

## WORLD HUNGER SUNDAY APPEAL

Zion's World Hunger Sunday is observed during the Advent season, the beginning of the Christian Calendar, when we reflect on Jesus' coming into this world as a babe. World Hunger Sunday gives us an opportunity to join forces at – home and overseas – to live out God's vision of a world without hunger; and it marks a new beginning in our lives, as we wait and hope and pray for the coming of a Savior.

Advent is a time to take off the habits and attitudes that keep us in darkness, separating us from God. It is a time of longing for light, freedom, and a new way of living in this world, as people seeking a King who is to come and reign in our hearts forever. Jesus is both food for our spiritual journey and food that physically nourishes us. It is fitting that the Savior, at the start of his life, would be placed in a feeding-trough as a sign, not only of who He is, but of how He will fulfill His purpose.

May this Advent Season transform us by the renewing of our mind so that we may become a community of caring people, feeding hungry hearts through worship, through our love of neighbors, and through our giving. As we prepare to celebrate the gift of Jesus, may the Holy Season give us the opportunity to reflect on our giving and how we can give gifts that feed hungry hearts. Per the latest Hunger Projects statistics, 795 million people – or one in nine people in the world – do not have enough to eat.

Over three decades ago, the Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society accepted World Hunger as an annual mission challenge under the presidency of Mrs. Alcestis M. Coleman. December 6, 1982 was designated as the first World Hunger Sunday and, thereafter, missionaries throughout our denomination observe World Hunger Sunday. Programs and activities are planned to increase awareness. The objective of World Hunger Sunday is to help in a spiritual way by sharing and giving of our monetary resources to help relieve the suffering of the hungry. Funds can be contributed any Sunday in December as it is Zion's World Hunger Action Month. We are "*Laborers with Christ as His instruments for feeding the Hungry.*" Let us partner with others to **STOP HUNGER NOW!**

Mary and Joseph could find no place to stay in Bethlehem when Jesus was born, but today WH&OMS ministries with support from the World Hunger Appeal, is providing the sort of help that Jesus' family might have wanted. Giving a monetary gift to the Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society's World Hunger Day Appeal is our response to the Gospel of Jesus.



The **World Hunger Appeal** gift may be reported through your district or sent directly to: **Mrs. Rosetta Dunham, Executive Director, Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society, P.O. BOX 26846, Charlotte, NC 28221-6846.**

## ZION'S WORLD HUNGER DAY



Although various federal safety net programs aimed at alleviating hunger and poor nutrition are effective, they don't reach enough poor families and children. These programs – including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly called food stamps), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (better known as the WIC program), National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, and the Summer Food Service Program – play a critical role in promoting child well-being and preventing homelessness. An estimated 2.2 million Americans are raised above the poverty line each year because they receive SNAP benefits. In fact, SNAP has been called "the single most effective program in lifting children out of extreme poverty."

*Feed the hungry and help those in trouble. Isaiah 58:10a*

### Quadrennial Theme:

*"The Great Commission – A Global Outreach: Personal Calling, Personal Transformation, Personal Instruction and Personal Commitment"*

**Women's Home and Overseas Missionary Society  
African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church  
BUREAU OF SUPPLY**

Mrs. Sara S. Cherrington, General Secretary, Bureau of Supply  
Dr. Sandra L. Gadson, International President

*Church:*

*Pastor:*

# ZION'S WORLD HUNGER SERVICE

*“The Great Commission – A Global Outreach Personal Instruction”*

## THE PROCESSIONAL

### THE CALL TO WORSHIP

**Leader:** Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker; let us follow the instructions of the Provider.

**People:** Share your food with the hungry and open your homes to the homeless poor.

**Leader:** Give clothes to those who have nothing to wear, and do not refuse to help your own relatives.

**All:** Then my favor will shine on you like the morning sun. A new day is dawning. Amen

## THE INVOCATION

Heavenly Father we come before you this morning in the spirit of faith and service, in prayer and supplication regarding the matter of contention concerning hunger throughout the world. We cannot ignore this issue; it is a divine instruction and call to all as we cannot shut our ears and eyes to the hungry whether in our local communities or thousands of miles away. We ask that you remove ungenerous thoughts as we share the abundance of your blessings with others. We ask that you bless all the hungry throughout the world affected by recent disasters and continuous economic hardships as the price of basic food continues to rise throughout the world. Remind us that when we feed others we are feeding you. Lord, you made us to know what hunger is, but also to know the goodness of your provision. Help us to spread that message today in your name we pray. Amen.

## THE HYMN OF PRAISE

### THE LITANY

**Leader:** Advent is a time observed in many churches to celebrate the expectant waiting and preparation for the birth of Baby Jesus.

**People:** As we enter the Advent season, let us put ourselves into the shoes of people whose daily lives reflect human struggles such as hunger.

**Leader:** Stories in the Bible make it clear what Jesus expects of us who follow him.

**People:** Stories like the Good Samaritan, who was marginalized, yet showed compassion and love to all. The ten bridesmaids, five

foolish without sufficient oil, and five wise with plenty of oil for their lamps.

**Leader:** Five bridesmaids who withhold their oil from those in need, and the bridegroom who closes the door on the five women when they return with their oil.

**People:** Jesus tells us to love our neighbors, all people, and to give to those who have nothing.

**Leader:** He also instructs us to give food to the hungry, drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, care for those who are sick, visit those in prison, and always welcome strangers.

**People:** We do these works because every time we serve another it is the same as if we were doing these acts for Jesus himself.

**All:** God of the oppressed, protector of the poor, liberator of the unseen, help us to live our lives in service to our neighbors and in service to you. Amen

## THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

### THE GLORIA PATRI

### THE SCRIPTURE

Psalm 146 / Matthew 25:31-46

### THE PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE CHORAL SELECTION/ANTHEM

### THE NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE MINISTRY OF KINDNESS

## MINUTE FOR MISSIONS

### Working Together to End World Hunger: Pray, Act, Give.

- Hunger Statistics
- Get Involved
- Zion's World Hunger Appeal

## THE OFFERING/OFFERTORY

## THE HYMN OF PREPARATION

### THE MESSAGE

### THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

## THE RECESSIONAL

**THE MISSIONARY BLESSING:** “God be merciful unto us, and bless us, and cause his face to shine upon us and give us peace.” *Amen*