

ELMVALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The Presbyterian Church in Canada



"Elmvale Presbyterian Church is a Christian Community that has worshiped together for 164 years, a place where everyone is welcome, sharing God's love through worship, music, prayer, teaching and outreach."

A Warm Welcome to any Newcomers or those returning to Worship.



Service Sunday March 16, 2025 "The Second Sunday in Lent."

Minister Rev Tom Mason

Please stand for the entry of the Bible

Moment of Quiet Reflection to Prepare for Worship

God of wisdom, your Word brings light to show us the way you would have us follow. As the Scriptures are read and proclaimed this day, send us your Holy Spirit to aid our understanding and to guide us in the ways we live out your truth. Amen.

Welcome & Announcements Marlene Lambie, Clerk of Session

Call to Worship *Psalm 27:1* (Responsive) Linda Murray

One: The Psalmist declared:

**All: The Lord is my Light and my Salvation; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the Stronghold of my life; Of whom shall I be
afraid?**

One: Fill our hearts with Your light and strength, O God.

**All: As We journey with each other together in this place
through the questions of Lent, seeking always Your truth and
Your love. Amen**

Hymn #108 Praise Ye the Lord

Prayers of Approach, Confession & Lord's Prayer (In Unison)

Lord Jesus Christ,

we thank You that You are with us, as we live our lives here on earth. We thank You for those who over the generations have walked with You in faith, responding courageously to whatever they have faced – even when they were afraid and bewildered. Help us also to walk with You, help us to be willing to commit ourselves to follow You, even to a cross. When You lead us into new territory and we are unsure or afraid, help us to be strong, courageous, obedient and faithful.

When You ask us to listen to Your voice, help us to hear Your word – confronting, challenging, inspiring – help us to listen when You ask us to reach out in love to the indifferent, the hostile, and those we consider unworthy, or unacceptable. God of love, overcome our prejudices and fear. God of wisdom, when You ask us to step out of our comfort zone, help us to care, to share, to give, to sacrifice, all in the strong name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Prayers of Confession

One: You are with us, even in our failings. Hear us as we confess our sins so that we might be able to begin again with you.

Lord Jesus, we remember that You were tempted just as we are: yet You chose to journey all the way to the cross – for our world's sake. Forgiving Lord, touch our lives, and grant us all courage, a deep faith and the ability to journey with You, whatever happens. In commitment now, we share together the words which you gave us, as we pray together the words Jesus taught us...

The Lord's Prayer

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends in Christ, while it is true that we have all sinned, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. To all who humbly seek the mercy of God I say, in Jesus Christ our sin is forgiven. Be at peace with God, with yourself, and with one another. Amen.

Family Hymn #460 Red Leaning On The Everlasting Arms

Family Time & Kids Church

Choir Anthem The Prayer

Scripture Readings Linda Murray

"Gods Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path." Psalm 119:105

Gospel Reading Luke 13:31-35

New Testament Reading Philippians 3:17-4:1

This is the Word of the Lord: Thanks be to God.

Message "Longing and Desire" by Rev Tom Mason

Lord God, by the power of your Spirit, give us strength to live out the message we have heard today. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymn #637 Take My Life, And Let It Be Consecrated

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Janice Terry

God calls us to be a praying people. Let us join as a congregation in prayer, offering our intercession and petitions to God.

Invitation to the Offering

Our lives overflow with good gifts which come from God. Out of the goodness we enjoy, let us present our offering to God with thankfulness and generosity.

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Living God, we offer our gifts today in hopeful gratitude. Bless these gifts and use them to increase the goodness enjoyed by those in need. Bless our lives that, through our relationships, others will be touched by the hope we know in Christ Jesus and find their lives blessed by his love and mercy. Amen

Hymn #209 O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

Benediction and Blessing

Go in peace; be of good courage, hold fast to what is good, render no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the afflicted, honour all people, love and serve God and may the blessing of God Almighty, Be with you All, now and forever more. Amen.

Go Now in Peace

Congregation Announcements

Sun March 9- Easter Sun April 20 – Lenten Mission Offering
see below

Mon March 17- Social Room Rental 6:30-8 pm

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Wed March 19- Social Room Rental 6:30-8 pm

Wed March 19- Session 7 pm

Thurs March 20 – Choir 7pm

Sat March 22 – Paddy's Irish Pub 6 pm

Sun March 23 – Youth Baking Cookies 11 am

Sun March 9 to Easter Sun April 20 - Evangel Hall Mission will be the Lenten mission focus for EPC from Sunday, March 9th to Sunday April 20th. Evangel Hall is a mission supported by the Presbyterian Church that offers housing, personal and health care for the homeless and vulnerable of downtown Toronto. If making a donation, please mark "Evangel Hall" on your envelope or specify if making an e-transfer.

Sat March 22 at 6pm - everyone is invited to attend the grand opening of Paddy's Irish Pub.

The pub offer great Irish cuisine and an evening of fun and laughter. Bring your appetite and your sense of humour but leave your table manners at home. There is no cover charge or age restriction. Wear something green, if possible. Please sign the sheet downstairs so provisions can be made.

The Lenten Bible Study – Sarah Covey

Study Sessions: Wed March 26, & April 9 at 10:30 am.

Book: Bitter and Sweet by Tsh Oxenreider

In person in the parlor at Elmvale Presbyterian.

Please contact Elizabeth Hill hillea@rogers.com

or Rev Tom tomsomason@hotmail.com

*for your Study material. This will be a **3-week** study that will finish with the Palm Sunday Service message. Everyone welcome.*

"Willing Workers/WMS would like to announce an ongoing project... the collection of used (cancelled) postal stamps. We ask that you either collect the envelope with the cancelled stamp intact or remove the stamp from the envelope leaving a 1/4 inch of paper around the stamp. These stamps will be used to fundraise and support the Christian Salvage Mission bringing Christian literature to the world."

Thanks to your generosity and that of the community, the Food Bank is sufficiently stocked for now except for these few items: canned mixed vegetables, canned peas, canned potatoes and jams.

Sermon Notes



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Elmvale and Knox Flos Presbyterian Churches

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