

Prayer Concerns

During this period of closure, please email the Church Office at goldhill.elca@gmail.com with prayer requests and updates.

Family & friends of Dorothy Gronvold – following her death; prayers of peace and comfort as they mourn their loss

Bob Matson – celebrating his birthday on March 27

Pastor Jean Hay – undergoing treatment for cancer

We offer our prayers for:

- Health care professionals, first responders, researchers, and their families.
- Those willingly testing new vaccines or other methods of treating this virus.
- Families and children who are out of school, and teachers trying to serve them from afar.
- Those who are food-insecure, especially children.
- Those for whom school is a safe place, who now can't be in that safe place.
- All those who have lost their job (hourly workers at schools, hospitality industry...those who prepare/serve food or own those businesses, those who work for hotels, resorts, entertainment, and sports).
- Those who are moving supplies around our country, long haul truckers, airline workers, ship workers, and their families.
- The elderly, those with underlying health issues, and all who fear what is to come.
- Those who live with depression or anxiety, for whom isolation is difficult.

From our Synod prayer calendar we remember:

- For healthcare workers, public officials, church and civic leaders that they may be supported, cared for, and guided by God's wisdom in this time of difficult decision-making on behalf of their communities.
- Hope Lutheran Church, Anaconda; Freedom in Christ Prison Congregation, Deer Lodge; Greater Milwaukee Synod

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers.

Empowered By The Holy Spirit, United To Serve

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Announcement from Pastor Trina

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

It's certainly been a week like none other. Restrictions on gatherings. Businesses closing. The number of those infected growing. And it was with sorrow that we put signs on all the doors at Gold Hill announcing that the building is closed for the time being, as we joined the nationwide effort to curtail the spread of COVID-19.

But, thankfully, the Church is more than a building. It is, in fact, the people of God throughout the world, throughout time, connected *through* Jesus. And so we will need to figure out how to

be those people who are connected through Jesus in *this* time. And to that end, I offer two suggestions.

Connecting as community

Many of us have a lot of extra time on our hands right now, so I would ask you to reach out to those who may need extra words of encouragement in a time of isolation. You can give them a call, send an email, or write them a note and send it through regular mail. I have also asked our Stephen Ministers and our Council to reach out on a weekly basis to check on and be a listening ear to our community. As you connect with one another, if you discover that someone is in need of assistance, please pass that on to Mary and Pastor Trina. And, if you have any contact information updates, please pass those on to Mary.

Worshipping

Thank you to Pastor Sarah Schilcher of Gloria Dei for providing us with a way to gather for *Holden Evening Prayer* last Wednesday. She is in Wisconsin visiting family but was able to tag into technology through her home congregation. Pastor Sarah has since created a YouTube channel on which we will be able to put some shared services over the next several weeks.

She has recorded an abbreviated service for this Sunday, March 22. **It will be posted at 5:00 pm on Saturday** and can be viewed at:

<https://youtu.be/TWycvGr1dZs>

Pastor Sarah returns on Tuesday, and we hope to do some recordings together for next week. Stay tuned for more information on this.

In the meantime, dear ones, pray for one another. Dig into scripture (this Sunday's gospel lesson is John 9:1-41). Reach out to others in love via technology. And know that you are beloved children of God. Pastor Trina