#### **Dates To Remember**

Dec.	23	Church office will be closed Dec. 23 through Jan. 1, 2020
	24	Lessons & Carols - 7:00 p.m. Note the time
	25	Christmas Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.
		No Centering Prayer Dec. 25 or Jan. 1 (Resumes Jan. 8)
Jan.	9	Bible Study resumes – 10:30 a.m. (Campbell Room)
	12	Baptism Sunday & Holy Communion
		2019 Annual Report forms are due – or earlier please
	14	Dream Group – 4:00 p.m. (Campbell Room)
	15	Session – 7:30 p.m. (Fleck Hall)

NOTE: Some of these dates and times are subject to change.

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**Stewardship Moment** – For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish buy may have eternal life. John 3:16



**Presbyterian Prayer Partnership** – Let us pray for the church around the world as it celebrates the birth of Christ. Bless all those who are entrusted with Christian ministry and that God's word might be proclaimed with truth and courage across the world.



Presbyterians The gift of giving - As we reflect on giving and receiving this Christmas, let us give thanks for Presbyterians across

Canada who are living out the gospel message through their generous gifts to Presbyterians Sharing. Together, we put our faith into action by equipping congregations, ministries and presbyteries; engaging in evangelism, outreach and discipleship; embracing local, national and international mission work; living out God's call to justice; empowering youth; engaging in healing and reconciliation and creating new faith communities - and so much more! Every gift is a gift of hope. Every gift changes lives. This Christmas we will once again celebrate the greatest gift of all —Jesus Christ our Lord whose example of giving inspires our own.

Presbyterians Sharing is making a difference

### **OUR PURPOSE**

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.

Information concerning the various groups within the congregation may be obtained by calling the church office - 519-438-3492

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Monday - Friday

111 Elmwood Avenue E., London, Ontario N6C 1J4 Phone: 519-438-3492 Hall: 519-438-3491

Email: contact@elmwoodchurch.ca Website: www.elmwoodchurch.ca







# Sunday, December 22, 2019

Fourth. Sunday in Advent



Minister: The Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton Director of Music: Lorraine Clark, A. Mus., B.Mus., B.Ed. Organist Emeritus: Bert Van der Hoek, ARCCO

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

Organ Prelude: Prelude on "Immaculate Mary"

Janis Dunson Wilson

Words of Welcome and Announcements

# We Gather To Worship God

Lighting of the Worship Candle

\*Congregational Introit: Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel (verse 1) # 122

\*Call to Worship

\*Hymn: Once in royal David's city

# 166

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

M: Lord, have mercy upon us P: Christ, have mercy upon us

M: Lord, have mercy upon us

Prayer for the Day

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

M: The Peace of Christ be with you all

P: And also with you

Children's Time

Lighting of the Advent Love Candle (responsive reading – see insert)

Readers: the ten Haaf family

\*Hymn: Jesus, our brother, kind and good

# 150

Choir Anthem: Waiting, Wandering, Wondering

Ruth Elaine Schram

# **Hear the Word of God**

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading: **Isaiah 7:10-16** (pgs. 740-r, 669-w, 554-NRSV)

Responsive Psalm: 80 (Refrain I)

#### \*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.

Scripture Readings: Romans 1:1-7 (pgs. 1205-r, 1090-w, 913-NRSV)

**Matthew 1:18-25** (pgs. 1036-r, 933-w, 783-NRSV)

M: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord, P: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Sermon

# We Respond in Faith and Service

\*Hymn: The hands that first held Mary's child # 158

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

M: Lord, in your mercy **P: Hear our prayer** 

The Lord's Prayer (debts)

Offering of our Gifts in Response

Organ Offertory: The Angel Gabriel R. Lau

\*Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow # 830

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn: Hark the herald angels sing # 139

\*Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Amen (congregation)

Organ Postlude: Now Sing We, Now Rejoice Paul Manz

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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 for Coffee Hour and fellowship in Fleck Hall. You may wish to visit us on the web at <a href="https://www.elmwoodchurch.ca">www.elmwoodchurch.ca</a> 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.

**Listen Again:** You can hear recordings of the latest sermons on our website. Visit www.elmwoodchurch.ca/media

#### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**Play Area** for children aged 0-7 yrs. during the worship service. An usher can direct you there. Please make the necessary arrangements for your children's supervision. Thank you.

**Lessons & Carols Christmas Eve Worship -**, 7:00 p.m. **Christmas Day Worship** – 10:30 a.m.

Project for December items are socks, mitts, hats, gloves and men's underwear. We really are in need of men's socks and underwear. Adult socks will to Men's Mission. Mitts, hats, gloves and men's underwear will go to the Salvation Army and to Mission Services. Many thanks to our congregation for their generous donations of hats & mitts!! Due to your enthusiasm we shall continue this format for missions in 2020! Merci!

Gift Giving With Meaning - 2019-2020 Gifts of Change booklets are available in the narthex, church office and Fleck Hall. - By giving a Gifts of Change, you are making a difference in the lives of people in Canada and around the world. No matter what you choose to support, you can be sure your funds will be used effectively and efficiently to carry out life-changing programs. Gift Cards - Make a gift in the name of a friend or family member and a card acknowledging the donation will be sent to them on your behalf. Complete your online donation and fill out the 'In Tribute' section. https://presbyterian.ca/gifts-of-change/

**Poinsettia Orders** - The poinsettias are a large part of the décor, so if you would like to leave your poinsettia(s) in the Sanctuary and pick them up after the service on December 25, it would be appreciated.

Thank you from your Work & Worship Committee

**Elmwood Ladies Fellowship** – No meetings in January & February, but will resume March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Annual Report** time is fast approaching. The 2019 written and financial forms are in your committees' mailbox. **Completion date is January 12, 2020....or earlier please!** 

