ELMVALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 22 Queen St. E. Elmvale, ON, L0L 1P0



"Elmvale Presbyterian Church is a Christian Community where Everyone is Welcome sharing God's love through worship, music, prayer, teaching and outreach."

Celebrating 163 Years of Christian Witness in our Community.



<u>Service: "Palm Sunday" and Holy Communion - Sunday</u> 24th March 2024.



Minister: Rev Tom Mason M.DIV

A Warm Welcome to Any Newcomers to our Church. Please come and join us for Coffee after our Service.

Please stand for the entry of the Bible if you are able.

MOMENT OF QUIET REFELECTION BEFORE WORSHIP

God of courage and comfort,

as we follow the stories of Christ's journey to the Cross, inspire us with the courage to follow him even when others turn against him.

And comfort us, knowing that you will walk with us through every challenge,

just as you walked with Jesus who is your Living Word. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS: Marlene Lambie, Clerk of Session

LENT LITURGY: Janet Beech

One: On this Palm Sunday, we see Jesus entering Jerusalem riding on a donkey, showing us the way of peace.

All: With palm branches in hand, we cry out "Hosanna," save us now, save us from our warring madness.

One: "We affirm that God is at work when people are ashamed of the inhumanity of war and work for peace with justice.

All: "We pray for peace to him who is the Prince of Peace." (Living Faith 8.5.3)

HYMN #215- Filled with Excitement

OUR PRAYERS OF APPROACH, CONFESSION, AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER OF APPROACH (unison)

God of majesty and mercy,
we worship today, as the Cross looms larger on the horizon.
We praise you for Jesus,
the Ruler who came in humility
to free us from captivity.
He came in mercy
to free us from the sins we recognize in ourselves,
and the sins we easily overlook.

He came to show us the full extent of your mercy, love and justice.

So we praise you for your kindness and the strength you show to lift our burdens and shoulder them for us in Christ Jesus.

We come in humility, knowing you have given us your all, and we can never offer enough for such overwhelming love.

Receive our worship in Christ's name and for his sake. Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of mystery and mercy,

your mercy and forgiveness is a mystery to us.

We fail to show mercy to others when they fall short of our expectations.

We keep silent rather than speak up when others are in trouble.

We prefer what is easy to what is right, even though your Spirit draws our attention.

We seek your forgiveness, O God, and ask that you make us more forgiving.

Inspire us with the costly choices Jesus made as he moved toward the Cross,

and give us the courage to follow him. As Jesus taught us to pray...

THE LORDS PRAYER

...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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (unison)

Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Believe the good news of the gospel. In

Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God's generous grace.

FAMILY HYMN #216 - Hosanna

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

HOLY SCRIPTURE: Psalm 118: 1-2 (responsive) Terry Mason

One: O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good;

All: God's steadfast love endures forever!

One: Let Israel say, "His Steadfast love endures forever." Let the house of Aaron say, "His Steadfast love rules forever."

All: Let those who fear the LORD say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 118: 19-29

The Gospel Reading: John 12:12-19 Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE: "We are the Champions!" by Rev Tom Mason

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostle's Creed (Unison)

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

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING:

Today we are reminded that Christ offered his life on the Cross for our sakes. Now it's our turn to offer God our gifts in gratitude, trusting God to use them to create new life in Jesus' name.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

<u>Doxology #79</u> praise him, all creatures here below:

praise him above, ye heavenly host;

praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

We place our gifts into your hands, O God. With the power of your Holy Spirit make them seeds of new life, springing up with hope and healing for weary souls. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

HYMN # 538 - You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Elder Bradley McGrady

CHOIR ANTHEM: The Feast

HOLY COMMUNION
Invitation to the Lords Table

The Great Thanksgiving

The Breaking of the Bread

The Passing of the Bread and Wine

The Prayer after Communion

The Sharing of the Peace

Hymn # 563 – Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

GOD SENDS US OUT INTO THE WORLD THE BENEDICTION:

Go with courage to face the days ahead.

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet walk with you on the road.

May the Christ who serves with wounded hands stretch out your hands to serve.

May the Christ who lives with a wounded heart open your hearts to love.

May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet, and may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.

THE BLESSING

May God's blessings surround you each day As you trust Him and walk in His way May His presence within guard and keep you from sin, Go in peace, go in joy, go in love. Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.

Walk With the Lord



Congregational Easter Service and Events

Thank you to all those who attended The Lenten Bible Study – "Practicing Jesus' 7 Last Words" Our last Study Session is this evening Sunday March 24 at 7pm. We encourage you to read the studies that support and add understanding to our service over Easter.

Thursday March 28 – Take a Break Coffee Party at 9:30-11 am

Maundy Thursday March 28- 6pm at Elmvale Presbyterian Church Hall – Communion Supper Service – Dinner at 6pm, Service at 7pm. Everyone is Welcome.

Good Friday March 29- 11am at St Johns United Church. Everyone is invited to attend. Please Contact St Johns United for service details.

Sunrise Service Sunday March 31- 7:30am at Heritage Park. Everyone is invited to attend.

Easter Sunday March 31- regular services 9:45am Knox, Flos and 11am at Elmvale Presbyterian.

Holy Week Daily Prayers –Copy in your bulletin and on the church website

We are still in need of Soup and Appetizer Recipes for our Cookbook. If you have any exceptional ones, please submit them to Sue Montgomery and Terry Mason.

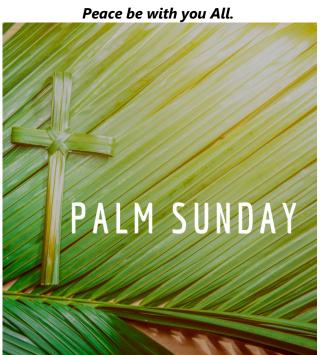
Worship and Nurture needs help. We need volunteers to help with the fellowship after the service. You can do this in a couple different ways. First, one can supply the food (bake or buy), second you can share the responsibility with a friend, or you can donate financially and the committee will look after purchasing the food. Thank you.

Please see the Food Bank list insert in your bulletin for needed items. Thank you

Monetary Donations to the church can now be submitted by auto-deposit to this email address:

donatetoepc@rogers.com

When you submit a donation to the church, if you could comment where the donation should be directed, this would help our treasurer greatly. Possible categories are 1) General 2) Presbyterian Sharing 3) PWS&D 4) other missions such as - Food Bank, We Care etc.





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Church Office Open Sunday to Wednesday 10.30am to 3pm.

Clerk of Session: Marlene Lambie

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20 Stone St.

Office Administrator: Deanna Nelson Tel: 705-322-1411 (Thurs & Fri)

Sermon and Scripture Notes:	
People and Things to Pray for this week:	