



The Prairie Land Lutheran Parish Messenger

March 2020



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Friends in Christ:

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. Ephesians 6:18a

Prayer is supposed to be an important part of the life of any Christian, right? But how many of us are really confident in our ability to pray?

Maybe we're not sure what to ask for, or how to speak to God, or what words to use. Maybe we're too easily distracted. Maybe we're not that great at sitting still. Maybe we're too impatient. Maybe we're too busy. Maybe we just forget!

The season of Lent is a great time to work on our prayer practices. Prayer, after all, is one of the three traditional disciplines of Lent (the other two are fasting and almsgiving). And it's something almost all of us (yes, even pastors) can use a little help with.

This year, prayer is going to be the focus of our midweek services. Specifically, a form of prayer called *contemplative prayer*, which is prayer that is more about *being with* God than *talking to* God.

That's very easy to say, but not everyone can really appreciate just sitting still in quiet contemplation—and God knows that! God knows that we need to approach God and spend time with God in different ways. And so there are as many ways to pray as there are people!

We'll be looking at (and experiencing) some techniques from the book *Praying in Color* by Sybil MacBeth (prayingincolor.com). The practice is deceptively simple. No special skills are required. It's playful enough to be engaging for children—and for adults who sometimes miss having a more childlike faith. It's especially great for people who learn visually, or through movement.

If you're interested in giving it a try and you are unable to come to our midweek Lenten suppers and services (or even if you just can't wait), you can look up the book or go to the author's website. Here's a summary of one basic approach, to get you started:

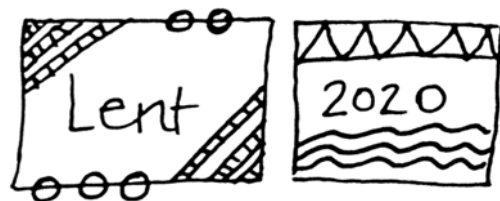
First, draw a shape. Second, write inside the shape the name of the person or the concern you wish to pray for. Third, embellish the shape with details and add color.

As you go through this process, you will naturally tend to think about God and the person you are praying for. Continue for as long as you like, then repeat the process with another person or concern.

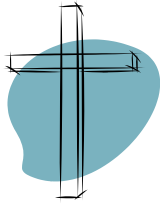
Don't worry about your drawing skills. Embrace your imperfection. The main goal is simply to spend some time with God. Afterwards, the colors and shapes and the movements of your hand will help you to remember the experience.

Does this sound like fun to you? Does it sound way too easy? Too difficult? Too silly to count as prayer? I've been trying this practice myself, and I've been surprised at how meaningful I've found it. If nothing else, giving it a try may inspire you to find some other way that works for you to pray.

My prayer for you is that wherever you are, you may have a chance to know that you are in God's presence, and that God welcomes spending time with you.



Pastor Sarah Taylor



Vital Statistics

Lake Hanska

Jan 19th Church cancelled
Jan 26th 36
Feb 2nd at Zion
Feb 9th Church cancelled

Zion

Jan 19th Church cancelled
Jan 26th at L.H. \$1,065.00
Feb 2nd 48 \$2,071.00
Feb 9th Church cancelled

Worship Schedule for March

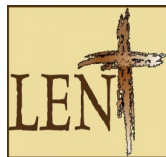
Joint 10:00a.m. Worship in March

**Worship at Zion Church March 1st, 15th and 29th
Sunday School at Zion the 1st and 15th**

Worship at Lake Hanska Church March 8th and 22nd

March Lenten Worship Schedule

**Ash Wednesday February 26th
7:00p.m. at Zion**



**Wed. March 4th at Lake Hanska
6:00p.m. Supper
7:00p.m. Worship**

**Wed. March 11th at Zion
6:00p.m. Supper
7:00p.m. Worship**

**Wed. March 18th at Lake Hanska
6:00p.m. Supper
7:00p.m. Worship**

**Wed. March 25th at Zion
6:00p.m. Supper
7:00p.m. Worship**

All offering during Lenten worship goes to Food for Kidz



I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

Prairie Land Lutheran Parish Women of the ELCA

Lake Hanska W-ELCA

Altar Guild: Pam Kjelshus
and Jane Ahlness

Wednesday March 4th 9:30a.m.
Sewing, 10:30a.m. All women
of Lake Hanska Church are
welcome to join us for coffee

Lenten Supper - Wed March 4th
and
Wed March 18th

Zion W-ELCA

Altar Guild: Karen Peterson

Communion: Jill Miller
and Lisa Miller

Flowers: Zion W-ELCA
(No flowers during Lent)

Lenten Suppers - Wed. March 11th
and
Wed. March 25th

Zion Ushers For March

Dean Ellanson, Dave Vee, Steve Odegard
and Terry Thordson

Council member of the month: Mark Sletta

Lake Hanska W-ELCA Officers

Group Coordinator:
Bonnie Lilleodden

Altar Guild Chairperson:
Suzanne Stoesz

Treasurer: Shirley Brudelie

Cradle Roll: Jane Ahlness

Living Meadows Auxiliary Rep:
Deanne Pizel and Bonnie Lilleodden

Zion W-ELCA Officers

President: Darlene Odegard

Vice President: Karen Haack

Secretary: Kay Grams

Treasurer: Sonja Smesmo

Living Meadows Auxiliary Rep:
Beverly Michels

Cheer Committee: Cheryl Mosenden*
*Please call if a family member is in the hospital and
would like to be on the prayer list

Hanska Fire Department Breakfast

Hanska sausages and all you can eat

Dad's Famous Belgian Waffles

Sunday March 15, 2020

Hanska Community Center

Food For Kidz

We will be packing food on

Sunday April 5, 2020

Please come to Lenten worship and give!

Council Officers for 2020

Lake Hanska

President: Jim Lilleodden

Secretary: Cheryl Doe

Treasurer: Beth Kral

Financial Secretary:

Bonnie Lilleodden

Trustees: Mike Paulson

Brian Kjelshus

Norman Skarpohl

Deacons: Virginia Kjelshus

Deanne Pizel

Jane Ahlness will help with
communion

Board of Ed: No Sunday School

PLL Council Reps:

Tim Peterson,

Suzanne and Larry Stoesz

Beth Kral

Bonnie Lilleodden

L.M. Delegates: Larry Stoesz,
Deanne Pizel and Bonnie Lilleodden

Zion

President: Tim Miller

Vice President:

Dan Paulson

Secretary: Kay Grams

Treasurer: Don Grams

Financial Secretary:

Lisa Miller

Board of Education:

Lisa Miller, Sarah Mosenden,
and Kelsey Miller

Council Members:

Dave Vee, Steve Odegard, Heidi
Walters, Mark Sletta, Karen Haack
and Jon Reinhart

PLL Council Reps:

Carla Grams

Darlene Odegard

Tim Miller

John Larson

Alternates: Lisa Miller

Steve Odegard

L.M. Delegates: Sharon Miller
and Annette Larson

Prairie Land Lutheran Parish Council Officers

President: Tim Peterson

Vice President: Tim Miller

Secretary: Beth Kral

Treasurer: Don Grams



Prairie Land Lutheran Parish
PO Box 65
Hanska, MN 56041

Non-Profit Organization
Permit 7
Hanska, MN 56041

Address Service Requested

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Prairie Land Lutheran Parish
Parsonage Office
213 Summit Avenue
PO Box 65
Hanska, MN 56041
Phone: 507-439-6201

March Worship Schedule

Joint 10:00a.m. Worship in March

**Worship at Zion Church March 1st, 15th and 29th
Sunday School at Zion March 1st and 15th**

Worship at Lake Hanska Church March 8th and 22nd

Lenten Schedule

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7:00p.m. Worship

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