

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



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

"Elmvale Presbyterian Church is a Christian Community where Everyone is welcome sharing God's love through worship, music, prayer, teaching and outreach for 165 years in our community."

Sunday December 7, 2025

"Peace" – The Second Sunday in Advent



**"Prepare the way
for the Lord!"**

Matthew 3:1-12

Minister: Rev Tom Mason

Please stand, if able, for the Entrance of the Bible.

Prayer before Worship

God of peace and possibility, we turn to your Word to hear your will and your wisdom for our times. Open our hearts and minds by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit so that we might hear what

you are saying to the church through Christ, our Prince of Peace.
Amen.

**Welcome & Announcements Marlene Lambie, Clerk of
Session**

Call to Worship Sylvia Tollar

Second Sunday in Advent Peace

Voice 1: The psalmist dreamed of a world where leaders govern with righteousness, and the poor are treated with dignity and justice.

Voice 2: In this new creation, the oppressed are set free, the vulnerable are protected and peace flows like a river.

Voice 1: Today, too many experience, violence, poverty and persecution. Yet, they yearn to know peace.

Voice 2: We long to live in that new creation, where God's glory is revealed on earth, through justice and peace. Today, on this second Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of peace as a prayer of longing.

(The candle of peace is lit.)

Let us pray together:

Living God, help us to recognize your presence wherever people work for peace. Teach us to be instruments of your peace in the world. Come, Lord Jesus. Come. **Amen.**

Hymn #119 Hope is a Starr Verses 1 & 2

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

God of wisdom and understanding,
of peace and promise, you are the giver of life and you live in us.
You have welcomed us as your children, and called us to live out
your image with hospitality toward each other.

In Jesus Christ, you offer us living water to wash away our sin and
sorrow, and call us back to paths of justice and righteousness.

With the Holy Spirit, you baptize us for service and life in
community, refreshing us each day with your presence and

purpose. Glory and honour and praise be yours, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, this day and every day, now and evermore. **Amen**

Prayer of Confession

God of peace and promise,
we confess that we have taken your commitment to us for granted. We assume what we do is acceptable to you, yet we judge others more harshly. We have been slow to welcome others, especially if their cultures or convictions differ from ours. You call us to repentance, but we resist seeing anything needing change in our hearts or our habits. Forgive our self-satisfied attitudes, and challenge us with your vision of a peaceable kingdom where all can be made new, joining our voices into one, as we pray the words the prince of peace taught us:

The Lord's 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

Receive the Good News in peace. With great mercy, God forgives what we have confessed and offers us new life in Christ. Receive the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and be at peace with God, with yourself and with one another.

Hymn #124 People In Darkness

Family Time A teaching from Proverbs 4 – *"Do what I say and not what I do."*

Choir Anthem **Come Christmas Child** (Congregation join in chorus)

Scriptures: Psalm 72:1-7 (Responsive) Sylvia Tollar

One: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

All: May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

One: May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills in righteousness.

All: May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy and crush the oppressor.

One: May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, through all generations.

All: May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.

One: In his days may righteousness flourish.

All: And may peace abound, until the moon is no more.

The Old Testament Reading **Isaiah 11:1-10**

The New Testament Reading **Matthew 3:1-12**

Message: "Where is Jesus?" with Rev. Tom

Hymn #151 Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

The Prayer of the People Sylvia Tollar

Invitation to the offering.

This Sunday we celebrate the Advent of Peace, born for us in Jesus Christ. Think of your gifts as seeds of that peace which we can plant in the world God loves for Christ's sake.

Doxology

Offertory Prayer

God, our Peace and our Promise, receive our gifts as seeds of gratitude for your gift to us in Christ Jesus. Bless these seeds with growth so that peace will take root in people who face conflict and danger, and places seeking to establish peace in the face of violence. Be their peace and their promise, through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymn #145 In The Bleak Mid-Winter

Benediction

Go in peace this day, ready to bear fruit worthy of your commitment to Jesus Christ and his kingdom of justice and peace.

And may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

May God's Blessings Surround You Each Day (2xs)

Sermon Notes



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

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