

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)

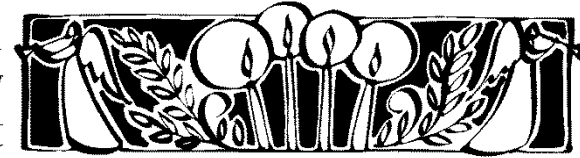
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Presbyterians Sharing is making a difference

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Fourth Sunday in Advent



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 [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.

**Listen Again:** You can hear recordings of the latest sermons on our website. Visit [www.elmwoodchurch.ca/media](http://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 go 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!

*Your mission committee*

**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!**



M A T T H E W 1 : 2 1