Elmvale Presbyterian Church



Elmvale Presbyterian Church
A Place Where Everyone is Welcome
"Generations of Faith"
Since 1860

Worship Service: Sunday July 27, 2025

Welcome to Guest Preacher Rev. Richard R. Topping, Ph.D. And to the Congregation of Knox, Flos Presbyterian Church

Minister: Rev Tom Mason



Please stand, if able, for the entry of the Bible

Moment of Quiet Refection to Prepare our Hearts for Worship Speak to us through the Scriptures this day, O God. By the power of your Holy Spirit, give us a deeper understanding of your Word for our lives and our times, through Christ, the Living Word. Amen.

Welcome & Announcements Marlene Lambie, Clerk of Session

We Enter into God's Presence

Responsive Call to Worship Ruth Currie

One: Come, all who feel alone, forgotten, or unsure.

All: God is here - faithful in every moment.

One: Come, all who rejoice and give thanks.

All: God rejoices with us and receives our praise.

One: In all seasons, through all things—

All: We worship the One who never leaves us.

Hymn #108 Praise Ye the Lord

Prayer of Adoration (Unison)

Gracious and generous God,
We gather with grateful hearts,
amazed by the abundance in your creation,
abundance to share in food, in friendship and in faithfulness.
We gather with hopeful hearts,
seeking another taste of your love for us.
Your love is both mysterious and miraculous, O God,
with the power to transform times that overwhelm us
and lives that hunger for hope.

By the power of your Spirit, move among us in our worship. Open before us the new possibilities you create for us in Christ, the Bread of life, bread for our journeys. **Amen**

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Gracious and Generous God,
we gather each week to be fed by your love,
trusting that you will embrace us.
We confess we are not nearly so generous with our love.
We are often suspicious of others,
fearful of what they seek from us.
We criticize what others do,
but rarely question our own motivations.
Forgive us, O God,
and awaken our generosity toward others.
Open our hearts to anyone in need,
and help us to trust in your mercy – for them and for us,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray... Our

Father...

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

<u>Assurance of Pardon</u> (Unison)

The God who challenges us is also the God who encourages us. The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us. Be assured that God is with us even now, accepting, guiding and forgiving. Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

Hymn #645 Follow Me the Master Said

Family Time & Kids Church

Choir Anthem The New 23rd

Scripture Reading

Psalm 63 (Refrain only & Responsive) Ruth Currie

One: Your love is more than life, **All: My lips shall give you praise** One: My soul is thirsting for you,

All: O Lord my God.

The Old Testament Reading: Psalm 63:1-8

The Gospel Reading: John 1:35-42

This is the Word of God Thanks be to God.

Message: "Introducing Andrew Introducing" By Rev. Richard R. Topping, Ph.D.

Hymn #647 Lead Us, Heavenly Father, Lead Us

The Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Offering

Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Doxology

Offertory Prayer

Gracious Godhead, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, ever three, ever one. We offer you these humble gifts, signs of your goodness and mercy. Receive them with our gratitude, that through us all people may know the riches of your love in the Word-made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn # 487 Onward, Christian Soldiers

Benediction

The LORD bless and keep you; The LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; The LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace. **Amen**

May the God Of Hope

Congregational Announcements

Mon & Wed – VON Smart Exercise Program 9-10 am

Wed July 30 – Quilting 1pm

Thurs July 31 – Women's Institute Coffee Party in the Park (Heritage Park) 9:30-11 am

Thurs July 31 - Choir 7pm

<u>Sun Nov 2 – 165th Anniversary Sunday!</u> Join the sub-committee for special church projects in honour of this momentous occasion. If interested, let your elder know.

Prayers – Sharon Crozier and Lois Lyons –healing

<u>Condolences</u> - to the families of Dollie Moulden, Sandy Thorndyke, Harvey Graham, and Joan (Ritchie) Bowness.

Recycle - Return any used copies of the Daily Devotional booklets to the church for International Missions

Recipe book - We have a template to be used that will standardize all recipes in preparation for our new book ~ our summer project. Available from Sue Montgomery or Marlene and we look forward to receiving many more recipes from the congregation. (Information package on pew at side door.)

<u>Willing Workers/WMS</u> collecting used (cancelled) postal stamps. Either collect the envelope with the cancelled stamp intact or remove the stamp from envelope leaving a 1/4 inch of paper around the stamp. Used to fundraise and support Christian Salvage Mission bringing Christian literature to the world.

Monetary Donations auto-deposit: donatetoepc@rogers.com Please comment where to direct the donation; 1) General 2) Presbyterian Sharing 3) PWS&D 4) other missions such as - Food Bank, We Care etc.

Food Bank Needs: canned peas, canned cream corn, hamburger helper, cream chicken soup, dish soap, shampoo and drinking boxes.

About Our Guest Preacher

The Rev. Dr. Richard Topping is the president of Vancouver School of Theology and holds the St. Andrew's Hall Chair in Studies in the Reformed Tradition. Prior to that, he served churches in Muskoka, Ontario, and Montreal, Quebec, and taught at Presbyterian College in the Montreal School of Theology at McGill University. He earned a master's degree from St. Michael's University in the Toronto School of Theology and a Ph.D. from Wycliffe College. He has written or co-authored documents for the Presbyterian Church in Canada, a monograph called "Revelation, Scripture and Church" and a faculty collection of essays, "Before Theological Study." He also co-edited a collection of essays for the 500th anniversary of the birth of John Calvin called Calvin@500: Theology, History and Practice.

A warm welcome and thank you to the Toppings for joining us for worship this morning.

Sermon Notes



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