaking image of your loved one in that position of danger and vulnerability will become a catalyst for transformation.

Do not treat this wound, the wound of racism and white supremacist ideology, carelessly. Now is the time for each of us to take another step to understand more deeply the pain that others are feeling and experiencing. Do not be afraid. The Holy Spirit will guide your journey that begins and continues as you take the next step.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Katherine Finegan

Greetings from Fortune Lake!

We pray you are well. In the midst of the coronavirus pandemic and the bubbling up around the racial injustice that has plagued our country since its inception, I am grateful for your work, your faithfulness, and your partnership.

Fortune Lake has also been pivoting in an effort to reach people with the love of Christ in relevant, new ways. I'd like to draw your attention to a number of things in the hope that you'll share these opportunities with your congregations and communities.

A reflective thanksgiving service--is on August 8th at 7 pm Central. These experiences are free of charge and available to everyone. Links to these experiences--and many more--can be found on our website: <http://fortunelake.org/summer-camp/virtual/> and our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/FortuneLakeLutheranCamp/> New material will be posted each week, and the resources will not expire so that people can revisit them at their convenience. Just like you, we are staying up on the latest recommendations and Executive Orders to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. With that in mind, we hope to be open for facility rental sometime in early July. There are plenty of outdoor experiences here, and our Place of Grace is too beautiful not to share! Rental options will include Emanuel Lodge, Grace Lodge, duplexes (Maple and Oak), Chapel, pavilion, and Villager cabins. Additional safeguards will be taken including extra cleaning, reduced capacities, and social distancing expectations. Groups will be responsible for bringing and preparing their own food. If you have family events or other small group gatherings, please consider Fortune Lake for your venue. Visit our site via our virtual camp tour: <https://fortunelake.org/retreats-rentals/camp-tour/>. Contact us for more information and available dates.

Our Fall Fest is on and scheduled for Saturday, October 3! We will gather in community via a virtual platform to bid on beautiful hand-crafted items, quilts, and even some Fortune Lake experiences! There will be a silent auction that begins September 23, a live auction on October 3, and plenty of other ways to support the ministry of Fortune Lake. Watch for more details as the event nears, For now, please let your artists and crafters know that we are seeking items for this event, with a deadline of September 1. Due to shipping costs, we ask that all donations have a value of \$50 or more. Donation forms are attached for you to share, print, and distribute.

Let us continue in this important work together. Thank you for your ministry and mission!

Grace & Peace,

Amanda Rasner
Camp Director

campdirector@fortunelake.org

GERANIUMS

Linda Levin & Kaye MacGregor (10) In Honor of Pastor Levin & Gary & Gigi MacGregor
Marilyn Larson (6) In Memory of Loved Ones
Lila Panek (4) In Honor of Pastor Tommy & Ann
Jeanne Jenerou (4) In Memory of Loved Ones
Mike & Kaye Jarski (2) In Honor of Loves Ones
Debbie & Joshua Kozlowski (10) In Memory of Robert Carpenter
Tom & Carla Flodin (6) In Memory of Elmer & Jean Flodin &
Roy Laux
Joanne Nelson (4) In Memory of Loved Ones
Harry & Verda Kreuzwieser (12) In Memory of Daughter Karen
Larry & Rebecca Peterson (10) In Memory of Their Parents
Mary Ansell (2) To the Glory of God
Karen Klaus (3) In Honor of Tom Klaus
Mary & Donn Davidson (20)
Jean Selling & Family (4) In Memory of Francis & Kathy Selling
Betty Denessen (2) In Memory of Nick
Lois Bentley (3) In Memory of her husband Ron

Thank you to everyone who ordered Geraniums. We had 104 ordered and we were the only church that reserved them. The sanctuary **would have been** beautiful!

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Musician: Linda Levin

Choir Director: Rebecca Peterson

Sunday School Coordinator: Sheila Clark

Custodian: Pat Toennesen

Congregation Council:

Rick Pink, President

Cathy Knudson, Vice President

Kay MacGregor, Secretary

Marie Bellville, Treasurer

Cyndee Miske, Financial Secretary

John Barry

Jo-Nell Berger

Naomi Fletcher

Linda Levin

Kathy McDonough

Donna Mott

Teddy Nelson

Cindy Olli

Jim Russey



A congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.