

## Dates To Remember

Wednesdays, Dew Drop In – 10 a.m. to noon (Fleck Hall)	
Jan. 6	Epiphany
9	Session meeting – 11 a.m. (Campbell Room)
11	Baptism of the Lord
	Holy Communion
18	Food Bank Sunday
	Annual Report forms are due
Church office will be closed Dec. 19 through Jan. 4, 2026	

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



For the month of December, we will continue with our usual collection of hats, mitts and gloves for The Boys & Girls Club and we will also continue to collect men's socks for The Men's Mission. Thank you in advance for your generous givings!

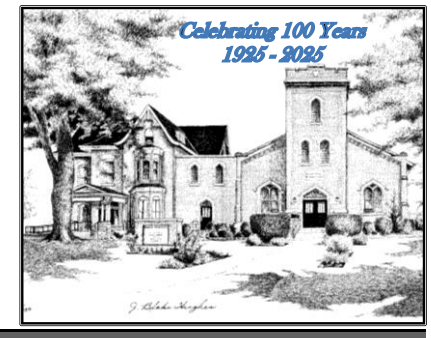
If you prefer to donate cash or cheque, please feel free to do so. Cheques are to be made payable to Elmwood Ave. Presbyterian Church, Mission Project. Please and thank you! *Juel Howse-McLean, Mission Committee*



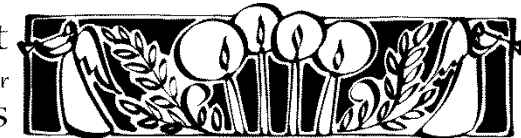
The Government of Pakistan is intensifying its efforts to expel undocumented Afghans, as well as those with temporary permission to stay in the country. Between 700 and 800 families have been deported daily. These deportations pose devastating risks, particularly for women and girls who face increased threats of violence, persecution and loss of access to basic rights upon return to Afghanistan. Such actions violate international protection principles and undermine decades of humanitarian efforts to protect vulnerable populations. Your voice and solidarity are crucial at this moment. Visit [WeRespond.ca/advocate-for-Afghan-refugees](http://WeRespond.ca/advocate-for-Afghan-refugees) to learn more and take action.

**Unceasing Prayer: Prayers for a More Sustainable, Compassionate and Just World** - A follow-up to the well-loved *Overflowing* prayer guide, released for PWS&D's 75th anniversary, PWS&D has launched a new resource *Unceasing Prayer: Prayers for a More Sustainable, Compassionate and Just World*. In this guide, you'll find prayers for specific PWS&D programs and emergency responses, prayers from PWS&D's global partners and ecumenical coalitions, prayers written by PWS&D Champions and committee members, and prayers taken from the Bible or the Book of Praise. *Unceasing Prayer* is well-suited for times of worship. *Unceasing Prayer* is available to order or for download. <https://presbyterian.ca/pwsd/unceasingprayer/>

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Monday – Thursday  
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Phone: 519-438-3492 Hall: 519-438-3491  
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First  
Sunday after  
Christmas



**December 28, 2025**

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton  
Music Director: Bonnie Neaves  
Today's Organist: Lorraine Clark  
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.*

Organ Prelude: O Sleep, Dear Holy Baby  
In Dulci Jubilo  
Noël Huron

C. Cooman  
P. Manz  
D. Bedard

Words of Welcome and Announcements

## We Gather To Worship God

Lighting of the Worship Candle

\*Call to Worship

\*Introit: Holy, Holy, Holy (sung by congregation)

# 299

\*Hymn: **Once in royal David's city**

# 166

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: **See amid the winter snow**

# 168

### Hear the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination  
Old Testament: **Isaiah 63:7-9**  
L: This is the Word of the Lord  
**P: Thanks be to God**  
Responsive Psalm: **148**

#### **\*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.*

Epistle Lesson: **Hebrews 2:10-18**

L: This is the Word of the Lord

**P: Thanks be to God**

Gospel Lesson: **St. Matthew 2:13-23**

L: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord,

**P: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

\*Hymn: **In Bethlehem a newborn boy**

# 140

Sermon

### 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: **Hark! the herald angels sing**

# 139

\*Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: Noel

*L.C. Daquin*

**Please note:** *No photos or filming permitted without the express permission of the participants involved. Thank you.*



Our thanks to Organist, Lorraine Clark for her assistance with our worship service this morning.



**Prayer Partnership** - Approaching a new year, we give thanks for what has been, for the people in our lives, the gift of faith and for God's loving kindness.



**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 refreshments. 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)



**Stewardship Moment:** And now, our God, we give thanks to you, and praise your glorious name. *1 Chronicles 29:13*

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**DEW DROP IN** - Please join us New Year's Eve Day, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. for coffee/tea and fellowship. Happy New Year!

**Annual Report time is fast approaching.** The 2025 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 18, 2026.....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!

**Please Check Your Mailbox** (Fleck Hall) – The 2026 offering envelopes have been distributed. Please advise Karen Russo (Office Admin.) if there are any errors or omissions.

**Give a gift with meaning!** - The **2025-26 Gifts of Change** - catalogue supports marginalized communities across Canada and around the world. Giving a gift from this catalogue, you can be sure your gifts will be used to carry out life-changing programs that are responding to the needs of people affected by poverty, hunger, natural disasters and conflict. Catalogues available in the Narthex and church office.

**Send a Gift of Hope card** - 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>. Together we are making a difference. Thank you!

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