

Dec. 18	Food Bank Sunday
24	Christmas Eve – Lessons & Carols 7:30 p.m.
31	Hospitality Breakfast 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Jan. 8	Holy Communion

Church Office will be closed December 23 through January 2 and will re-open Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

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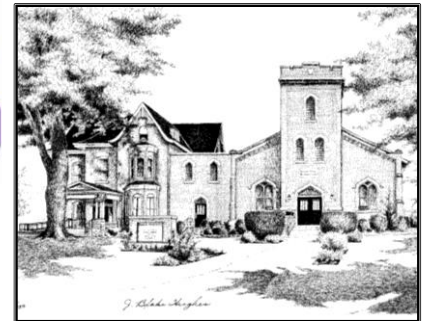
Send a Gift of Hope card - Make a gift in the name of a friend or family member and a card will be sent acknowledging the donation. When you complete your online donation, enter their name, address and a brief message. You may also call the PWS&D office at 1-800-619-7301 ext. 291 and they will send them a card on your behalf. Your loved ones will be honoured to know that they inspired your generosity.



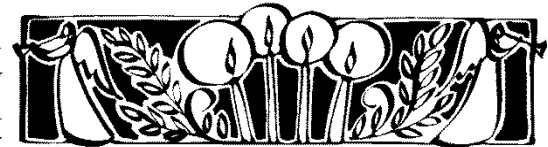
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The logo for Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church. It features the word "ELMWOOD" in a large, bold, serif font. A stylized cross is superimposed over the letter "O". Below "ELMWOOD", the word "AVENUE" is written in a smaller, bold, serif font, with the letters "A", "V", "E", "N", "U", and "E" each contained within its own rectangular box. Below "AVENUE", the words "PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH" are written in a smaller, bold, serif font.

Community
Caring
Christ



Third
Sunday
in Advent



Minister: The Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton
Director of Music: Angus Sinclair, B.Mus., ARCT, ARCCO, LRSM, DD
Organist Emeritus: Bert Van der Hoek, ARCCO

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.

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

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Worship Candle

*Call to Worship

*Hymn: **Herald! Sound the note of judgement**

117

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: **My soul gives glory to my God**

Anthem: In Night's Dim Shadows

Soloist: Steve O'Neil

Hear the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading: **Isaiah 35:1-10** (pgs. 770-r, 695-w, 578-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God

Responsive Psalm: **146**

***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.

Amen.

James 5:7-10 (pgs. 1304-r, 1175-w, 982-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God

St. Matthew 11:2-11 (pgs. 1046-r, 943-w, 792-NRSV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord,

P: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

*Hymn: **On Jordan's bank**

Sermon

Solo: But Who May Abide the Day of His Coming? (Messiah)

Soloist: Stephanie O'Leary

We Respond in Faith and Service

*The Apostles' Creed (see front cover of the Book of Praise)

Prayers of Intercession

L: Lord, in your mercy

P: Hear our prayer

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Setting of Communion Music: St. Andrew's Grimsby Service *Van der Hoek*

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sanctus, Mystery of Faith (see insert)

The Lord's Prayer (debts)

Breaking of the Bread & Elevation of the Cup

Lamb of God (see insert)

Distribution of the Elements

123

Sirett

Post Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Hymn: **There's a voice in the wilderness crying**

128

*Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude: Gaudete!

Anon. 15th Century

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**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 in Fleck Hall for fellowship and Coffee Hour. You may wish to visit us on the web at [www.elmwoodchurch.ca](http://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](mailto:afullerton@elmwoodchurch.ca)

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Sacrament of Holy Communion - Please sign in – All those baptized into Christ's Church are invited to the Lord's Table. We ask that you sign the attendance cards located in the pews. Session relies on these cards to maintain accurate records. Thank you.

Communion Wine: Wine is available in the inner rings of the trays. Grape juice is the outer ring.

Next Sunday, December 18 is Food Bank Sunday – The need is great so, if you would keep in mind that we are in need of following items for our food cupboard it would be appreciated.

• coffee • juice boxes • cereal & cereal bars • canned meats & fish
• heat & serve soups & pastas • peanut butter • toilet & facial tissue

Also requesting empty, clean bread bags and large (650 g. +) yogurt containers. Leave your donations in the basket located in the Narthex. Thank you!

Annual Report time is fast approaching. The 2022 written and financial forms have been emailed to the group and committee leaders. If you require hard copies of these forms, please contact Karen in the church office.

Completion date is January 15, 2023....or earlier please! If you are not the person responsible for the completion of these forms, please ensure they are directed and received by the appropriate person. Thank you!



For the month of December, you will see the mitten & sock tree on display in our sanctuary. Please hang new hats, mitts, gloves and socks anywhere on the tree and these will be distributed to Mission Services and The Salvation Army. These two organizations are always so delighted with our contributions! Thank you! *Mission Committee*