



November 3, 2020

Dear faithful advocates,

We trust that you have voted or have a plan to do so today. But with the satisfaction of voting may not come an immediate sense of peace.

In the words of our Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, "Throughout our church, many are experiencing heightened anxiety around the 2020 election. I confess that I feel it, too. Elections often raise tensions, but this season more than half of Americans say they are stressed over the future of our nation. We are beset by negative ads, targeted by misinformation campaigns and worried by reports of foreign interference. We are seeing unprecedented numbers voting early and many concerned for safety on Election Day. There are concerns about voter suppression and voter fraud, the near-certainty of delayed results and fear of election-related unrest or violence. We experience all of this under the weight of a pandemic, in a year that has been filled with many crises, especially the ongoing scourge of racism and white supremacy." [Full Message](#)

Prayer Vigils in Wisconsin Today - Election Day

[South-Central Synod of Wisconsin](#) is holding an all-day live prayer vigil from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm led by different pastors and deacons in the synod. Prayers will be led on the hour.

[First Lutheran Church in Onalaska](#) of the La Crosse Area Synod is hosting vigils all day on Nov. 3. Pastors Karyn Bodenschatz and Jason Stanton.

Wednesday Noon Live: *COVID, Elections, and Now the Holidays*

[Wednesday Noon Live](#) - Tomorrow on November 4 at Noon on FB, join us for updates and a special interview with **Peggy Weber, RN, MSN - COVID, Elections, and now the Holidays: How are we to cope?** Peggy worked as a nurse at St. Mary's

Hospital in Madison for 50 years in areas including psychiatry and palliative care. She also has a background as a parish nurse in Catholic churches. Peggy is currently on St. Mary's Ethics Board and uses her nursing gifts to continue serving her community. During COVID, she has offered guidance on non-death grief.

Let us Pray in the words of a *Prayer for World Peace*

We pray for the power to be gentle;
the strength to be forgiving;
the patience to be understanding;
and the endurance to accept the consequences
of holding on to what we believe to be right.

May we put our trust in the power of good to overcome evil
and the power of love to overcome hatred.

We pray for the vision to see and the faith to believe
in a world emancipated from violence,
a new world where fear shall no longer lead men or women to commit injustice,
nor selfishness make them bring suffering to others.

Help us to devote our whole life and thought and energy
to the task of making peace,
praying always for the inspiration and the power
to fulfill the destiny for which we and all men and women were created.

Many blessings upon you this day and beyond,

Pastor Cindy