



Youth Ministry

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

ELCA Youth Core Leadership Team

#5 4/15/2020

Candletime Online (Invite youth to get a candle to light during the prayers)

Share your name and something that is important in your home and something you wish you didn't have in your home.

Share what's been the most difficult part of being told to "stay" at home this past month and what are you missing the most? What's been the best part of the executive orders to "stay" at home?

Read Over the past month, an increasing number of states have ordered residents to stay at home except for essential activities in order to slow the spread of the coronavirus. On March 19, California became the [first state](#) to do so; New York was quick to follow, with Governor Andrew Cuomo announcing [an executive order](#) that took effect a few days later, requiring residents to stay indoors except for essential trips and services. Now, as of April 7, [42 states](#), along with a number of cities and counties, have urged residents to stay in their homes as much as possible. Stay is an interesting word and has different meanings to us.

Ask Before the orders to stay home started, how would you have defined the word "Stay?" What do you think Stay in Place has meant for the homeless?

Read the Bible The word stay is used over 150 times and its used for different meanings. Here's a few!

In some verses the word Stay is used "to remain, to continue in place, to abide for any indefinite time" John 15:4

Stay joined to me, and I will stay joined to you. Just as a branch cannot produce fruit unless it stays joined to the vine, you cannot produce fruit unless you stay joined to me.

Other places Stay means "to dwell" Luke 19:4-6

So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him.

Stay is also used to mean “to continue in a state” Psalm 30:1-5

I will exalt you, Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me. Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.

You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of the dead; you spared me from going down to the pit. Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people; praise his holy name. For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may **stay** for the night but rejoicing comes in the morning.

“Stay” is also used “to wait, to attend” in Matthew 26:37-39

Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee and began to be grieved and agitated. Then he said to them, “I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and **stay** awake with me.”

The word Stay is used to “stop, to stand still” in Exodus 16: 27-30

On the seventh day some of the people went out to gather, and they found none. The Lord said to Moses, “How long will you refuse to keep my commandments and instructions? See! The Lord has given you the sabbath, therefore on the sixth day he gives you food for two days; each of you **stay** where you are; do not leave your place on the seventh day.” So, the people rested on the seventh day.

Stay is also used to mean “to rely; to confide in; to trust” 2 Samuel 22:19

He reached from on high, he took me, he drew me out of mighty waters. He delivered me from my strong enemy, from those who hated me; for they were too mighty for me. They came upon me in the day of my calamity, but the Lord was my **stay**.

Talk about the Bible readings in relation to your circumstance this past month. What about others who are homeless. What does stay in place look like for them?

Light a candle as a symbol that Christ’s light shines around you and hears your prayers.

Take a moment to **pause** in silence. Feel God’s presence with you.

Ask What prayers do you have for God? Who is on your heart to pray for?

Pray Ask everyone to pray for their everyone in their communities, both those with and without homes and for any other petitions and close using this prayer.

Prayer of Padre Pio After Communion

Stay with me, Lord, for it is necessary to have You present so that I do not forget You. You know how easily I abandon You.

Stay with me, Lord, because I am weak and I need Your strength, that I may not fall so often.

Stay with me, Lord, for You are my life, and without You, I am without fervor.

Stay with me, Lord, for You are my light, and without You, I am in darkness.

Stay with me, Lord, to show me Your will.

Stay with me, Lord, so that I hear Your voice and follow You.

Stay with me, Lord, for I desire to love You very much, and always be in Your company.

Stay with me, Lord, if You wish me to be faithful to You.

Stay with me, Lord, for as poor as my soul is, I want it to be a place of consolation for You, a nest of love.

Stay with me, Jesus, for it is getting late and the day is coming to a close, and life passes; death, judgment, eternity approaches. It is necessary to renew my strength, so that I will not stop along the way and for that, I need You. It is getting late and death approaches, I fear the darkness, the temptations, the dryness, the cross, the sorrows. O how I need You, my Jesus, in this night of exile!

Stay with me tonight, Jesus, in life with all its dangers. I need You.

Let me recognize You as Your disciples did at the breaking of the bread, so that the Eucharistic Communion be the Light which disperses the darkness, the force which sustains me, the unique joy of my heart.

Stay with me, Lord, because at the hour of my death, I want to remain united to You, if not by communion, at least by grace and love.

Stay with me, Jesus, I do not ask for divine consolation, because I do not merit it, but the gift of Your Presence, oh yes, I ask this of You!

Stay with me, Lord, for it is You alone I look for, Your Love, Your Grace, Your Will, Your Heart, Your Spirit because I love You and ask no other reward but to love You more and more.

With a firm love, I will love You with all my heart while on earth and continue to love You perfectly during all eternity. **Amen**

Bless one another by marking the sign of the cross on your hand and raising it towards your camera.