

## Dates To Remember

Dec. 5	Elmwood Ladies Fellowship Christmas Lunch 1:00 pm
10	Holy Communion
17	Food Bank Sunday
24	Christmas Eve worship 7:00 p.m.
25	Christmas worship 10:30 a.m.
30	Hospitality Breakfast 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. (Fleck Hall)
<b>Church office will be closed Dec. 22 through Jan. 1, 2024</b>	


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

## Other Events

**RCCO CAROL SERVICE TODAY, 7:30 p.m.** at Metropolitan United Church (468 Wellington Road). Elmwood Choir will be participating. All welcome!

**CHORAL CONNECTION PRESENTS HANDEL'S MESSIAH – Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.** at Knox Presbyterian Church, (55 Hincks Street). Purchase tickets at [www.choralconnection.ca](http://www.choralconnection.ca) or contact Lucy Van Pelt at 519-661-6902



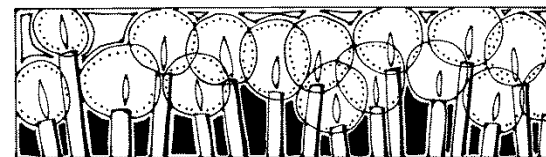
 In Malawi, Jennifer joined a program for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) supported by PWS&D. When she was in Grade 5, Jennifer lost both of her parents to HIV and was cared for by her great-aunt. Jennifer is also HIV positive and is undergoing treatment. Through the OVC program, Jennifer received training in tailoring as well as beekeeping. Now 19 years old, Jennifer has just had her first honey harvest, yielding 5 kg of honey, which she sold to buy food. Jennifer now dreams of volunteering with a local tailor, hoping to secure a paid job in the field. With the skills she learned from this program, Jennifer is able to live positively with HIV and earn a livelihood to support herself.

**Give a gift with meaning!** - The **2023-24 Gifts of Change** - catalogue supports marginalized communities across Canada and around the world. Not only is giving a gift from this catalogue unique, but 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 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.



Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Monday – Thursday  
 111 Elmwood Avenue E., London, Ontario N6C 1J4  
 Phone: 519-438-3492 Hall: 519-438-3491  
 Email: [contact@elmwoodchurch.ca](mailto:contact@elmwoodchurch.ca)  
 Website: [www.elmwoodchurch.ca](http://www.elmwoodchurch.ca)



First Sunday in Advent

**December 3, 2023**

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton  
 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: Saviour of the Nations, Come *arr. C. Callahan & D. Freudenberg*  
 Veni Emmanuel *arr. C. Callahan*

Words of Welcome and Announcements

### We Gather To Worship God

Lighting of the Advent Candle

\*Call to Worship

\*Hymn: **O come, O come, Emmanuel**

**# 122**

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: **Hark the glad sound**

# 118

### Hear the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading: **Isaiah 64:1-9** (pgs. 804-r, 727-w, 606-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

**P: Thanks be to God**

Responsive Psalm: **80:1-7**

**\*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.*

**1 Corinthians 1:3-9** (pgs. 1222-r, 1105-w, 926-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

**P: Thanks be to God**

**St. Mark 13:24-37** (pgs. 1091-r, 984-w, 826-NRSV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord,

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

\*Hymn: **Come, thou long-expected Jesus**

# 110

Sermon

Anthem: Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

*Matthew Armstrong*

### 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: **Lo! Christ comes with clouds descending**

# 120

\*Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: Come, O Saviour of the World

*arr. Glenn Medlock*



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



**PCC Daily Prayer** – Nourish us with hope during this season of waiting, O God, as we prepare to receive Christ among us again.



**Stewardship Moment:** Since you get more joy out of giving joy to others, you should put a good deal of thought into the happiness that you are able to give.

*Former First Lady of the USA, political figure, diplomat, and activist*



**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)



**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & LUNCHEON TODAY** in Fleck Hall following the worship service to consider and adopt the budget for 2024. Please join us! "Close the gap" free will offering will be gratefully accepted towards the General Budget. Copies of proposed budget available in the Narthex.

**THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS** that helped make *Christmas in the Village* a smashing success! *Yours in Christ, Andrew McClenaghan*

**ELMWOOD LADIES FELLOWSHIP CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON - Tuesday, December 5, at 1:00 p.m.** in Fleck Hall. Please remember to bring Christmas gifts for Rotholme children and women; also remember to bring dishes and cutlery for your meal.

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILBOX** (Fleck Hall) – The 2024 offering envelopes have been distributed. Please advise Karen Russo (Office Admin.) if there are any errors or omissions.

**PRE-AUTHORIZED REMITTANCE (PAR)** it is a convenient way to give - and the church benefits from your steady contributions. Contributions are automatically debited from your bank account on the 20th of each month. To sign up for PAR, contact Karen in the Church Office.

**HARK THE HERALD word search solution** (fall/winter edition) posted on bulletin board outside the church office.



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 for your generous givings! *Your Mission Committee*

**ARK AID MISSION TOP WINTER NEEDS:** underwear (long, thermal, regular), razors, chapstick, hand warmers, socks, blankets, sleeping bags, hats, mitts, scarves, flashlights & batteries, tarps, winter boots, backpacks, reusable bags, deodorant. For more information including specific needs and volunteer opportunities follow @Ark Aid London on Facebook. Donate: [donate@arkaidmission.com](mailto:donate@arkaidmission.com) or at [www.arkaidmission.com](http://www.arkaidmission.com)