

Northwestern MN Synod's Companion: Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church  
A petition to add to your weekly prayers

#### **First Sunday of Lent**

God of the nations, we give you thanks for the Christian communities in India. Give them the strength to be witnesses to your love and peace. We lift to you the companion relationships among the South Andhra Lutheran Church of India and the ELCA Northeastern Minnesota Synod, and the Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church and the ELCA Northwestern Minnesota Synod. **Lord in your mercy... Hear our Prayer**

#### **Second Sunday of Lent**

God of the world, we pray for the ELCA's five companion churches in India, including the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in India and the Andhra Evangelical Lutheran Church, as we walk hand in hand with them in a variety of programs and projects, such as theological education, women's justice issues, and healthcare. **Lord in your mercy... Hear our Prayer**

#### **Third Sunday of Lent**

We, as churches, assert our identity and vocation as people of God. Hence, our primary partners in God's mission are those "other" children of God who are made vulnerable by social, economic, and political structures and situations – the poorest of the poor – both rural and urban, the indigenous peoples, people with disabilities, victims of racism, the Dalits in India, the displaced people, and similarly discriminated and excluded communities. **Lord in your mercy... Hear our Prayer**

#### **Fourth Sunday of Lent**

Dear God of humans, we ask for solidarity with India's 300 million Dalits. Although caste discrimination was abolished in 1950, India's Dalits continue to be marginalized in Indian society today. We pray for protection from attack and physical abuse. Send your Holy Spirit to be with them as they are often forced to undertake the worst kinds of jobs that make your human slave and slave keepers. **Lord in your mercy... Hear our Prayer**

#### **Fifth Sunday of Lent**

Outcast God, we pray for our siblings born into poverty in an occupied land, marginalized and oppressed. May they have open eyes, to recognize your face in the faces of those who are reviled. Open our ears, so that we who seek to hear your word, may recognize your love in the stories which are often drowned out. Open our hearts, that we who seek your way of life may be bold in witnessing to your longing for justice and peace. **Lord in your mercy... Hear our Prayer** (<http://women.overcomingviolence.org>)

#### **Sixth Sunday of Lent**

Abundant God, those of us with plenty can observe the lives of those with nothing at the click of a switch. At the push of a button, we can close down the images which frighten or revolt us and silence the stories which disturb and unnerve us. Give us compassionate eyes to clearly see the world we live in. Move us from fear to compassion, from willful ignorance to mindful action, from the complicity of silence to the joyful sings of solidarity. We ask it in Jesus' name. **Lord in your mercy... Hear our Prayer** (<http://women.overcomingviolence.org>)

