

**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH PEMBROKE
THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
SUNDAY MARCH 16 2025
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP SETTING FOUR**

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

P: The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear?

C: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

P: Beloved of God, let us join our hearts in worship this day.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality
you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and again.**

We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.

**Transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's arms are always stretched open wide
to welcome the wandering ones home.

In + Christ your sins are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of all wisdom, your word is near to us, on our lips and in our hearts. Speak to us and speak through us by the power of your Spirit, so that we may believe in our hearts and confess with our lips that Jesus Christ is Lord. Amen.

GATHERING SONG *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* (ELW 596)

1 My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

2 When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil. **Refrain**

3 His oath, his covenant, his blood
sustain me in the raging flood;
when all supports are washed away,
he then is all my hope and stay. **Refrain**

4 When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone,
redeemed to stand before the throne! **Refrain**

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, 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.



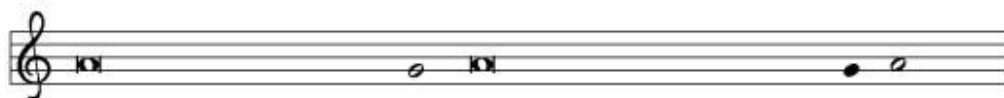
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, 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 wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 150)

Let us pray.

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

A reading from Genesis.

¹ After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷ Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸ But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹ He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰ He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹ And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹² As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷ When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸ On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 27

¹ The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

² **When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh, they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear. Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

⁴ **One thing I ask of the Lord; one thing I seek; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God in the temple.**

⁵ For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶ **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me. Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing; I will sing and make music to the Lord.**

⁷ Hear my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸ **My heart speaks your message— “Seek my face.” Your face, O Lord, I will seek.**

⁹ Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

¹⁰ **Though my father and my mother forsake me, the Lord will take me in.**

¹¹ Teach me your way, O Lord; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

¹² **Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me, false witnesses breathing violence.**

¹³ This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living!

¹⁴ **Wait for the Lord and be strong. Take heart and wait for the Lord!**

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17—4:1

A reading from Philippians.

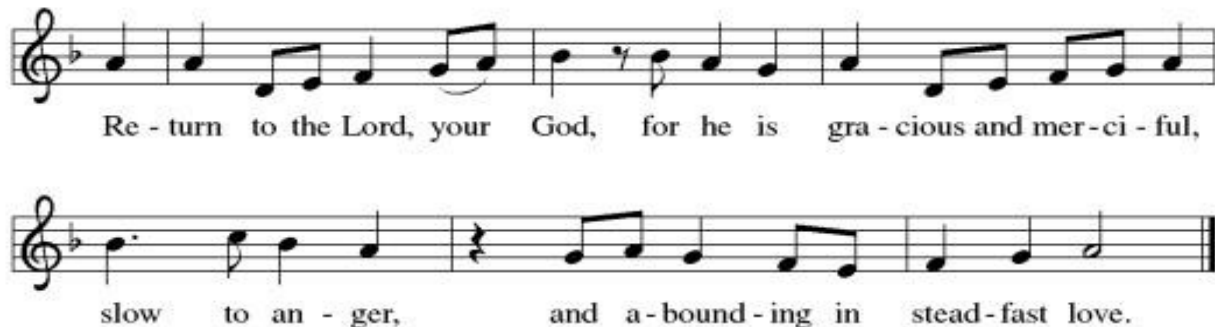
¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He

will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)



GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³² He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *What God Ordains Is Good Indeed* (ELW 776)

1 What God ordains is good indeed,
for all life well providing.
The will of God is best for me,
the ground of my confiding.
My faithful God,
on ev'ry road
you know the way unfolding
and my hand you are holding.

2 What God ordains is good indeed:
my light, my life, my Savior!
No ill can get the best of me;
God's care will never waver.
Through joy and pain
I shall attain
the dawn disclosing clearly
that God has loved me dearly.

3 What God ordains is good indeed.
When hope seems like delusion,
I taste the bitter cup and plead,
"Lord, quench my fear, confusion."
God ends the night,
restores delight;
by faith I face tomorrow
and yield to God all sorrow.

4 What God ordains is good indeed.
My Lord will never fail me
on danger's path, in deepest need,
when death in grief shall veil me.
My God so dear
will draw me near,
in loving arms will hold me,
at last in light enfold me.

NICENE CREED (ELW p. 104)

Join us in confessing our faith using the Nicene Creed.

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

**in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, and for people living in fear or need (*especially Jason, Martha, Ella, Rhonda, Heather, Anneliese, Joan, Judy, Larry, Garnet, Betty, Lily, Karl, Elva, Clarence, Eva, Barbara, Inge, Marcella, Patricia, Edie, Otilia, Kirk, Joan, David, Gwen, Don, Jeanette, James, Charlie*). May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us (*especially*). Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to their example. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 152)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN *We Place upon Your Table, Lord* (ELW 467 v 1 & 3)

1 We place upon your table, Lord,
where you by grace have bid us dine,
these tokens of our daily work,
the food of life, the bread and wine.

3 Accept them, Lord; they come from you;
we take them humbly from your hand;
put these your gifts to higher use:
the holy meal that you command.

Text: M. F. C. Wilson, 1884–1944, alt. Text: Public Domain.

OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 152)

Let us pray.

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of
grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your
bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING DIALOGUE (ELW p. 152)

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. 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.

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. 153)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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. 153)

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 154 SUNG)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us sing 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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *Thy Holy Wings* (ELW 613)

1 Thy holy wings, O Savior,

spread gently over me,

and let me rest securely

through good and ill in thee.

Oh, be my strength and portion,

my rock and hiding place,

and let my ev'ry moment

be lived within thy grace.

2 Oh, let me nestle near thee,

within thy downy breast

where I will find sweet comfort

and peace within thy nest.

Oh, close thy wings around me

and keep me safely there,
for I am but a newborn
and need thy tender care.

3 Oh, wash me in the waters
of Noah's cleansing flood.
Give me a willing spirit,
a heart both clean and good.
Oh, take into thy keeping
thy children great and small,
and while we sweetly slumber,
enfold us one and all.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903, sts. 1, 3; Gracia Grindal, b. 1943, st. 2; tr. Composite. Text © 1983 Gracia Grindal, Selah Publishing Co., Inc. Used by permission. One License #A-728050.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *My Lord of Light* (ELW 832)

1 My Lord of light who made the worlds,
in wisdom you have spoken;
but those who heard your wise commands
your holy law have broken.

2 My Lord of love who knew no sin,
a sinner's death enduring:
for us you wore a crown of thorns,
a crown of life securing.

3 My Lord of life who came in fire
when Christ was high ascended:
your burning love is now released,
our days of fear are ended.

4 My Lord of lords, one Trinity,
to your pure name be given
all glory now and evermore,
all praise in earth and heaven.

Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938. Text © 1980 by Jubilate Hymns (admin. Hope Publishing Company). All rights reserved. Used by permission. One License #A-728050.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 155)

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

God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *O God of Mercy, God of Light* (ELW 714 verses 1,2,4,6)

1 O God of mercy, God of light,
in love and mercy infinite,
teach us, as ever in your sight,
to live our lives in you.

2 You sent your Son to die for all,
that our lost world might hear your call;
oh, hear us lest we stray and fall!
We rest our hope in you.

4 For all are kindred, far and wide,
since Jesus Christ for all has died;
grant us the will, and grace provide,
to love them all in you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move
all those who live to live in love,
till you receive in heav'n above
all those who live in you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, alt. Text: Public Domain.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.
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.

Liturgy taken from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS026965.

ATTENDANCE:

Wednesday, March 5, 2025: 40

Sunday, March 9, 2025: 62

Wednesday, March 12, 2025: 40

ZION ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK: March 17–23, 2025

Monday:	8:30 am	Pickle Ball
	1:00 pm	Exercise Class
	7:00 pm	Pickle Ball
	7:00 pm	Music Healing Veterans
Tuesday:	9:30 am	Tai Chi
	6:30 pm	Tai Chi
	7:00 pm	Mixed Choir
Wednesday:	1:00 pm	Exercise Class
	5:30 pm	Soup & Sandwich
	6:30 pm	Lenten Service
	7:30 pm	Men's Choir
Thursday:	9:30 am	Tai Chi
	7:00 pm	Music Healing Veterans
Friday:	1:00 pm	Exercise Class
Sunday:	10:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion

TODAY'S SCHEDULED WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister:	Pastor Scott Schellenberger
Music Director:	Blaine Sack
Worship Assistant:	Paul Merredew
Sexton:	Tyler Smith
Projector Operator:	Zachary Phannenhour
Video Recorder:	Ty Phannenhour
Sound Operator:	Todd Phannenhour
Counters:	Gerry Vandersleen, Kevin & Jean Rutz
Altar Care:	Wendy Schutt
Ushers:	Stan & Debbie Sitkiewicz
Coffee Hour:	Al & Jill Kellough

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER REQUESTS: Please pray for those who are ill, in hospital, or requested special prayers: Jason Godin, Martha Kodzynski, Ella Lehman, Rhonda Mau, Heather Miller, Anneliese Trautrim, Joan Lehman, Judy and Larry Blais, Garnet Miller, Betty Kuehl, Lily Kubiseski, Karl Hausser, Elva & Clarence Gagne, Eva Hagenah, Barbara Schoof, Inge Latiok, Marcella Kuehl, Edie Brum, Otilia Saldana G, Kirk Weichenthal, Joan LaForce, David Brumm, Gwen Burchart, Don and Jeanette Nevile, James Dean, Charlie Merredew.

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.

OFFERINGS – HOW CAN YOU LEAVE A DONATION?

- 1.) Place your gift in the OFFERING PLATES AT EITHER ENTRANCE to the of the church sanctuary.
- 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 for tax receipts.

SOUP & SANDWICH SIGN-UP SHEET There is a sign-up sheet posted by the kitchen for those that wish to bring soup and/or sandwiches to share for our Soup, Sandwich and Service Dinners on Wednesday nights.

SOUP & SANDWICH Wednesday March 19, 26th at 5:30 pm.

LENTEN SERVICE Wednesday March 19, 26th at 6:30 pm.

APRIL GUIDING LIGHT Submissions due Friday March 21 2025.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Next **Sunday, March 23rd**, special music will be shared by a Men's Quartet, featuring Allen Rose, Steve Boland, Andrew Zadow and our very own Pastor David Metzger. They will be singing one of Pastor Dave's favourite hymns. Hope to see you at worship for this special moment.

SOUP AND SANDWICH LUNCHEON The make-up date for the Soup & Sandwich luncheon will be **Sunday, March 23**, following worship. Please join us! Hosted by your Social Ministry Committee.

SOCIAL MINISTRY Will be meeting on **Tuesday March 25, 2025, at 1:00 pm.**

ETERNITY FOR TODAY April/May/June 2025 are now available for pickup.

KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS We will have another table of knit and crochet items as part of our Spring Yard Sale this year. Thank you to everyone who contributed items at our last yard sale...it was a wonderful addition to our sale. If you would like to donate items of any sort (dishcloths, hats, scarves, etc.), it would be most appreciated. If you have any questions, please talk to Karen Gauthier or Susan Dupuis.

THE 2025 PEMBROKE KIWANIS MUSIC AND DANCE FESTIVAL! The 'Festival of Stars' Concert will be held on Thursday, March 20th @ 7pm at Festival Hall. Free admission to all events. Please visit the Pembroke Kiwanis Festivals Facebook.

**Soup and Sandwich
Luncheon**



Sunday March 23 2025
Following worship
Please join us.

Hosted by: Your Social Ministry Committee

Morning Social Gatherings



Are you looking to spend some time having coffee, tea and goodies while sharing conversation with others?

Come to our bi-weekly fellowship hours:

Wednesday March 12 & 26 at 10:00 am

You need not be a member of Zion. Everyone is welcome.



perfect pairings
Soup and Sandwich Dinners
Wednesday nights during Lent
beginning March 12 2025
5:30pm.



Lenten Midweek Services
Wednesdays 6:30pm
from March 12 to April 16 2025.

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