

GROWING, CARING, MAKING A DIFFERENCE



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
IN ELGIN AND PORTLAND

Ministers: All of God's People
Guest Clergy: Rev. Kathy Walton

September 05, 2021
Pentecost 15

✠ indicates when those who are able will please stand

Welcome, Announcements and Acknowledging the Land

God in My Week - Sharing and Caring - Birthdays & Anniversaries

Spiritual Focus: Meeting God in Life

Gathering Song MV 1 "Let Us Build a House" vs. 1, 5

WE APPROACH GOD

Call to Worship:

One: This is God's House of Love and Peace

All: Hope and Joy live here, shared faith and experience live here

One: More pieces of our lives as seekers and followers of Jesus, together.

All: Wherever we come from, however we come

One: We are all welcome here!

All: Thanks be to God, we come into God's house with thankful hearts, open minds, and ears to hear.

Prayer of the Day: (Together)

God of loving hearts, we would be Your people, learning and growing together, maturing in our faith so that we may share Your love undaunted by a world that judges us, a society that shuns us and a community that ignores us. Open us to the world around us in love and compassion. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

✠ Hymn VU 120 "O Jesus I have promised"

Story Time: Complicated Communion

WE LISTEN FOR WISDOM

Reader: Listen for the Sacred Story.

All: Our ears and hearts are open, for God's story is our story.

Psalm 125, VU 849

New Testament: James 2:1-10, 14-17 (NRSV)

Gospel: Mark 7:24-37 (NRSV)

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon: Youth and Sensitivity

Ministry of Music – Morgan Wright

WE MEET GOD AT THE TABLE

Sacrament of Holy Communion (see Insert)

Chorus: VU 466 "Eat this Bread (sung as Communion is being served)

GOD'S MISSION – OUR GIFTS

Offertory Invitation

✠ **Offertory Hymn MV 191 "What Can I Do"**

✠ **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication (All):**

No matter how we try God of All, we can never give to You what you have given to and for us. But with these gifts, take our hearts, our minds, our strength, and our spirit and add them to the building blocks of Your kingdom, that there may be room for all, that all may be welcome and that all may find comfort in the Kingdom You build. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

WE GO FORTH AS GOD'S PEOPLE

✠ **Closing Hymn: VU 670 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"**
Commissioning and Blessing

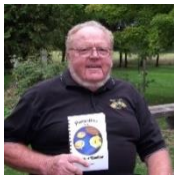
✠ **Choral Blessing "Go Now In Peace"**
Postlude

Welcome to all who have joined together in worship today.

Consideration for All: As we gradually return to public worship, we reiterate that Covid-19 is still a reality in our society. We must continue to maintain social distancing rules and hand sanitizing as needed. **WE ARE NOT YET BACK TO THE PREVIOUS NORMAL WAY OF DOING THINGS IN THE CHURCH BEFORE THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.** We will continue to adopt a gradual, considered, and structured approach to our public worship, until further notice.

Scripture Readers

As we return to our more usual format of worship services, we are starting to use scripture readers again. For now, readers will use the standing mic beside the piano. Please sign up on the list on the bulletin board - you can pick your date! Should you happen to forget to do this after worship you can call the office on Wednesday or Thursday and Annette will happily put your name in.



A Celebration of Life for the late Douglas Bond will take place on **September 18th, 2021**, located at the family homestead at 2751 Hwy 15 in Portland, Ontario. Please drop by for a visit between 1:00-and 5:00pm and share a favourite memory of this most memorable man. Please bring a mask with you. Covid precautions will be in place.

Portland United Church Annual Apple Pie Sale order before Sept. 26th.
Connie @ 613-272-6747 or Sheila @ 613-272-3531 \$15.00

Elgin Portland Pastoral Charge

PO Box 251, Portland ON K0G 1V0

Web site: www.eppc-ucc.com (or.ca) Church Office: (613) 272-2002

Office Hours: Wednesday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Secretary: Annette Clarke, E-mail: office@eppc-ucc.com

Chair of the Official Board: Cam McKay

Church Council Chairs:

Elgin: Clint Halladay 613-349-5607

Portland: Hansen Downer (613) 799-3440



OUR CHURCHES UNITED

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge



September 5th, 2021