



Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Connecting with God; Connecting with Others; Connecting others with God

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DAILY DEVOTIONAL FROM PASTOR SELL

Monday, December 13

You probably learned the song “Santa Lucia” in elementary school, but do you know the story behind the song?

Lucia lived in Sicily at the end of the third century and died about 304 CE. Although there are many legends about Lucia, the one most common in Sicily tells of her mother’s cure of a disease. In thanksgiving to God, Lucia gave her bridal possessions to the poor. Her disappointed suitor reported her as a Christian and she was arrested. Lucia refused to comply with the rules of the penalty and a fire was set around her which led to her death.

Lucia, whose name means “light” is honored for her faith in Sicily, southern Italy, and Scandinavia. Sweden has a particular custom where the girls of the household dress in white and bring freshly baked sweet rolls to the parents in bed on St. Lucy Day.