

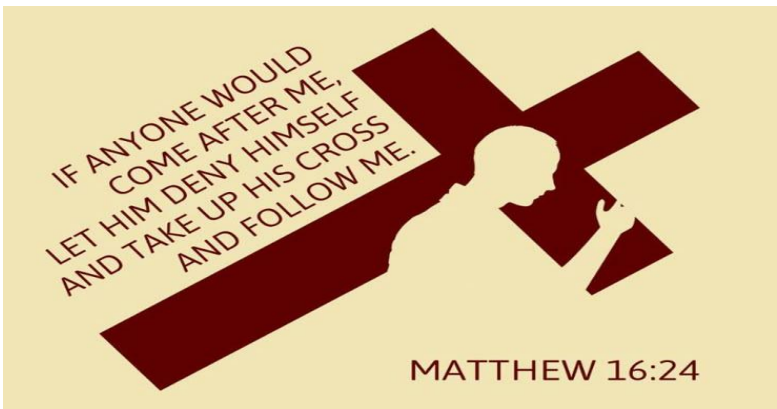
ELMVALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
22 Queen St. E. Elmvale, ON L0L 1P0



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."



"The Cost of Faithfulness"

Service Date: Sunday August 30, 2026

Minister: Rev Tom Mason

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

**WE PAUSE FOR A MOMENT OF QUIET REFLECTION TO
PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP**

Holy God,

We step out of a loud world and into Your quiet presence. We silence our racing thoughts. We lay down our heavy burdens. We breathe in Your peace. Speak to our hearts in this stillness. Reveal Yourself to us today.

This we pray in the strong name of Jesus, **Amen.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Marlene Lambie, Clerk of Session.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive) David Graham

Leader: The Lord says: If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me.

People: If we utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, we shall be as God's mouth.

Leader: Jesus says: If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves.

People: Let us take up our cross and follow Him.

Leader: For those who want to save their life will lose it.

People: But those who lose their life for Christ's sake will find it.

Leader: Come, let us leave behind our own ways and the treasures of this world.

People: Let us worship the Lord and find our true life in Him!

HYMN #428 We Love Your House, O God

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, CONFESSION, & LORD'S PRAYER

Prayer of Adoration (unison)

Holy and Mighty God, we praise You today because Your words are the true delight of our hearts.

You are the Creator who sustains us, the Redeemer who restores us, and the Rock who stands firm when our world shakes.

Jesus, we adore You for Your perfect obedience. You did not choose the easy path. You set Your face toward Jerusalem, willing to suffer, die, and rise again so that we might have eternal life.

You are the Son of the Living God, and Your wisdom is greater than any human thoughts. We bow before You in awe, giving You our highest praise.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Lord, we confess that we often push away the cross You call us to carry. That we prefer to choose our comfort over our commitment. That we try to save our own lives instead of losing them for Your sake. We fix our minds on human things, the things of the world—rather than the things of God.

Forgive us for the times we treat Your precious truths as being worthless. Forgive us for complaining about our struggles instead of trusting Your power to save and deliver us.

Cleanse our hearts, renew our minds, and turn us back to You.

Leader: By Your great mercy, renew our minds, reshape our hearts, and restore our unity. Help us to live out our confession every day as for Your glory, as we pray the words that Jesus taught us...

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, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen

Assurance of Pardon (Based on Jeremiah 15:19-20)

Leader: Hear the good news!

The Lord says: "If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me. I am with you to save you and deliver you."

Through Jesus Christ, who carried the cross for our sins, we are completely forgiven and set free.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

FAMILY HYMN #570 I Have Decided To Follow Jesus

FAMILY TIME & Kids Church **"Gods Gifts"** Jocelyn Leigh.

Solo by Gwyneth Howell

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD - HOLY SCRIPTURE:

Psalms 26:1-8 (responsive) David Graham

One: ¹Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

All: ²Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and mind.

One: ³For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.

All: ⁴I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites;

One: ⁵I hate the company of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked.

All: ⁶I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O LORD,

⁷singing aloud a song of thanksgiving, and telling all your wondrous deeds.

One: ⁸O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell,

All: and the place where your glory abides.

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

Matthew 16:21-28 NRSV By Rev Tom

²¹From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.'

²³But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done.

²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

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

MESSAGE **“Losing to Win!”** By Rev Tom

HYMN #211 **Take Up Your Cross**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Sylvia Tollar

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

God’s words are a joy and the delight of our hearts. We belong to God. Jesus challenges us to think about what truly matters, asking what we can give in exchange for our lives.

When we give our offerings today, we are not just giving money. We are giving a piece of ourselves. We are saying that our lives, our treasure, and our time belong to the One who sustains us. Let us bring our gifts with joyful and choosing hearts, trusting that God will use them to bring hope to a hurting world.

Solo: Gwyneth Howell

Doxology #79

**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

Generous God,

Your words feed our souls, and your love gives us strength.

We bring you these gifts today as a sign of our love and trust.

Jesus called his followers to take up their cross, promising that true life is found in you.

Bless these our offerings. Use them to feed the hungry, comfort the lonely, and build up your kingdom.

Turn our gifts into real help for people who are hurting.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN #647 **Lead Us, Heavenly Father, Lead Us**

GOD SENDS US OUT INTO THE WORLD

BENEDICTION & BLESSING

Go out into the world with courage.
Take up your cross and follow Jesus.
Do not be afraid to stand out or speak the truth.
For whoever loses their life for Christ will find it.
Hold fast to God's word, because it is the joy and delight of your heart! May the Lord God be your tower of strength and safety.
May Jesus Christ give you the bravery to walk his path.
And may the Holy Spirit fill you with peace that overcomes all fear.
Go now in the love of God, today and forever more.

All: Amen.

Go Now In Peace

Congregational Announcements & Events

Thank you to Gwyneth Howell and Jocelyn Leigh for your beautiful solos.

Mon & Wed Aug 31 & Sept 02 – VON Exercising 9-10 am

Tues Sept 01 – Mini Putt Luncheon 12pm

Tues Sept 01 – Centre Flos Women's Institute 1pm

Tues Sept 01 – CE Meeting 7pm

Wed Sept 02 – Crafting & Quilting 9am

Thurs Sept 03 – Choir 7pm

Sat Sept 05 – BBQ & Corn Day!! Sign up to help in the Social Room. Proceeds going to support the Ontario communities devastated by the wildfires

Sun Sept 06 – Blessing of the backpacks for school year

****When you go shopping, please consider purchasing the following items for the local elementary school:**

Lunch bag with containers

Crayola crayons, markers and pencil crayons

Sun Sept 13 – Welcome back Sun with BBQ & bowling 1-2:30pm - \$10 per bowler (shoes included) and M&O will provide

treats and drinks. Bowlers are to be ready to bowl at 1pm. Please sign up as soon as possible to establish teams.

Sun Sept 06 - Sun Oct 11 – A Hope Story fund has been established to help bring education to children in Kenya.

Donations made through your offering designating **Hope Story**

Fri Oct 09 & Sat Oct 10 – A booth at the Fair has been booked to promote EPC and we are planning to give out cookies to those visiting our booth. So please, start your ovens and load up your freezers with cookies.

W&N – Looking for helpers for the nursery as needed.

Monetary Donations 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.

Food Bank canned pasta, canned vegetables (peas, beans, creamed corn, potatoes), hamburger helper, snack crackers, shampoo, deodorant, & dish soap.

Fire Safety – Please make sure all doors are closed when you are leaving the church



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Elmvale and Knox Flos Presbyterian Churches

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