



When we give to Presbyterians Sharing, we express our faith. **Together, we continue Christ's ministry by engaging in vibrant and faithful ministries in our communities, our country and around the world.** Together, we call for justice and act with compassion. We support ministries with Indigenous people, both in and outside Canada. We send mission staff to accompany international partners. We support ministries that provide aid for refugees, people involved in the sex trade and all who are vulnerable to exploitation. We start and build new faith communities and encourage and support congregations renewing their ministries. Together, we are making a difference. Together, we are Presbyterians Sharing!



Ukraine Response Continues - It's been almost one year since Russia invaded Ukraine and the war began. Millions of Ukrainians were forced to flee their homes and required urgent humanitarian assistance.

PWS&D, has provided support to Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA)—assisting those displaced within Ukraine, as well as those who had fled to Hungary. Refugees and those internally displaced received food and shelter support, as well as cash assistance and emergency mental health and psychological care.

Additionally, PWS&D provided food assistance in the form of cash transfers to families in Ukraine, Moldova and Romania with priority given to the most vulnerable households, including women and single-headed households, children at risk, and gender-based violence survivors, families are able to use cash assistance to purchase food and other essential items.

As the war continues, need remains high. PWS&D continues to work through local partners and ecumenical networks and coalitions to respond. Please mark your donations "PWS&D Ukraine"!

Give a gift with meaning! - The **2023 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.



Office Hours (currently): 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Monday – Thursday

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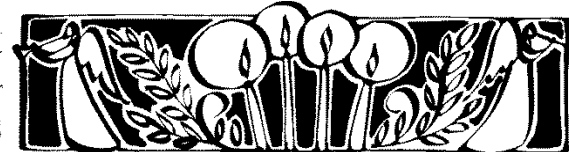
Website: www.elmwoodchurch.ca



**Community
Caring
Christ**



First
Sunday after
Christmas



Sunday, January 1, 2023

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Andrew Fullerton
Director of Music: Angus Sinclair, B.Mus., ARCT, ARCCO, LRSM, DD
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: The Huron Carol

arr. Denis Bédard

Words of Welcome and Announcements

We Gather To Worship God

Lighting of the Worship Candle

*Call to Worship

*Hymn: **Away in a manger**

149

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: **O little town of Bethlehem**

165

Hear the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

First Reading: **Isaiah 63:7-9** (pgs. 803-r, 726-w, 605-NRSV)

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.

Hebrews 2:10-18 (pgs. 1289-r, 1162-w, 971-NRSV)

L: This is the Word of the Lord

P: Thanks be to God

St. Matthew 2:13-23 (pgs. 1036-r, 934-w, 784-NRSV)

L: This is the Gospel of our Risen Lord,

P: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

*Hymn: **The people that in darkness**

171

Sermon

Solo: The Old Year Now is Passed Away (English trad.)

Soloist: Angus Sinclair

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: **The first nowell**

136

*Commissioning and Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: Il est Né

Dénis Bédard

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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.

## **Dates To Remember**

|               |                                             |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <b>Jan. 8</b> | Holy Communion – Baptism of the Lord Sunday |
| <b>11</b>     | Session 7:30 p.m.                           |
| <b>15</b>     | Food Bank Sunday                            |
|               | Annual Report forms are due                 |

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

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

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION



For the months of January and February, please consider donating the following items, either new or gently used: facecloths, hand towels, facial tissue, laundry detergent - preferably pods.

This collection will be available to our diners at our April 2023 Community Breakfast. 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.

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!

Elmwood Ladies Fellowship – No meetings in January & February, but will resume March 7th.

January 15 is Food Bank Sunday - If you would keep in mind that we are in need of some of the following items, it would be very much appreciated. The need is great. Thank you!

- canned meats and fish
- peanut butter
- protein bars/cereal bars
- coffee
- paper products i.e. bathroom tissue
- items that do not require a can opener or cooking
- cereal
- heat & serve soups & pastas
- fruit cups/lunch snacks
- fruit juices
- laundry & hand soaps

Please leave your donations in the basket located in the Narthex.

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**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)



**PCC Daily Prayer** – We give thanks for the start of a new year. May God give us hope, joy and peace for the year ahead.