

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."



Service Date: Sunday September 27, 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) Kevin Kerr

Leader: Wake up, O sleeper! The night is nearly over; the day is near.

People: Let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light!

Leader: We come owing no one anything, except the ongoing debt to love one another.

People: For love is the fulfillment of God's law.

Leader: Christ promises to meet us right where we are.

People: Wherever two or three are gathered in His name, He is here in our midst.

Leader: Let us worship God together!

HYMN #411 Stand Up And Bless The Lord

PRAYERS OF ADORATION, CONFESSION, & LORD'S PRAYER

Prayer of Adoration (responsive)

Leader: Almighty and Everlasting God,

We praise You today for the brilliance of Your holiness and the infinite depth of Your love.

You are the God who speaks light into the darkness, who created the heavens and the earth, and who holds all of time and history in Your hands. We adore You because You do not leave us in our isolation. You call us out of the shadows of the world and into the glorious light of Your presence.

People: We praise You, Lord, for Your unfailing grace.

Leader: We marvel at the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who clothed Himself in our humanity to show us what perfect love looks like. We thank You that Your love is an inexhaustible well, a debt of grace that we can joyfully spend our entire lives repaying to one another.

We praise You for Your Holy Spirit, who binds this community together, heals our fractured relationships, And who meets us whenever two or three are gathered in Your name. You alone are worthy of our worship, our devotion, and our lives.

People: Glory, honor, and praise be to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (responsive)

Leader: Merciful God,

You have called us to wake from our sleep, yet we confess that we often prefer the comfort of our spiritual complacency.

You have commanded us to owe nothing but love, yet we harbor grudges, protect our pride, and allow divisions to grow.

Let us silently confess the times we have chosen the works of darkness over Your light.

(A moment of silent reflection)

Leader: Together, we pray:

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You and against our neighbors.

We have walked in darkness instead of Your light.

We have spoken words of gossip behind closed doors instead of seeking honest, loving reconciliation.

We have demanded our rights while ignoring our debt of love. Forgive us, Lord.

Wake us up. Strip away our jealousy, our anger, and our pride. Clothe us daily in the humility and character of Jesus Christ, so that our lives may reflect Your peace. Amen.

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

Leader: Hear the good news! The night is gone, and the day is at hand. Our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. God does not treat us as our sins deserve, but covers us in Christ's righteousness. Through Jesus Christ, your sins are completely forgiven. Put on the armor of light, step into the freedom of God's grace, and walk in peace with one another.

People: Thanks be to God!

A SPECIAL FAMILY HYMN TIME TRIBUTE: Two Gospel Hymns

by John Latimer

God Made The Mountains

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

HOLY SCRIPTURE Psalm 8:3-6 (unison) Terry Mason

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established:

What are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.

You have given them dominion over the works of your hands you have put things under their feet.

The Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 5:1-7

The Gospel Reading – John 15:1-8

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

MESSAGE: "The tale of the Two Gardens" By Rev Tom.

HYMN #491 God Bless Your Church With Strength

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Janice Terry

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

The Apostle Paul reminds us that we owe a continuous debt to love one another, a debt that is a joyful response to the overwhelming grace God has poured into our lives. Giving is an act of love and an investment in our community. It is a way to lay aside the works of darkness and proactively build up the body of

Christ. As we bring our tithes, gifts, and offerings today, we do so not out of obligation, but out of gratitude for God's presence among us. Let us worship God through our giving.

Choir Anthem I'm Praying For You

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, we return to You a portion of what You have so abundantly given to us. Bless these gifts and the hearts that give them. Use these offerings to shine Your light into dark places, to mend what is broken in our community, and to foster true reconciliation. May our giving reflect our debt of love to You and to our neighbors. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

HYMN #699 All The Way My Saviour Leads Me

GOD SENDS US OUT INTO THE WORLD

BENEDICTION & BLESSING

Go forth into the world now, wide awake to the grace of God. Lay aside the works of darkness, and walk boldly in the armor of light. Owe no one anything, except the ongoing debt to love one another. And remember the promise of Jesus: He is with you always, in every conversation, in every reconciliation, and in every step of faith. May the blessing of God Almighty—the Father who loves you infinitely, the Son who clothes you in His righteousness, and the Holy Spirit who binds you together in unity—rest upon you, protect your relationships, and give you peace, both now and forevermore. **Amen.**

May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You

Congregational Announcements & Events

Donations to the United Mission of Nepal - during this disastrous situation, please mark your envelop with "Nepal" on the Presbyterian Sharing line. Funds will go directly to the families to help rebuild.

Wed Sept 30 –Quilting 1pm

Wed Sept 30 - Craft Group will be meeting at 9am to work on a special project

Thurs Oct 01 – Choir 7pm

Christmas Cantata Practice 8pm

Sat Oct 03 – Like Christ Workshop. See insert

Sat Oct 24 - He Restores My Soul Workshop 9:30am (see Janice Terry – WMS Barrie Presbytery)

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. **Request: if you are considering baking cookies for the fair, please do **NOT** use nuts or peanut butter. You are invited to join with us as we bag and tag the cookie packages on **Wed. Oct 7th at 7pm.****

There is a sign-up sheet downstairs for help to staff the booth at the Fair. It is felt we should have 3 people there at all times if possible. Sign up for an hour or more when you will be in attendance at the Fair.

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

Sermon Notes



The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Elmvale and Knox Flos Presbyterian Churches

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Ministry Team: All of us!