

# ELMVALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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."***

***Elmvale Presbyterian Church celebrates 165 Years of Christian Witness in our Community this year.***



**Wednesday December 24, 2025 "Christmas Eve PM Service"**

**Welcome New Comers and those Returning - Our Session and Congregation wish you and your family a Merry and Blessed Christmas.**



**Minister: Rev. Thomas Mason MDiv**

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

### **Prayer before Worship**

God of mystery and manger, as we listen to the story of your love born for us in a child of flesh and blood, help us grasp that love with the trust of a baby grasping a parent's finger, the trust that all will be well. **Amen.**

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

### **Responsive Call to Worship/The Lighting of the Advent Candle - The Christ Candle**

One: In a land ruled by an empire, under the weight of oppression, a young couple search for a place for Mary to give birth, but there was no room at the inn.

**All: In the humblest of places, the promised child is born!**

One: In lowly circumstances, God fulfills the promise to all people. This is the meeting of heaven and earth!

**All: The glorious light of that stable burst into the night, announcing a birth that has changed the world. On this night, we light the Christ candle.**

*(Light the Christ Candle & all five Advent candles are lite)*

**Let us pray together** Living God, may the light of Christ find a home in our hearts, in our congregations and in our world. Hallelujah! Christ is born!

**Solo: I Wonder as I Wander** Gwyneth Howell

### **Hymn #146 Angels From The Realms of Glory**

### **Prayer of Adoration (Unison)**

God of mystery and mercy,  
you stir in our hearts and bring us joy.  
You stir in our minds and bring us wisdom.  
You stir in the world and bring hope for the future.  
You came as a little child, stirring up praise.

So we come to adore you with the angels; to bow with the shepherds; to kneel in wonder with the magi; to ponder your mystery with Joseph; to love and cherish you with Mary; We come with humble hearts full of joy because you came to us first In Jesus, whom we hold on our hearts this night. **Amen**

### **Prayer of Confession (Unison)**

God of grace and truth, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, ever three and ever one, In Christ you offer us the gift of yourself, but we are attracted to presents under the tree.

You came to us in flesh and blood, but we fail to see you in the humans right beside us.

You shine in the world, but we dwell on the darkness in the daily news. Forgive us, O God, and help us cherish the true meaning of all you offer us each and every day in that child in that manger, the child who taught us to pray...

### **The Lord's Prayer (Unison)**

*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, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen*

### **Assurance of Pardon (Unison)**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light! Walk in the assurance of God's grace and forgiveness. Let us be people of light and forgive one another.

**Duet: O Holy Night** Sylvia Tollar & Kevin Kerr

**Family Hymn #153 Joy To The World**

**Choir's Anthem O Beautiful Star**

**Scriptures:**

**The Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7**

**The Gospel Reading: Luke 2: 1-20**

**Reader 1: Luke 2: 1-7** Isabella Kirton-Fletcher

**Reader 2: Luke 2: 8-14** Zach Howell

**Reader 3: Luke 2:15-20** Al Beardsall

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

**Message: “All I want for Christmas...”** By Rev Tom

**Hymn #133 Go Tell It On The Mountain**

**The Prayer of the People**

**Solo: Ave Maria** Gwyneth Howell

**Invitation to the offering.**

Often the very best gifts are given quietly, even anonymously, and yet such gifts have the power to change lives. God’s gift in the Christ child arrived in a small town, a humble stable, to a couple no one invited in – and still that gift changes lives. Our gifts to God this Christmas share in that miracle of new life.

**Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

**Offertory Prayer**

Generous and loving God, your gift to us in Christ Jesus still draws us to manger and opens our hearts with wonder. Bless our gifts in his name, so that they may draw others to your love, to find the blessing we have discovered in the One born for us. **Amen.**

**Hymn #154 Silent Night**

**Benediction**

To you is born this night (day) a Saviour who is Christ the Lord. May the love of the Christ Child embrace you; and the joy of the Christ Child fill your heart.  
May the peace of the Christ Child give you rest, and the hope of the Christ Child guide you into the year ahead. **Amen.**

**May God's Blessings Surround You Each Day**

**Thank you for sharing in our service: Gwyneth Hallow,  
Sylvia Tollar & Kevin Kerr**

**Upcoming Congregational Worship and Events**

**Thursday December 25** – Pre-ordered Christmas Take Out (11am) & Lunch served at Elmvale Presbyterian at 12 noon.

**Sunday December 28** – End of Year Service at Elmvale Presbyterian at 11am.

**Happy New Year 2026!**

***Pray this Week... We pray for you and your family.***

*We ask you to hold in your hearts and pray for anyone who may be sick, for those feeling lost or lonely and for those who need the healing and encouraging presence of Jesus Christ in their lives at this time.*

*We pray for peace throughout our troubled world, for the people of Gaza, Israel and the Ukraine.*

*We pray for our Church and Presbytery, and for all of the peoples of Faith, that they may be guided by the Spirit of Wisdom, Truth, Love and Peace that brings to us, tolerance, understanding and compassion for All.*

***May the Good Lord Bless and Keep you.***



## **The Presbyterian Church in Canada**

***Elmvale and Knox Flos Presbyterian Churches***

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