

*Take up your  
Cross   
and follow me ...*

**Sixth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 12, 2023**

**EBENSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
200 North Center Street, P.O. Box 327  
Ebensburg, Pennsylvania 15931**

[www.ebgpresby.org](http://www.ebgpresby.org)  
[Ebensburg Presbyterian Church | Facebook](#)

E-mail: [ebgpresby@gmail.com](mailto:ebgpresby@gmail.com)

Phone Number: 814-472-6920

**Mission Statement**

*"Ebensburg Presbyterians are Christians giving help and hope to all by sharing God's love."*

## GATHERING

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively*)

*Matt. 5:13–20*

We gather here as the body of Christ,

**God's servants working together.**

God call us to worship,

**to hear the good news**

**and sing our praise!**

\*HYMN#388 “O Jesus I have promised” (v.v. 1-3)

CALL TO CONFESSION

*Matt. 11:28-30*

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you” rest. Let us lay down our burdens, and open our hearts, that we may receive grace and the gift of new life.

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)<sup>1</sup>

**Almighty God, you set before us life and prosperity,**

**but we turn towards death and adversity. We do not listen to your commandments, we bow down to other gods:**

**convenience, self-reliance, greed, bitterness. Break us of our longing for gods we can see and touch. Turn us back**

**to you, mysterious and mighty God,**

**that we may observe your commandments and walk in your ways.**

*Amen [silent confession]*

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (*responsively*)

God is always offering us another chance.

God is always offering life and abundance.

Turn to God and receive the good news:

**Yesterday, today, tomorrow,**

**we are forgiven! Alleluia!**

**Thanks be to God!**

\*GLORIA PATRI

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (*responsively*)

The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also, with you.**

*(Please share the peace of Christ with those around.)*

ANTHEM

## THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**God of shining splendor, your voice makes the earth tremble in wonder. Overshadow us with your Spirit so that we may hear your Word and live as faithful disciples and covenant people.**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

FIRST READING:

1 Peter 4:2

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The Word of the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON Take Up Your Cross "DAILY"

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

\*HYMN#404 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

INVITATION TO OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION *1 Cor. 8:4-6*

God of glory, as people brought gifts to the infant Jesus, we bring our gifts to you. May these gifts be used to lift up those who are oppressed,

to bring deliverance to those who are in need, to support those who are poor, and to help those who are in trouble.

**Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 3:17, 17:5*

We approach God in prayer not as strangers,  
 but as beloved children, baptized in Christ Jesus.

As children of God, we pray for the church . . .

Let us be rooted in the depth of your Word  
 and watered by the gifts of your Spirit,  
 so that we will bear the fruit of your love.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As children of God, we pray for the earth . . .

In the land that you have given us  
 help us to choose life and prosperity  
 for all of the creatures you have made.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As children of God, we pray for all nations . . .

Take away the deadly curses of war,  
 famine, poverty, and disease.

Bring life and blessing to all people.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As children of God, we pray for this community . . .

Let us be reconciled to one another,  
 seeking justice and forgiving wrong.

Make us more faithful and honest in all we do.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As children of God, we pray for loved ones . . .

Give life to those who are perishing;  
 give blessing to those who feel cursed;  
 give comfort to those who are in pain.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father God, as you have called us to listen to Christ,  
 help us to always heed his word and seek his will.

These things we pray in the name of Jesus who taught  
 us to pray in union: *Lord's Prayer*

— SENDING

\*HYMN#525 “Here I am, Lord”

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

To God be the glory in the church  
and in Christ Jesus to all generations  
forever and ever. **Amen.**

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Ash Wednesday**

Join us for Ash Wednesday Service and Breakfast @ 9 AM in the Fellowship Hall, Ebensburg Presbyterian Church on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please call the office (814-472-6920) to let us know how many will attend by February 15th

**Youth program and Confirmation Class**

Sunday February 12, @6-7:30

**Bible Study Program: Wednesdays @7pm**

Please join us for a Bible Study on Wednesday @7pm. In-person or/zoom

**Bell Choir Sunday, Feb. 5**

We will start bell choir practices this Sunday February 5th. Practice starts at 12:00 immediately following the service.

**Pastoral Care** – Please feel free to call Pastor Owar Ojulu at 507-304-5958 for any pastoral needs.

**You may join our church in one of three ways:**

1. **Transfer** from another congregation.
2. **Reaffirm** your faith if you have not been an active church member recently.
3. **Profess** Jesus as Savior and Lord.  
*Please talk to the pastor or one of the leaders*

**REDSTONE PRESBYTERY: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 -**  
**Ebensburg Church will be hosting the Presbytery meeting**  
**(In Person at 6:00 p.m. and on ZOOM meeting)**

PRAYER LIST

**Year 2023** New Prayer Lists begins. If you have any names to add to the Prayer List, please call the church office at 472-6920, send email to [ebgpresby@gmail.com](mailto:ebgpresby@gmail.com) or place the names in the Offering Baskets near each of the front entrances. Thank you.

Eva Tomb

Richard McKim

Jim Estep

Ramona McKim

Candi Elam

Ben & Patricia Tuchi

Peter & Margaret Funch

Albie

Tom R.

Joe P

Erin M.

Marty F.

Claudette Segear

John Fedora

Sharon Westrick

Ruthan Noderer

Gloria P.

Mary R.

Father Pat Kirsch

Bob & Mary Clare Stofko

# Syria-Turkey Earthquake



*“God is our refuge and strength, .. though the mountains shake.”*  
(Psalm 46:1-3)

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) urges your support in the aftermath of the 7.8- magnitude earthquake and its aftershocks in Syria and Turkey. Thousands are reported dead and injured, numbers that will rise as search and rescue continues. Buildings have been reduced to rubble, and roads and bridges have been severely damaged, resulting in dangerous conditions for first responders. In some places, such as Aleppo, this destruction is compounding the damage of the now 11-year war in Syria.

PDA is providing emergency relief and short-term recovery in the impacted areas. PDA will remain active throughout the recovery process, accompanying our partners as they determine long-term program needs and providing financial support for building and resilience.

Years of recovery lie ahead, and your commitment will help PDA extend the hands of Christ. Will you stand in the “GAP” for the people affected by this catastrophic earthquake?

**GIVE:** PDA’s emergency response and specialization in long-term recovery is fueled by your generous gifts. Gifts can be made online at [pcusa.org/give-STearthquake](http://pcusa.org/give-STearthquake), by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check made payable to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with “DR99999-ST earthquake” written on the memo line and mailed to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700



**PRAY:** *God of mercy, we join in prayer for our siblings in Syria and Turkey, and all other regions affected. In the face of the terrible images that come to us, we ask that your Spirit, O God, once again move in the midst of chaos and destruction. May you provide protection, energy and strength through your presence.*

\$500    \$125    \$50    \$25    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Congregation/PIN \_\_\_\_\_

Please detach the reply form and return it with your gift to your church; or enclose it in an envelope with your check and mail it to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.

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