



# Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

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## ***DAILY DEVOTIONAL FROM PASTOR SELL***

### **Wednesday, December 8**

Walter Ciszek (1904-1984) was a young Jesuit seminarian who hope to do mission work in Russia but was sidetracked by WWII. He spent years in a labor camp cutting trees, time in a concentration camp, and eventually in a Russian slave labor camp. He was even brought to the point of execution when it was stopped at the very last minute. In each camp people found out he was a priest and sought him out as a spiritual leader. Upon completing his final sentence, he was forced to live in Siberia doing odd jobs to get by. Finally in 1963 he was exchanged for two Russian spies and flown to New York. Ciszek lived another twenty years remaining free of bitterness for his trails. He believed be spiritual lessons he had discovered during his ordeal were applicable to all people. He died December 8, 1884, at the age of eighty.