ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH PEMBROKE FEBRUARY 12 2023 SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SETTING FOUR

PRELUDE
ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling (ELW 582)

1 Holy Spirit, ever dwelling in the holiest realms of light; Holy Spirit, ever brooding o'er a world of gloom and night; Holy Spirit, ever raising those of earth to thrones on high; living, life-imparting Spirit, you we praise and magnify.

2 Holy Spirit, ever living as the church's very life; Holy Spirit, ever striving through us in a ceaseless strife; Holy Spirit, ever forming in the church the mind of Christ: you we praise with endless worship for your gifts and fruits unpriced.

3 Holy Spirit, ever working through the church's ministry; quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving, setting captive sinners free; Holy Spirit, ever binding age to age and soul to soul in communion never ending, you we worship and extol.

Text: Timothy Rees, 1874-1939, alt. Text: Public Domain.

### GREETING (ELW p. 147)

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. 147)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

#### Lord, have mercy.

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

#### Lord, have mercy.

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 mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

### Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. Amen.

### CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 148)

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ,
Only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
Have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
Receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,

You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 150)

Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### Amen.

JOINT CHOIR ANTHEM - We Are Not Alone Words and Music by Pepper Choplin.

# FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

A reading from Deuteronomy.

[Moses said to the people:] <sup>15</sup>See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. 16 If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. 17 But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, 18I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. 19I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, 20 loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM: Psalm 119:1-8

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose way is blameless, who follow the teaching of the Lord!

<sup>2</sup>Happy are they who observe your decrees and seek you with all their hearts,

 $^{3}$ who never do any wrong, but always walk in your ways.

<sup>4</sup>You laid down your commandments, that we should fully keep them.

<sup>5</sup>Oh, that my ways were made so direct that I might keep your statutes!

<sup>6</sup>Then I should not be put to shame, when I regard all your commandments.

<sup>7</sup>I will thank you with a true heart, when I have learned your righteous judgments.

<sup>8</sup>I will keep your statutes; do not utterly forsake me.

#### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

<sup>1</sup>Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. 2I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, <sup>3</sup>for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations?  $^4$ For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human <sup>5</sup>What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. <sup>6</sup>I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. 'So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. 8The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. 'For we are God's servants,

working together; you are God's field, God's building.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)
Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:21-37

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

# Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 21 "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' 22But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. 23So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup>Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. 26 Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. <sup>27</sup>"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for

your whole body to go into hell.

<sup>31</sup>"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' <sup>32</sup>But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

<sup>33</sup> "Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' <sup>34</sup>But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, <sup>35</sup>or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup>And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup>Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

### SERMON (ELW p. 151)

### HYMN OF THE DAY O God, My Faithful God (ELW 806)

1 O God, my faithful God, true fountain ever flowing, without whom nothing is, all perfect gifts bestowing: give me a healthy frame, and may I have within a conscience free from blame, a soul unstained by sin.

2 Give me the strength to do with ready heart and willing whatever you command, my calling here fulfilling—to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless

whatever I have wrought, for you must give success.

3 Keep me from saying words that later need recalling; guard me, lest idle speech may from my lips be falling; but when, within my place, I must and ought to speak, then to my words give grace, lest I offend the weak.

4 When dangers gather round, oh, keep me calm and fearless; help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheerless; help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small, and, by your Spirit's might, to live at peace with all.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt. Text: Public Domain.

# PRESENTATION (ELW p. 227)

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

# I present <u>Greyson</u> for baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

# Response: I do.

As you bring *Greyson* to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,

teach *him* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,

place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

#### Response: I do.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture *Greyson* in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

### Response: I do.

People of God, do you promise to support <u>Greyson</u> and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

We do.

#### PROFESSION OF FAITH (ELW p. 229)

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,

the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response:

#### I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

#### THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT (ELW p. 230)

The Lord be with you.

### And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

# It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

#### Amen.

# BAPTISM (ELW p. 230)

<sup>\*</sup>Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

<u>Greyson</u>, I baptize you in the name of the Father,\* and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

#### Amen.

Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation,

the spirit of mercy.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain <u>Greyson</u> with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

#### Amen.

<u>Greyson</u>, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen**.

# WELCOME (ELW p. 231)

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:

join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Inspire your church that it may be a sign of life throughout the world. From the exploration of faith with children and new believers to missionaries and bishops, shape lives of faithfulness, so that all find abundant life in your ways. Merciful God,

# receive our prayer.

Nourish your creation. Accompany all who plant and water. Bless the work of farmers; provide for subsistence farmers facing drought and climate change. Guide the work of agricultural scientists toward sustainable ways to feed the world. Merciful God,

#### receive our prayer.

Give growth where there seems to be no hope for life. In nations and regions where reconciliation seems impossible, empower peacemakers with your Spirit. Where death holds sway through violence, disease, and hunger, equip relief workers to bring hope. Merciful God,

# receive our prayer.

Nurture all in need. Bring healing to all who experience trauma caused by systems of injustice and destructive relationships. Give courage to those struggling to repent and those seeking reconciliation. Sustain all who work for restoration. Merciful God,

### receive our prayer.

God of love we give thanks for all the baptized. Especially today we give thanks for Greyson and we ask that you bless him with faith his whole life long. Merciful God,

# receive our prayer..

Encourage this congregation. Call us to a common purpose and keep us from quarrelling. Turn our hearts toward you and guide our leaders, so that our choices may be lifegiving for all. Merciful God,

# receive our prayer.

Thanks be to you for the lives of all who have died in Christ. Teach us to follow them in your ways and gather us with them into the promise of eternal life with you. Merciful God,

# receive our prayer.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen**.

#### PEACE (ELW p. 152)

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

### OFFERING In the Bleak Midwinter (ELW 294) verses 1 & 3

1 In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

3 What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man
I would do my part;
yet what I can give him-give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830-1894. Text: Public Domain.

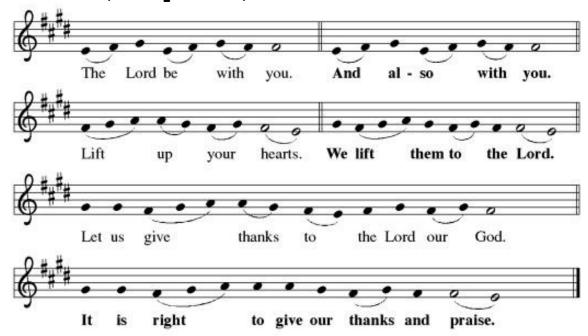
#### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

# GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE (ELW p. 152)



#### PREFACE (ELW p. 153)

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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. 153)
Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 153)

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

# Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again,

we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksqiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ. may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints. To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen, amen, amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 154)

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 (ELW p. 154)

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

#### COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

#### COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 154)

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, grant us peace.

Amen.

#### SONG AFTER COMMUNION: One Bread, One Body (ELW 496)

Refrain

One bread, one body, one Lord of all; one cup of blessing which we bless, and we, though many throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

- 1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more. Refrain
- 2 Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all. Refrain
- 3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all. Refrain
  Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939. Text © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and OCP Publications. All Rights reserved. Used with permission. One

# License: #A-728050 SONG AFTER COMMUNION Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways (ELW 772)

1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
2 Order my footsteps by your word and make my heart sincere;
let sin have no dominion, Lord,

but keep my conscience clear.

3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray, a stricter watch to keep; and should I e'er forget your way, restore your wand'ring sheep.

4 Make me to walk in your commands, 'tis a delightful road; nor let my head or heart or hands offend against my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt. Text: Public Domain.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 155)

Let us pray.

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### Amen.

# BLESSING (ELW p. 155)

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

#### Amen.

# SENDING SONG Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing (ELW 544)

1 Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing, worship, thanks, devotion voicing: glory be to God on high!
Christ, your cross and passion sharing, by this eucharist declaring yours the final victory.
2 Scattered flock, one shepherd sharing, lost and lonely, one voice hearing, ears attentive to your word; by your blood new life receiving, in your body, firm believing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
3 Sins forgiven, wrongs forgiving,

we go forth alert and living in your Spirit, strong and free.

Partners in your new creation, seeking peace in ev'ry nation, may we faithful foll'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt. Text © Oxford University Press. Used by permission. CCLI License: # 11528343.

#### DISMISSAL (ELW p. 155)

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### POSTLUDE

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### **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 26**

This year's annual meeting will be held on Sunday February 26<sup>th</sup> in the sanctuary immediately following the worship service. If we are unable to hold the meeting on this date, our backup date is Sunday March 5<sup>th</sup>. The annual reports will be ready for pickup on Sunday February 12<sup>th</sup>. Looking forward to seeing everyone on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Susan Dupuis

#### WELCOME TO GOD'S FAMILY GREYSON ELLIS JAMES ANTHONY

Today we give thanks for Greyson Anthony as he is baptized. Greyson is child to Jacob Anthony and Kendra Ainsworth.

**PULSE MINISTRY** consists of three different programs. Every generation is invited to worship and to Messy Church: Messy Church, Youth Group, and worship. The worship Service is called "Living Stones".

**Messy Church** is another alternative, in addition to Sunday School (not in place of), that is held in the evening once a month. It includes Food, Crafts, Games, Faith Talk, and Fun! It is for all individuals young and old. The next event is March 6 5:30-7:30pm.

Youth Group Bowling Friday February 17 - 6:30-9:30pm - Youth are invited to come bowling at the Bowling Opeongo Bowldrome in Renfrew. We will leave from church at 6:30pm. Cost is \$5.50/per game and \$2 shoe rental. Bring \$20. Need notice if you are coming to book a lane.

The next "Living Stones" worship is Sunday Feb 19 at 12:00pm. It is an intergenerational service. It is in the gym and is led by a praise team. If you have musical gifts you would like to share please contact Pastor Scott or Pastor Sue. In future please bring a canned good to support the food bank. Those that want to come to worship can come early for coffee.

<u>SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER</u> – Join the youth for a pancake supper on Tuesday February 21. Dinner starts at 530pm. All proceeds raised will go to help the confirmands go to camp this year.

# ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE AND THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Wednesday February 22 7:00pm.

# A BIBLE STUDY: FINDING JESUS IN THE PSALMS: BARB ROOSE THURS 10am

This study explores the psalms from the familiar psalm 23 to psalm 22 the words Jesus. Spoke from the cross and of course much more. For full explanation see the newsletter or the bulletin boards. The session will be offered at 10am on Thursdays beginning Feb 23. Books are \$20.

# MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES AND SOUP AND SANDWICHES

Midweek Wednesday Evening Lenten Services begin March 1 2023 at **7pm.** The Midweek Lenten services will be using a new liturgy.

<u>LENTEN SOUP AND SANDWICHES</u> – Prior to the Wednesday Evening worship services Soup and Sandwich dinners will be offered. This begins March 1 2023 **at 6pm.** 

**MIDWEEK QUIET MORNING WORSHIP** – You are invited to join us on February 15 at 1030am for a worship service.

#### NO COFFEE HOUR TODAY

There is no coffee hour today.

However, it's a new year and our coffee hour volunteers are ready to greet you with smiles and a hot cup of tea or coffee. We allowed the supply of sweets to reduce greatly and are in need of replenishing the stock again. If you can help us with cookies, loaves or other sweets that would be great. Just drop them into the kitchen before the service begins and then join us afterwards for refreshments and socializing with friends. Thanking you in advance for your help. Susan Dupuis

#### **WORSHIP AND MUSIC**

A reminder to everyone that we continue to check the suggestion boxes at the entrances to the church. If you have a favorite hymn that you would like included in a service, please let us know. Also, if you have concerns, questions or suggestions regarding our worship services, place them in one of the boxes. Everything will be included in our meetings.

#### **COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR**

It is that time of year again. It is cold and long. We are putting a team together called Zion's Frozen Few to help support the Grind, a charitable organization who helps the hungry, hurt and homeless. We will be walking 5 km through the streets of Pembroke to help raise money on February 25 to help support them. We are asking for your support. You can make a special donation by marking on your envelope "coldest night of the year" or you can go online to the "coldest night of the year", Pembroke and find our team: Zion's Frozen Few and donate there. Last year we raised 4102.00. Let's see if we can match that. We are in need of more walkers to register with the team and get sponsorship. Several of our last year's team are unable to walk this year so if you could join us it would mean so much. Many Thanks, Your Social Ministry Committee.

# ELCIC, CLWR launch emergency appeal following deadly earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria



The <u>Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada</u> (ELCIC) joins with our partner <u>Canadian Lutheran World Relief</u> (CLWR) in calling for prayers for those affected by the earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria and to give generously to support their urgent humanitarian needs.

On February 6, during the early hours of the morning, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit the border region, with a second major earthquake hitting Türkiye again just hours later. Aftershocks have been felt across the region since.

Key infrastructure, including residential buildings, roads and power grids have been destroyed. Historical landmarks - some that have stood for more than 2,300 years - have also been heavily damaged.

Among those affected are millions of refugees and displaced people living near the border of Syria and Türkiye (commonly known as Turkey, but whose traditional name has been recognized by the international community since 2022.)

The situation for these already vulnerable and displaced populations has been made almost inconceivably worse, as their makeshift camps are not equipped to withstand an earthquake of this magnitude, and many have lost their homes during a cold snap with overnight temperatures below freezing.

Individuals and congregations wishing to support relief efforts can donate as follows:

- Make a designated offering for "Türkiye and Syria Earthquake" through any ELCIC congregation
- Call CLWR at 1-800-661-2597 (locally at 204-694-6502) to donate or go online to  $\underline{\text{clwr.org/earthquake}}$
- Send a cheque made payable to CLWR and mailed to CLWR, 600-177 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 0W5. Please indicate that you wish to contribute to "Türkiye and Syria Earthquake"