



Presbyterians Sharing
Palestinians living in the Occupied Territories know that Ecumenical Accompaniers (EAs) don't have much power to stop the occupation. But they are grateful for the protective presence of EAs at checkpoints, refugee camps, schools and remote villages where shepherds watch their flocks. In response to an appeal from local church leaders, the World Council of Churches created the Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel in 2002. Supported by Presbyterians Sharing, the Rev. Jeanie Lee recently served three months in Bethlehem, witnessing life under occupation, monitoring human rights violations, and listening to stories of Palestinians to share with Canadians upon her return.



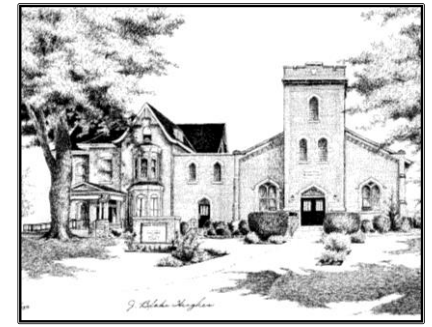
PCC Daily Prayer - We pray for transformation in congregations that will lead God's people to share love and healing in their communities through concrete acts of friendship and kindness.

Social Action Spotlight: Housing Equity For All Have you seen what happens when a home has an unlevel foundation? Walls and floors separate. Concrete cracks. Load-bearing walls tilt. It does not feel safe and secure. For some, this is what it looks like to try to access secure and adequate housing. Systemic housing inequity is the result of many factors, including racism, economic disparity and access to education, employment and income. As a result, racialized and Indigenous communities, people with disabilities, woman-led single parent families, lone seniors and people experiencing domestic violence or human trafficking face much higher levels of housing insecurity. These factors are far beyond the control of any one person or family and point to a broken, unlevel societal foundation where housing is treated as a commodity instead of a necessity. Without secure housing, human health suffers and social and economic wellbeing diminish. Attaining housing equity for all requires that we reframe how we think about housing: a safe and adequate home is a right for all people. As a society, we are collectively responsible for building a level and just foundation so that no one faces housing insecurity. There are steps we can take to advocate for this just foundation.

- Advocate that elected officials approach housing as a human right, combined with appropriate benefits and services that are trauma-informed, culturally appropriate and reflective of the diverse lived experiences of those most vulnerable to housing insecurity to adequately address systemic barriers to affordable housing.
- Get involved and support cooperative and/or social housing initiatives in your community. Work to ensure that these initiatives are actually meeting the needs of those in your community who live with housing insecurity.



Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Monday – Thursday
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Sunday, August 27, 2023

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton

Today's Worship Leader: Anita Evans

Music Director: Bonnie Neaves

Organist Emeritus: Bert Van der Hoek, ARCCO

Welcome!

Our mission as a congregation, with the Holy Spirit as our guide, is to share the good news of Jesus Christ in the world, and to fulfill our responsibilities to God and our neighbours.

An offering can be made in one of the offering plates upon entering or leaving.

*If able, please stand where indicated with an * asterisk.*

Prelude: Hymn Preludes on Love Divine, King's Lynn & Terra Beata
C. Callahan

Words of Welcome and Announcements

We Gather To Worship God

Lighting of the Worship Candle

*Call to Worship

*Hymn: **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

321

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

L: Lord, have mercy upon us

P: Christ, have mercy upon us

L: Lord, have mercy upon us

Prayer for the Day

P: Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

L: The Peace of Christ be with you all

P: And also with you

*Hymn: **Joyful, joyful we adore you**

410

Hear the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading: **Isaiah 51:1-6** (pgs. 790-r, 714-w, 594-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God

Responsive Psalm: **138**

***Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.

Romans 12:1-8 (pgs. 1217-r, 1100-w, 922-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God

St. Matthew 16:13-20, (pgs. 1054-r, 950-w, 798-NRSV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord,

P: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

*Hymn: **Come sing, O church, in joy!**

757

Sermon

Solo: King of Glory, King of Peace

arr. K. Lee Scott

Tenor: Steve O'Neil

We Respond in Faith and Service

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

L: Lord, in your mercy

P: Hear our prayer

The Lord's Prayer (debts)

*Hymn: **Be thou my vision**

461

*Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: Voluntary in F

M. Sobaje



Our thanks to soloist, Steve O'Neil for his contribution to our worship service this morning!



Stewardship Moment: Give regularly. Stewardship is not a once a year consideration, but a week-to-week, month-to-month commitment requiring discipline and consistency.

Randy Alcorn – author, founder of Eternal Perspective Ministries



Welcome Visitors! - Thank you for worshipping with us today, at Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church. You have enriched our community and we hope the service held meaning and beauty for you. Please feel free to remain after the worship service and join us on the front lawn, weather permitting for refreshments. You may wish to visit us on the web at www.elmwoodchurch.ca to learn more about us and what opportunities are available for personal spiritual growth and service to others. If you are not an involved member of a faith community, but seeking one, we invite you to return here any Sunday for worship and fellowship.

If you would like to speak to the minister, or have him visit, you are very welcome to be in touch with him. Please contact the church office 519-438-3492 or email afullerton@elmwoodchurch.ca



We want to warmly thank Anita Evans for kindly leading us in worship these past few weeks during Rev. Dr. Fullerton's vacation. Anita decided to realize a long-term calling to ordained ministry. She has completed studies at Huron University College and Knox College, has been certified to seek ordination, and at this time is actively seeking a call to a congregation. As an accomplished flutist and musician, she can also be heard on several CDs produced by the choir of Oakridge Presbyterian Church.

Vacation: Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton is currently away until August 29.

Pastoral Emergencies: contact Rev. Keith McKee at St. George's Presbyterian Church, phone 519- 455-5760 or email stgeorge@execulink.com



London Chaplaincy works hard to curate high-quality programs for low-income children and youth and create equitable access to enriching opportunities. To run these programs, our current fundraising goal is \$20,000. You can support by:

- Donating through your offering envelope marked London Chaplaincy
- Donating online via Canada Helps at www.canadahelps.org and search "London Community Chaplaincy"
- Donating a gift-in-kind of breakfast foods (i.e. cereal, peanut butter, jam)
Thank you!

Are you in the midst of canning? Would you please remember our Annual Bazaar, **November 4th** and make extra jars. It would be greatly appreciated! A large selection of various size jars are available in the basement (former Youth Room). Please remember to work on your knitting and crafts too! Thank you!

Choir will start rehearsing on **Thursday, September 7th** (7:00 p.m.). We will certainly welcome new members in every section. If you are interested in singing and great fellowship, please contact our Music Director, Bonnie Neaves (519-685-6324). Being able to read music is helpful, but not essential.