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 166 years."

A Warm Welcome to any Newcomers, the Lord's table is open to anyone who confesses Jesus as Lord and who truly believes.





Service: "The First Sunday in Advent with Holy Communion" – Sunday November 29, 2026

Minister: Rev Tom Mason M.Div

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

MOMENT OF QUIET REFELECTION BEFORE WORSHIP

Spirit of God, move within and among us today, to open God's Word, read and proclaimed, for us. Guide us to your truth and help us discern

and understand your Word, pointing us to Christ, your Living Word. **Amen.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Marlene Lambie, Clerk of Session

CALL TO WORSHIP – The Lighting of the Candle of Hope

First Sunday in Advent – HOPE Sarah Covey

One: As we enter the season of Advent, we remember God's call to seek justice in the world God loves.

All: We come longing for a brighter future for all.

One: We light the first candle of Advent, a symbol of God's hope, which shines in the darkness.

(Light the candle of hope)

One: May the light of this candle ignite a fire within your people, who are often afraid or hesitant to work for change.

All: Holy One, strengthen us by your Spirit to commit ourselves to walking with those who are oppressed and marginalized. May our actions reflect your hope, which transforms your world. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Hymn #119 Hope is a Star (First Verse Only)

OUR PRAYERS OF ADORATION, CONFESSION, & LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYER OF ADORATION (unison)

God of love,
you come to your people to dwell with us.
You come with power to transform all things.
You come with promises to make all things new.
You come with signs of your deep love for the world.
You come, and your truth breaks into our lives shattering lies and half-truths, setting your people free.
Your coming is our hope, and so, we offer you our praise and prayers in gratitude and anticipation.
Come into our lives again, O God, and show us how to hope in the face of all that is discouraging, for we gather in the name of Hope made flesh, Jesus Christ, your promise and our desire. **Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

"Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sins and the sins of this world."

Surprising God,

forgive our sleepiness in the presence of your splendor and for when we abandon hope and expect for the same old thing in the same old way. Forgive us our silence when we ought to have spoken up and our carelessness with your world and each other. Awaken us to your holy, hopeful presence so we may watch and wait for you, Lord Jesus Christ. Move in us and in all your creation to bring forth new life, while we wait with hope in your grace and goodness. As we pray in the strong name of Jesus...

...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 (unison)

The One who comes with justice also comes with mercy. The God of Judgment is truly the Christ of compassion. God offers you forgiveness today, in the hope you will receive it gladly. Do not be afraid but rejoice in the God who comes to us.

Hymn # It Only Takes A Spark

FAMILY TIME "Caring for a Family this Christmas"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 25:1-5 (responsive) Sarah Covey

One: To you O LORD, I lift up my soul.

All: O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

One: Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;

All: Let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

One: Make me to know your ways O LORD;

All: Teach me your paths.

One: Lead me in your truth, and teach me.

All: For you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

The Old Testament Reading Jeremiah 33:14-16
The Gospel Reading Luke 21:25-36
One: This is the word of the Lord. **A: Thanks be to God**

MESSAGE "Hope Springs" by Rev Tom

Prayers of the People Rev Tom

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

The first Sunday in Advent celebrates God's gift of hope.
So we offer whatever we have to share, knowing our gifts can spread hope in the world God loves by touching lives in Jesus' name.

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

God of hope, we offer you our gifts, knowing you can do with them more than we can ask or imagine. Bless what we offer as signs of your love at work in your world, and as symbols of the hope we share in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Friend. **Amen.**

Hymn #548 Let Us Break Bread Together



A COMMUNION LITURGY FROM THE IONA COMMUNITY

The Prayer of the Invocation

The Invitation and the Story of the Last Super

Prayer of Thanksgiving (Responsive)

One: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them to the Lord.
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
One: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are your almighty Father, now and forever. Let us Pray.

The Breaking and Sharing of the Bread and Wine – Rev Tom and the Elders

The Sharing of the Bread and Wine

The Sharing of the Peace - Rev Tom, Elders and Congregation

GOD SENDS US OUT INTO THE WORLD
THE BENEDICTION

May God, who is the ground of hope, fill you with joy and peace as you lead the life of faith until, by the power of the Holy Spirit, you overflow with hope. (Romans 15:13). **Amen.**

Go now in Peace

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 Dec 02 - Bible Study 10am

Thurs Dec 03– Choir 7pm & Christmas Cantata Practice 8pm

Fri Dec 04 - The Hospitality Crew will be catering to an evening dinner and need your help. Hot turkey with all the trimmings and pie for dessert. Marlene has the sign-up sheet.

Worship and Nurture - The Christmas family includes: Grandmother, Mother, boy (9), boy (6), girl (18 months), & girl (5 months). The final date to donate is Dec. 13

Advent Bible Study - Sarah Covey is planning to run an advent Bible Study using the book "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel: a. Liturgy for daily worship from Advent to Epiphany by Jonathan Gibson. This study would take place on **Wed. mornings from 10-11** starting **Wed. Nov. 25** and finishing on **Wed. Jan.6.** Sarah can order the books for us or you can source your own copy. The cost is approximately **$45**.

Worship and Nurture would like to put a float in the **Santa Claus Parade on Dec. 6. W&N are still looking for helpers and people willing to be a part of the float during the parade.**

A bake sale is to be held in conjunction with **Let's do Lunch December 10th**. Please have your baking at the church by 7pm Wed Dec 09 for pricing.

Willing Workers will be packing Christmas Cheer boxes on Monday, December 14th at 9:00 a.m. Cookies and candy donations would be greatly appreciated. They may be left at the church on Sunday, December 13th or brought to the church by 9:00 a.m. on Monday, December 14th. Money donations may be given to Sandy Owen or Joan Snedden.

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.

Elmvale & District Food Ban Christmas List - Canned Vegetables - cream corn, corn niblets, mixed vegetables, beans, peas, Snack Crackers, Canned Fruit, Cookies, & Canned Beef Gravy.

Fire Safety & Defibrillator – Please make sure all doors are closed when you are leaving the church & there is a Defibrillator located on the wall outside the Office.

Worship and Nurture would like to thank everyone who participated in our worship service by reading Scripture, Call to Worship or Prayers of the People. Your participation is greatly appreciated. We would also like to thank everyone that helps by supplying refreshments for fellowship after the service. The time spent together, with each other, after worship is very important to our well-being.

Elmvale and Knox Flos Presbyterian Churches Christmas Services and Events

- 1st Advent with Communion – Sunday 29th November – Knox 9.45am and EPC 11am.
- Wednesdays until Epiphany – 6th January – Advent Bible Study with Sarah Covey – Jonathan Gibson's daily worship "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
- 2nd Advent with the "Mitten Tree" and Santa Clause Parade – Sunday 6th December EPC 11am.
- Lynn Stone Remembrance Service – Sunday 6th December EPC 7pm.
- 2ND Advent at Knox, Flos 9.45am Sunday 6th – "Rosewood" Donations. EPC 11am.
- "Lets do Lunch" – Thursday 10th December 11- 1pm.
- 3rd Advent – Sunday 13th December – Knox 9.45am and EPC 11am.
- Christmas Cantata with St Johns: Midhurst United -Sunday 13th and EPC- Sunday 20th December at 7pm.
- Carol Sing at EPC – Tuesday 15th December at 7pm. Come Sing with us!!!
- Knox, Flos – "Lessons and Carols" Christmas Service at the Gardens of Wasaga – Thursday 17th December at 2pm.

- 4th Advent – Sunday 20st December – Knox 9.45am and EPC 11am with Family Service and Pot Luck.
- Christmas Eve Service – Thursday 24th December – Knox, Flos at 5.30pm and EPC at 7pm.
- The Elmvale Elves bring you our traditional community Christmas Lunch – bookings needed in advance.
- End of Year Service - Sunday 27th December – Knox 9.45am and EPC 11am.

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.

Peace be with you all.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Elmvale and Knox Flos Presbyterian Churches
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Ministry Team: All of us!