

# 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.**

**A Warm Welcome to any Newcomers or those Returning to our Church**

**Service: The First Sunday after Christmas – Year End Service  
Sunday December 28, 2025**

**Minister: Rev. Thomas Mason M.Div**

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

## **The Prayer of Preparation**

In the law and the prophets, you give us your will and in Jesus Christ you revealed your love.

Open our minds by the power of your Spirit so that we might understand what you are saying to the church.

**Amen.**

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

### **Call to Worship** (Responsive)

One: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

**All: Praise the Lord, sun and moon; give praise, all shining stars!**

One: Give praise, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling God's command!

**All: Give praise, hills and mountains.**

One: All people together, let us praise the name of the Lord and declare God's glory in heaven and on earth.

**All: Let us worship God!**

### **Hymn #169 He Is Born**

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

God of majesty and mystery,

like the magi following the star, we come to you in wonder.

Your purposes are beyond our comprehension, your majesty incomparable and your love beyond imagination and your presence always with us.

We praise you for your steadfast love, and offer you our trust for the days ahead as we seek to follow faithfully in the footsteps of Christ, our newborn King. **Amen**

#### **Prayer of Confession**

God of light and life,

you have come to us in Christ Jesus to open a path to new life, but we fall back on what is familiar.

We confess that we are in love with our old ways and our resolution for change is all too short.

Forgive us when our resolve wavers and shine your light on the way we can follow into your future.

As we pray together the words Jesus 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, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. Be assured of God's forgiveness. Make a new start this year, be at peace with God, secure in the knowledge of God's love.

### **Family Hymn #172 As With Gladness, Men Of Old**

### **Family Time & Kids Church**

### **Scripture Readings**

#### **Psalm 148: 1-6 (Responsive)**

One: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

**All: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!**

One: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

**All: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**

One: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.

**All: He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

### **Old Testament Reading Ezekiel 36:26-27**

### **New Testament Reading 2 Corinthians 5:16-21**

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

### **Message – “A New Heart”** By Rev Tom

### **Hymn #371 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

### **Prayers of the People**

### **Invitation to the Offering**

The Magi offered rare and expensive gifts to honour the new-born Christ child. We may not bring gold, frankincense and myrrh, but all our gifts are used by God to build God's kingdom in the world. Let us present our gifts and offerings.

### **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.

### **Prayer of Dedication**

God of neighbourhoods and nations, we bring our gifts to you, grateful that you are with us in good times and hard times. We do not know what the year ahead will hold but your love shines like a star to guide us. Bless these gifts and bless us and use them and us in the service of your mission in the world. **Amen.**

### **Hymn #811 Standing At The Portal**

#### **Benediction and Blessing**

Go in courage and confidence to face the year ahead, sure that the light of Christ will guide you. And may God bless you and keep you; may God's face shine upon you; and may God be gracious to you and give you joy and peace this day and every day, now and evermore. **Amen.**

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

#### **Upcoming Congregational Worship and Events**

***A BIG THANK YOU! To everyone who participated and attended our Christmas Eve Service last Thursday. It was a true joy to hear and see all of the children and families who joined with us for Worship. What blessings! Please let your family know that they are always Welcome any Sunday!***

***The Minister and Elders wish everyone a safe, healthy and happy New Year in 2026!***

***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 peoples of Faith, to be guided by the Spirit of Wisdom. Truth, Love and Peace that brings tolerance, understanding and compassion to All.***

**Donations for the Mitten Tree:** 160 items in total. They were divided up and delivered to Salvation Army, Women's Shelter and our local Food Bank

**Donations for our Christmas Family:** totaled \$1400. Some donations were made through the envelopes and some cash donations. Although there was a language barrier it was a successful event. Each child received two toys and a lot of clothes. There were also gifts for the parents and a \$200 gift card to be used for groceries. The gifts have been delivered to the Food Bank for delivery to the family. **The Food Bank asked that a tremendous thank you be given to the congregation for their generosity.**

**Minister's Vacation:** December 30<sup>th</sup> to January 15<sup>th</sup>. Guest Preachers will be Jeff Walther and Preaching Elder Angela Kirton. Please contact Marlene Lambie for emergency pastoral care which will be provided.

**Church Calendars** – The new (Christian Ed committee produced) calendars for 2026 have just arrived and are available for sale at \$15 each. Filled with lots of photos of our church family and is a great Christmas gift.

**Recipe Books** - The second shipment of Recipe Books have arrived and are now available for purchase at \$15

**W&N** is looking for anyone interested in looking after the nursery as needed. We would like to set up a schedule for those interested without the expectation of having the responsibility of being there every Sunday

**Barrie Presbytery** are setting up funds to send children to camp. If you might be interested in making use of this fund please let Janice or Rev. Tom know. There will be more information regarding this fund coming soon.

**Calling all knitters!** – The WW/WMS group has been asked to create many IZZY Dolls for Dr. Cole to take with him on his dental mission trip to Africa in the New Year. Craft Group has lots of wool and a pattern available.

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

**Presbyterian Calendars** – Deanna Nelson has ordered a limited number of extra ones for anyone wanting a 2026 calendar. They are \$10.00 each.

**Willing Workers/WMS** 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](mailto: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:** cake mixes, cookies, canned vegetables (gr/yellow beans, creamed corn, peas & tomatoes), canned kidney beans, chunky soup, hamburger helper, canned fruit, toilet paper, jam, peanut butter, pancake mix, & small cans of tomato juice.

***Peace be with you all.***