

# 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 Third Sunday after Epiphany  
Sunday January 25, 2026**

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

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

**The Prayer of Preparation**

O God, we seek your wisdom and truth in the Scriptures. Send your Holy Spirit upon us to open our minds and hearts to receive the gift of your Word. Challenge and comfort us in what we hear, and strengthen us to follow Jesus, your Living Word. Amen.

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

**Call to Worship (Responsive)** Carolyn Heads

One: Lord is our light and salvation.

**All: We will not be afraid.**

One: Behold the beauty of the Lord!

**All: God will shelter us on any day of trouble and set us high upon a rock.**

One: Let God's people shout for joy!

**All: For Christ calls us and claims us as his own. Come and worship in unity and love; let us rejoice together!**

**Hymn #376 Shine, Jesus Shine**

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

**Gracious God,**

**you are our light and our salvation, you are peace and you are grace, you are healing and you are love.**

**You send comfort and courage to relieve our tears and fears in the shadows of fear and doubt.**

**And you call us to lives of meaning and to follow you in your ways of justice, truth and goodness.**

**We offer our praise in love and loyalty for you are always with us. Amen**

One: In order to begin again with you and one another, let us confess our sins:

**Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God,**

**you call us to follow your way of compassion but too often we criticize each other. You call us to follow your way of peace but too often we remain divided. You call us to trust you but too often our fears and doubts overwhelm us. Forgive us, O God, and strengthen our commitment to follow your ways.**

**Have mercy upon us, O God, and guide us to live with more grace and generosity through Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray...**

**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**

**One - Assurance of Pardon**

God calls to us in love and forgiveness, and welcomes us in with a warm embrace. Hear the good news of the Gospel. Rejoice that in Christ we are forgiven, and be at peace with God, yourself and with each other.

**Family Hymn #348 Tell Me The Stories Of Jesus**

**Family Time & Kids Church**

**Choir Anthem**

**Scripture Readings**

**Psalm 27 (Responsive)** Carolyn Heads

One: The LORD is my light and my salvation: whom shall I fear?

**All: The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

One: One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after, to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

**All: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me on a rock.**

**Old Testament Reading** Isaiah 9:1-4

**The Gospel Reading** Matthew 4:12-23

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

**Message – “Finding Light in the Darkness”** By Rev Tom

**Hymn #642 O Master Let Me Walk With Thee**

**Prayers of the People** Janice Terry

**Invitation to the Offering**

Jesus called the first disciples who followed, not knowing that we would follow their example so many centuries later. We bring our gifts in Jesus' name, not knowing whose lives will be touched, but trusting that something good will come of everything we offer to God.

### **Doxology**

### **Prayer of Dedication**

God of the fishers who first followed Jesus, you have called us to follow and here we are. We offer what we have and ask you to bless our gifts. Give us the courage we need to invite others to join us in following Jesus, our friend and Saviour. Amen.

### **Hymn #569 O Jesus, I Have Promised**

### **Benediction and Blessing**

Go into the world to live out the gift of unity in Christ, be a people who bring light to darkness.

Be eager to serve and open to learn from the Christ who calls us and sets us free.

May the love of God, the peace of Christ and unity in the Holy Spirit be yours now and forever more. Amen.

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

### **This mornings Sermon Notes on Matthew's Gospel**

**If you continue to read Matthews gospel you will find the presence of the language of the Kingdom of Heavens in all five major discourses in Matthew:**

**The Sermon on the Mount (5:3, 10, 19, 20; 6:10, 33; 7:21)**

**The Commissioning Discourse (9:35; 10:7)**

**The Parable Discourse (13:11, 24, 31, 33, 44, 45, 47, 52),**

**The Community Discourse (18:1, 3, 4, 23), and**

**The Eschatological Discourse (24:14; 25:1, 34)**

**Jesus journeys from Nazareth to Capernaum as his Ministry commences.**

**"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined." Isaiah 9:2**



### Future Congregational Worship and Events

**Annual Reports due by Fri February 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Wed Jan 28 – Quilting 1pm**

**Thurs Jan 29 – Coffee Party 9:30-11am**

**Thurs Jan 29 – Choir 7 pm**

# **Barrie Presbytery Youth Tobogganing Event**

**February 7th. 2026 10:00-2:00**

**Elmvale Presbyterian Church**

**Taco Lunch Included**

**Bring warm clothes and toboggans**

**Please RSVP numbers and allergies to**

[scouterlindamurray@gmail.com](mailto:scouterlindamurray@gmail.com)

**Mark your calendars: Saturday, February 14th**, beginning at 6pm, Mission & Outreach will be hosting a spaghetti supper & card/ games night. Bring your "sweetie" or a friend. Sign-up sheet in the social room.

**Tuesday, February 17th** is the annual "all you can eat" Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper with proceeds going to the Elmvale & District Food Bank. Help is requested and there is a sign-up sheet in the social room.

**Church Calendars** – The new (Christian Ed committee produced) calendars for 2026 have just arrived and are available for sale at \$15 each.

**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.

**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. More information coming soon.

**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.

**Winter/Christmas 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.*



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

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***Minister: Rev. Tom Mason***

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