



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA IN ELGIN AND PORTLAND

Ministers: All of God's People

Leader: Norma Wrightly, LLWL Pianist: Morgan Wright

✦ indicates when those who are able will please stand

January 18, 2026

Welcome & Announcements Birthdays & Anniversaries

Territorial Acknowledgment ACE, 2025, page 45, Natasha Pearen,
used with permission.

As we gather, we take a moment to remember that the land we call Portland/Elgin is the traditional territory of the Algonquin People. We seek to learn about past wrongs, act with justice in the present, and pray for a better future together in the spirit of truth and reconciliation.

We Welcome God

Spiritual Focus: How has God called you?

✦ **Opening Hymn – VU 395 “Come In, Come In and Sit Down”**

Call to Worship Gathering 2025/26, pg. 43, Richard Bott, Used with permission

One: Why are we called to this place?

All” To be God’s people.

One: What is required of us?

All: To seek justice, to love kindness, to live humbly with God.

One: And how shall we do this?

**All: With our prayers, with our thoughts, with our actions,
and with our love.**

One: Then, as people who are both blessed and blessing:

All: Let us worship God!

Opening Prayer: Gathering 2025/26, pg. 44, Bill Perry, Used with permission

✦ **Sung Prayer – VU 83 “A Light is Gleaming” (refrain only)**

Lighting of the Christ Candle Gathering 2025/26, pg.42 Laura J. Turnbull,
Used with permission

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

✦ **Illumination Hymn – MV 172 “God Says” (Verse 1 only)**

Prayer of Illumination – (ALL.) Gathering 2025/26, pg. 45, Susan Girard, Used with permission
God of kindness, may your Spirit gently open our spirits with understanding and our hearts with compassion, as we receive your words to us today.
Amen

Scripture: NSRV Updated Edition

Gospel: John 1: 29-42 The Lamb of God

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1: 1- 9

Reader: May God bless our understanding of these readings.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen

Ministry of Music:



Reflection – “Called”

✦ **Hymn: VU 606 “In Christ There Is No East or West”**

Prayers of the People Gathering 2025/26, pg. 45, Allison Etter, Used with permission
Today we pray intentionally for Greenwood Pastoral Charge. We pray for the congregation and their minister, and for their ministries. With the World Council of Churches, we pray for the people of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. Is there anyone specifically requiring prayer today? “for a friend” “for a family member”

Moment of silent intentional prayer...

God of light, you called the sun into being. You set the stars in the sky. You made the world and all that is in it. You gave us a vision of joy, abundance, and freedom...

The prayer continues

You have called us to the way of life, to the way of justice, and to the way of compassion.

**ALL: Give us eyes to see need. Give us courage to create change.
Give us love to offer welcome, and wherever you lead us, go
with us. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer (in Unison)

GOD'S MISSION – OUR GIFTS

Offertory invitation:

✦ **Offertory Hymn - VU # 537 "Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands"**

Offertory Prayer: Gathering 2025/26, pg. 46, Lorna Corzine Used with permission

ALL:

Dearest God, please, accept these gifts that seem so small, the gifts that we bring before you today and those that we practice in word and deed throughout the week. Continue to move us, through our faith, so that we may honour your expectations of us. Joining with others around the earth in serving you. We ask this in Christ's name. Amen

✦ **Closing Hymn – MV #161 "I Have Called You by Your Name"**

Commissioning

Choral Blessing – Go Now in Peace

Bible Discussion Groups

Two meetings each week. Monday evenings at Portland UC (6:30-7:45PM) and Tuesday mornings at the Elgin Guthrie House (10 Perth St.; 10:00AM-11:30AM). All are welcome to join in the friendly discussions and fellowship. For more information contact Jim Barton @ cjimbarton@gmail.com or 613-328-4089.

The 2025 Annual Meetings scheduled for March 1st.

PUC: following worship service, EUC: following worship service

EPPC: following EUCs ACM

Annual reports are due to the office by January 20th, treasurers' reports by January 27th.

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: Katy Gibson

Church Council Chairs: Katy Gibson

Elgin: Clint Halladay 613-359-5607 **Portland:** Katy Gibson (613) 929-9351

Pastoral Care Director: Liz Church (902) 441-5357

OUR CHURCHES UNITED

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge



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