



DIACONAL SUNDAY

February 25, 2018 - Second Sunday in Lent

The ELCIC lifts up the last Sunday of February as **Diaconal Sunday** to raise awareness of *diakonia* (service) as a vital dimension of the church's witness and of rostered diaconal ministry as a valuable expression of church leadership.

A PRAYER FOR DIACONAL MINISTRY

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the work and mission of Canadian Lutheran World Relief, who are inspired by God's love for humanity to challenge the causes and respond to the consequences of human suffering and poverty. Bless the diaconal witness offered by, through and with CLWR.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the families who have nurtured our own faith and growth in the past and the communities today who support our ministries and baptismal calling of carrying Christ's light into the world.

We give you thanks and praise that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit light, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name.¹



We give you thanks that, as you have called workers to varied tasks in the world and in your church, so you have called some to diaconal ministry. Grant them joy and a spirit of bold trust, that their work may stir up each of us to a life of fruitful service, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.²

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Diaconal Sunday: elcic.ca/Leadership/For-Ministers/DiaconalSunday.cfm

Canadian Lutheran World Relief: clwr.org

¹ Deacon Ann Wren, United Kingdom, for *DIAKONIA Monthly Prayers*, February 2017, <http://www.diakonia-world.org/prayers.shtml>

² *Installation of a Diaconal Minister*, in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship: Occasional Services for the Assembly*, page 234.



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