# **Elmvale Presbyterian Church**



"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.



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# <u>"Epiphany"</u>

Sunday January 4, 2026

**Guest Preacher Angela Kirton** 

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

# **Moment of Quiet Reflection to Prepare for Worship**

We come bearing gifts. Star-struck, we advance toward the light and the manger – where newborn dreams sleep awaiting the awakening, and we worship while dream beams brighten the dawn. **Amen** 

Welcome & Announcements Marlene Lambie, Clerk of Session

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

One: The magi came from many places, following a star.

All: We come to worship, and the star sheds light on our lives.

One: The magi brought gifts to offer the Child.

All: We too bring gifts – ourselves, our hopes, our dreams.

One: Shepherds and magi – the meek and the mighty – all were

welcome in Bethlehem.

All: We too come to Bethlehem and then return to our homes rejoicing.

Hymn #

<u>Prayers of Approach, Confession, & Lord's Prayer</u> (In Unison) God of glory,

Angels called to shepherds with songs of your good news. Mary pondered the mystery of your goodness in the tumult of new birth. Your splendour shines from a manger where the Light of the world was born. In the fragility of flesh, you are revealed to us face to face. And so, we gather in worship and praise you Creator, Redeemer, and Guide; perfect and eternal, now and forever. Amen.

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

God of compassion, you promise new life, but we confess that we are in love with our old ways; with hurts that we nourish, hatreds that hold us hostage, and fantasies that restrict our faithful living. You offer us unconditional love, but we reject our neighbours and live apart from you and one another in many ways. Recreate us in the image of your son, and for your glory's sake, forgive us. 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** (Unison)

Here is the good news of the Gospel; Jesus Christ is chosen for our salvation. In him we are made acceptable to God. Let us give thanks to God and be at peace with ourselves and with one another. Amen.

### Family Hymn #

<u>Family Time & Kids Church</u> Video – Joseph's Faith <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xL21OYMkXKs</u>

#### **Choir Anthem**

<u>Scripture Readings: Gospel Reading</u> Gwyneth Howell Matthew Chapter 2

Message "Faith Like Joseph" By Angela Kirton

Hymn #173 We Three Kings

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Sarah Covey

### Invitation to the Offering

Like the Magi, we come before you now Lord with 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**

Gracious God, in your constant love, you nurture our life with your richness. As your love for us is always abundant, we learn to share joyfully what we have received from you. Bless the offerings, and all that we have and all that we are so that your bountiful, supportive love may reach those in need through what we do and say in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

### Hymn#

### Benediction and Blessing

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord shine his face upon you and be gracious unto you. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you his peace. **Amen.** 

# May God's Blessings Surround You Each Day

# **Upcoming Congregational Worship and Events**

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.

# Minister's Vacation: December 30th to January 15th.

Guest Preachers are Jeff Walther and Preaching Elder Angela Kirton. Please contact Marlene Lambie for emergency pastoral care which will be provided.

Mon Jan 5 – Let's Do Lunch- Phone In 9-12pm

Mon Jan 5 - Mission and Outreach 10 am

<u>Tues Jan 6 – Centre Flos Women's Institute 1 pm</u>

Wed Jan 7 – Crafting 9 am

<u>Thurs Jan 8 – Let's Do Lunch 12-1pm</u>

## Thurs Jan 8 - Choir 7 pm

# <u>Sun Jan 11 –</u> Linda Murray's Nepal Missions Trip Presentation at 1pm

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

<u>Donations for our Christmas Family:</u> 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 sends a tremendous** "thank you" to the congregation for their generosity.

<u>Church Calendars</u> – 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. 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.

<u>Calling all knitters!</u> – 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. 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. Box located at the back of sanctuary

<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.

<u>Monetary Donations</u> 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.

<u>Food Bank Needs</u>: 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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