

**ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH PEMBROKE
THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
SUNDAY MARCH 1 2026
SETTING THREE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP**

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt
and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign,

and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,

and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin,

and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,

and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:
Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.
God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.
Through faith, the free gift of God,
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.
In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead
dwells in you,
pours God's love into your hearts,
and gives you life and peace.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* (ELW 631)

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;
let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

4 Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788. Text: Public Domain.

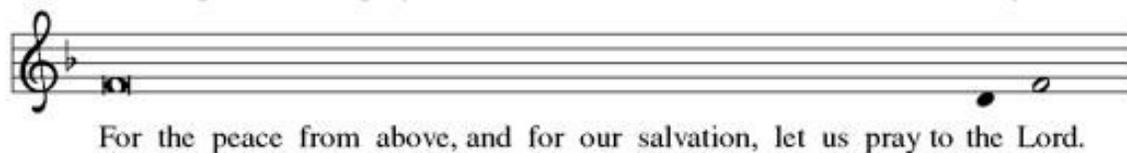
GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE (ELW p. 138)



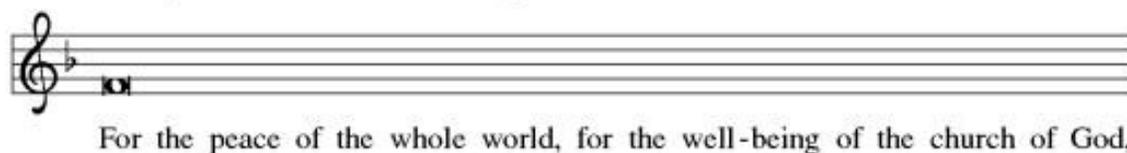
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



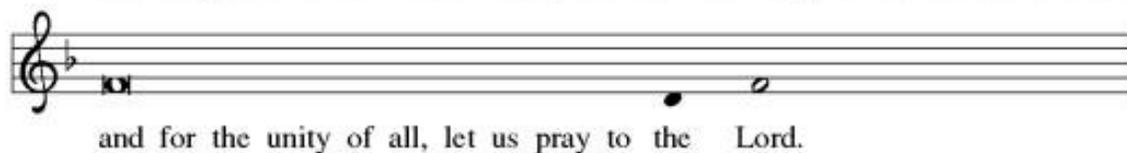
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



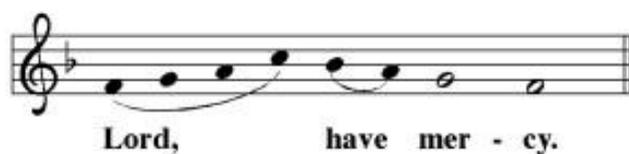
Lord, have mer - cy.



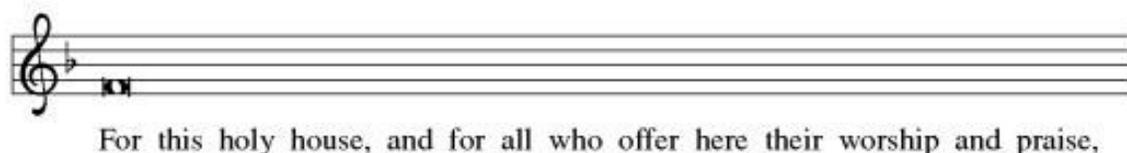
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



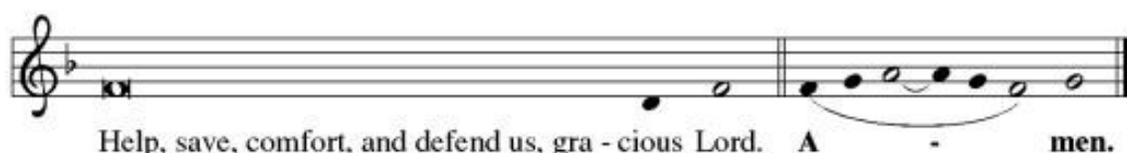
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

A reading from Genesis.

¹ The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

^{4a} So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SOLO: “I Lift My Eyes Up” by Brian Doerksen

Sung by Pastor Sue Nevile

SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

A reading from Romans.

¹ What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ⁴ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵ But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the

promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 142)

**Return to the Lord, your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and abounding in steadfast love.**

GOSPEL: John 3:1-7

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person.” ³ Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵ Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’”
The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *God Loved the World* (ELW 323)

1 God loved the world so that he gave
his only Son the lost to save,
that all who would in him believe
should everlasting life receive.

2 Christ Jesus is the ground of faith,
who was made flesh and suffered death;
all who confide in Christ alone
are built on this chief cornerstone.

3 If you are ill, if death draws near,
this truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus rescues us from death;
that is the firmest ground of faith.

4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son
forgives all sins that you have done,
and justified by Jesus' blood,
your baptism grants the highest good.

5 All glory to the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To you, O blessed Trinity,
be praise now and eternally!

Text: Eisenbach, Bollhagen, 1791; tr. August Crull, 1846–1923, alt. Text: Public Domain.

APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

Faithful One, you renew us by grace. As you have inspired faith through the work of church artists and hymnwriters throughout the ages, give your church the means to praise your beauty today. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Living One, you delight in this world. The sun and moon, the wind and the water declare your goodness. Preserve this earth, and protect conservationists, scientists, and all who labor in service to creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Ruling One, you bless us to be a blessing. Open the hearts of all leaders to seek the flourishing of every person and lend your help to all who wait for justice, deliverance, and peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Compassionate One, you send your Son to save. Declare your word of acceptance to any who feel condemned and lift up any brought low by hatred and exclusion. Tend to all who are struggling with illness or loss (especially *Jason, Martha, Rhonda, Heather, Joan, Larry, Garnet, Betty, Karl, Elva, Eva, Barbara, Inge, Marcella, Kirk, David, Gwen, Jeanette, James, Brittany, Jean, Delton, Jean, June, Katie, Viola, Lorna, Dorothy, Cary, Douglas, and those we name in our hearts and minds*).

Please be with the family and friends of Clarence "Clare" Gagne as they grieve the loss of their loved one. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Eternal One, you neither slumber nor sleep. Be our keeper in life and in death. Thank you for our beloved who have died, and for your promise which saves this whole world by your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN *God of the Fertile Fields* (ACS 1063)

1 God of the fertile fields,
shaper of earth that yields our daily bread:
forth from your bounteous hand
come gifts your love has planned,
that all in ev'ry land
be clothed and fed.

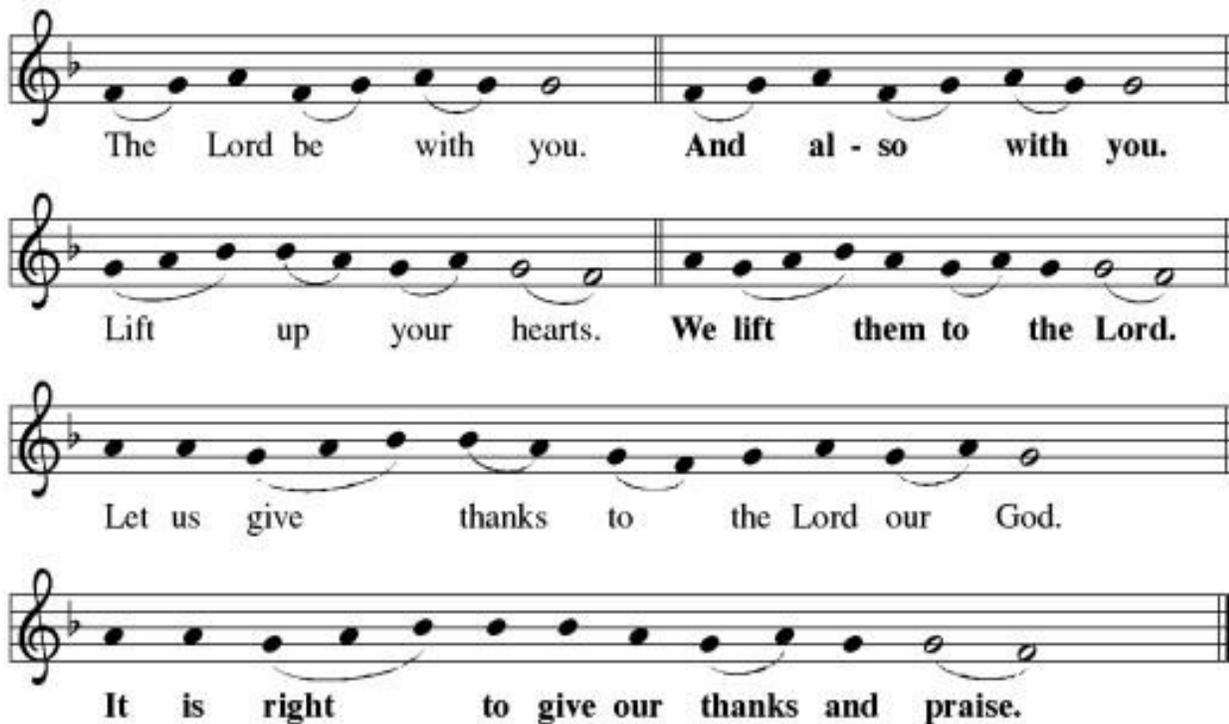
2 We would be stewards true,
holding in trust from you all that you give;
help us in love to share,
teach us like you to care
for people ev'rywhere,
that all may live.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt. Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Used by permission. One License #A-728050.

Offering Prayer

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING
DIALOGUE (ELW p. 144)**



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE (ELW p. 144)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 144)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 145)

O God most mighty,
O God most merciful,
O God our rock and our salvation,
hear us as we praise,
call us to your table,
grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void,
you formed order and beauty.
When Abraham and Sarah were barren,
you sent them a child;
When the Israelites were enslaved,
you led them to freedom.
Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath,
and the psalmists cried out for healing,
and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother.
He was born among the poor,
he lived under oppression,
he wept over the city.
With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. **[Amen.]**
Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. **[Amen.]**
Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **[Amen.]**

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.
O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly,
O God our strength and our song,
you show us a vision of a tree of life
with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.
Grant us such life,
the life of the Father to the Son,
the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior,
life in you, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (SING)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 146)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus* (ELW 451)

1 We are baptized in Christ Jesus,
we are baptized in his death;
that as Christ is raised victorious,
we might live a brand-new life.

And if we have been united
in a dreadful death like his,
we will all be reunited, for he lives.

2 In the water and the witness,
in the breaking of the bread,
in the waiting arms of Jesus
who is risen from the dead,
God has made a new beginning
from the ashes of our past;

in the losing and the winning we hold fast.

3 Glory be to God the Father,
glory be to Christ the Son,
glory to the Holy Spirit,
ever three and ever one;
as it was in the beginning,
glory now resounds again
in a song that has no ending. Amen

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937. Text © 1985 John Ylvisaker. Used by permission. One License #A-728050.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *We Walk by Faith* (ELW 635)

1 We walk by faith and not by sight;
with gracious words draw near,
O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke:
"My peace be with you here."

2 We may not touch your hands and side,
nor follow where you trod;
but in your promise we rejoice,
and cry, "My Lord and God!"

3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;
and may our faith abound
to call on you when you are near
and seek where you are found:

4 For you, O resurrected Lord,
are found in means divine:
beneath the water and the word,
beneath the bread and wine.

5 And when our life of faith is done,
in realms of clearer light
we may behold you as you are,
with full and endless sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt. Text: Public Domain.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
+ bless you now and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult* (ELW 696)

1 Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea,
day by day his clear voice sounding,
saying, "Christian, follow me":

2 As of old Saint Andrew heard it
by the Galilean lake,
turned from home and toil and kindred,
leaving all for Jesus' sake.

3 Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."

4 In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."

5 Jesus calls us! By your mercy,
Savior, may we hear your call,
give our hearts to your obedience,
serve and love you best of all.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895. Text: Public Domain.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA.

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please pray for those who are ill, in hospital, or requested special prayers: Jason Godin, Martha Kodrzyński, Rhonda Mau, Heather Miller, Joan Lehman, Larry Blais, Garnet Miller, Betty Kuehl, Karl Hausser, Elva Gagne, Eva Hagenah, Barbara Schoof, Inge Latiok, Marcella Kuehl, Kirk Weichenthal, David Brumm, Gwen Burchart, Jeanette Nevile, James Dean, Brittany, Jean Kuehl, Jean Rutz, Delton Felske, June Popke, Katie, Viola Hill, Lorna Handke, Dorothy Scheuneman, Cary Lien, Douglas Crigger.

Please be with the families and friends of Clarence “Clare” Gagne as they grieve the loss of their loved one. Clarence Gagne died Sunday February 22 2026. Murphy Funeral Home service was held Thursday February 26th and Spring interment will be at Zion Lutheran Cemetery.

If you know of anyone in hospital, in need of a visit or are recently deceased, please inform the church 613 732-8792 or Pastor Scott 705 313-0333.

MESSY CHURCH Please join us for Messy Church on **Monday March 2nd at 5:30 pm** for Food, Crafts, Stories, Games, Fun – FREE! All ages welcome, bring a friend!

WORSHIP & MUSIC There will be a Worship & Music Meeting on **Monday March 2nd at 7:00 pm.**

SOUP AND SANDWICH DINNERS Soup and Sandwich dinners on **Wednesday March 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th at 5:30 pm.** Free will offerings gratefully accepted going to Friends of Creation Lake CHAD and the General Fund.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES Midweek Lenten Services on **Wednesday March 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th at 6:30 pm.** Service Theme: “Wade In The Water.”

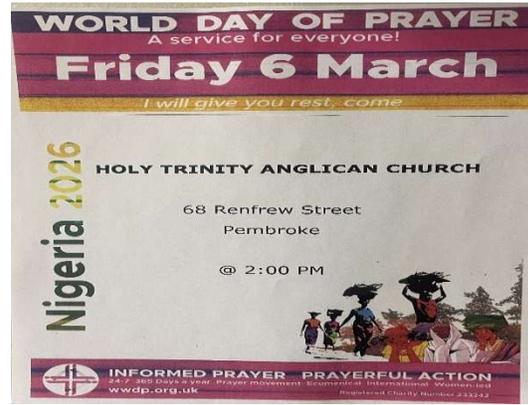
COUNCIL MEETING Council meeting will be on Tuesday March 10th at 7:00 pm.

MORNING SOCIAL Our next Morning Social will be on **Wednesday March 11th at 10:00 am.** Come for coffee and conversation!

SENIOR EXERCISE CLASS Senior Exercise classes on **Monday Wednesday and Friday at 1:00 pm.** Please make sure to tell your friends and we look forward to seeing you!

MIXED & MENS CHOIRS – Men’s Choir on **Tuesday’s at 7:00 pm** and Mixed Choir on **Wednesday’s at 7:00 pm.**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
 Friday March 6th, 2026 2:00 PM
 At Holy Trinity Anglican Church
 68 Renfrew Street Pembroke



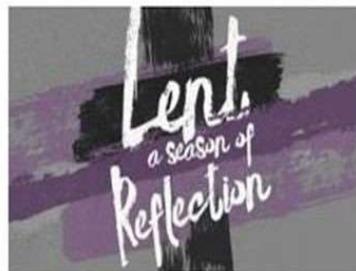
April - Easter Services:
Palm Sunday March 29th 10:00 am
Maundy Thursday April 2nd at 7:00 pm
Good Friday April 3rd at 10:00 am
Easter Morning Sunday April 5th
8:00 am and 10:00 am

OFFERINGS

Thank you for your generosity! If you are interested in leaving an offering for the ministry of the church you can do it three ways: 1.) Place it in the offering plates at either of the church sanctuary doors. 2.) You can also transfer a donation to the church by sending a gift via e-transfer to zionoffice@nrtco.net. Please be sure to leave an address. 3.) Through Pre-authorized Giving (PAR) where an amount is automatically debited from your account each month. If you would like church envelopes or to sign up for PAR, please contact the church office at 613-732-8792.



Soup and Sandwich Dinners
 Wednesday nights during Lent
 February 25th – March 25th at 5:30 pm



Lenten Midweek Services
 Wednesdays 6:30 pm
 February 25th – March 25th 2026

CONTACT INFORMATION Rev. Scott Schellenberger & Rev. Sue Nevile Cell: 705-313-0333(Pr. Scott) Cell: 905-441-3283 (Pr. Sue) sschellenberger@hotmail.com & suebird98@hotmail.com Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church 454 Miller Street, Pembroke, ON K8A 5Z4 Office: 613-732-8792