

GROWING, CARING, MAKING A DIFFERENCE



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

IN ELGIN AND PORTLAND

Leader: Liz Church

Pianist: Morgan Wright

Ministers: All of God's People

✦ *indicates when those who are able will please stand*

March 15, 2026 – 4th Sunday of Lent

Welcome

Announcements/Birthdays & Anniversaries

Territorial Acknowledgment

God created this world. Our Indigenous brothers and sisters maintained the land and we give thanks for their care and nurturing. We continue this caring and loving relationship with the land and with God who gave this earth to all.

✦ Celebration Hymn – MV # 92 - 'Like A Rock'

Call to Worship

Leader: Today we celebrate God's care for us

People: Thank you, for your daily provision

Leader: Today we celebrate God's guidance.

People: Thank you, Lord, for walking with us.

Leader: Today we celebrate God's faithfulness.

People: Thank you Lord, for the gift of Eternal Life

✦ Hymn - MV # 18 - 'Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary'

Opening Prayer

O Holy One, we come before You today as Your beloved children. As we share this time, we ask you to fill us afresh with Your Holy Spirit. We surrender this time to You. We worship and adore you.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Jesus is the Light of the World. He has called us to shine for him. No matter how dark the world seems, even a small light shines brightly. And when the church walks in the light of Christ, the darkness has no chance.

✦ Hymn - VU # 371- "Open my eyes that I may see"

Prayer of Illumination

"Gracious Lord, thank You for calling us out of darkness into Your light. As we open Your Word, illuminate our minds and hearts to understand Your truth. Teach us to discern what is pleasing to You, that our lives may bear the fruit of goodness, righteousness, and truth. This we ask in your most holy name, Amen".

Scripture

Reader: Open your hearts and minds to God

All: We listen to the Sacred Word

Ephesians 5: 1-2, 5-10, 15-20 Living Bible

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Ministry of Music: "The Lighthouse"

Reflection – The world doesn't just hear the gospel—it sees it.

Prayers of the People/ The Lord's Prayer

✦ Offertory Hymn – VU # 542 - "We Give You but Your Own"

Offertory Prayer

"Gracious God, you have called us out of darkness and made us children of light. As we bring these tithes and offerings before you, we ask that you bless them. May these gifts be used to shine your light of goodness, justice, and truth into the world. Help us to reflect your love. Amen

✦ Closing Hymn – MV # 12 – "Come Touch Our Hearts"

Commissioning

Walk as children of light, living wisely. Be imitators of God in love. Go forth to shine in the darkness, making the most of every opportunity, singing to the Lord with thankful hearts, and living in respectful, sacrificial love, in the name of Christ.

Benediction

"May Christ shine his light upon you. May the grace, mercy, and peace of God strengthen you to live in love. May your lives bring glory to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Go in peace, and may the Lord be with you, now and always. Amen."

Choral Blessing - VU # 422 "God Be with You till We Meet Again"

Wondering how to get involved with the Clothing Coop? Or perhaps do a little shopping? Buy a bag of clothes for just \$5! The Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge Clothing Coop is located at the Country Roads Community Health Centre in Portland. Reach out to office@eppc-ucc.com with any questions.

The Young @ Heart Breakfast Club will meet again on Thursday March 19th at 9 am at the Junction restaurant. All are welcome to join us. If you are coming let Clint or Ted know by noon Wednesday, the 18th so we can reserve a spot for us. Ted.

Portland United Church Annual Turkey Dinner Friday March 20th at 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. \$20 per adult, \$12 Children under 12. All the trimmings, beverage and dessert included.

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 – Clint Halladay

Church Council Chairs:

Elgin: Clint Halladay (613) 359-5607

Portland: Will French (613) 803-4684

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

OUR CHURCHES UNITED

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge



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