

GROWING, CARING, MAKING A DIFFERENCE



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

IN ELGIN AND PORTLAND

Leader: Liz Church

Pianist: Janet McKeage

Ministers: All of God's People

JULY 5TH, 2026

Welcome/ Announcements/ Birthdays/ Anniversaries

Territorial Acknowledgment

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather to worship is the traditional territory of the Anishinabee and Haudenosaunee, who have cared for it for generations.

We confess that we live in a broken world where the good we want to do is often undone by the harm we commit. We acknowledge the painful gap between our desire for reconciliation and the reality of ongoing displacement.

We offer these words as an honest confession before God. Trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ to deliver us from our brokenness, we pray for the courage to move beyond words and into true accountability, justice, and right relationship with the original caretakers of this land.

Call to Worship Psalm 145

Leader: The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.

ALL: The Lord is good to all; He has compassion on all he has made.

Leader: All your works praise you, Lord; your faithful people worship you.

ALL: We will tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power!

Leader: Your kingdom is everlasting; and your dominion remains through all generations!

ALL: The Lord is trustworthy in all His promises and faithful in all He does.

Leader: The Lord upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

ALL: Come, let us worship the Lord together!

Gathering Hymn - VU # 223 "Eternal, Unchanging, We Sing"

Prayer

Gracious and Compassionate God, we gather this morning in the warmth of your everlasting kingdom, amazed by a love that is slow to anger and incredibly rich in mercy. You are good to all, holding us close when we stumble, and lifting us up when we are bowed down by the weights of this life. For your unwavering faithfulness, we give you our highest praise.

In this hour of worship, meet us with your delivering grace and love. Amen

Lighting of the Christ Candle

We light the Christ candle this morning in the midst of our honest, messy realities. We do not bring a perfect faith; we bring our struggles.

We confess the times we have wanted to choose the light, yet found ourselves trapped in habits, systems, and actions that cause harm. But this flame reminds us that darkness does not have the final word.

We light this candle as a sign of Christ's living presence among us. He is the Light that guides us. Amen

✠ Hymn – VU # 371 "Open My Eyes, that I May See"

Prayer of Illumination:

Open our ears to your Word, loosen our hearts to your Spirit, and empower us to be changed. Move us past mere intentions, and give us the courage to walk in true accountability, healing, and right relationship with you, with one another, and with all of your creation. Amen

Scripture:

Reader: Open your hearts and minds to God's Word.

All: We listen to the Sacred Word.

Psalm 145: 8-14 – The Message
Romans 7: 15-25 Good News Translation

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen

Ministry of Music

Reflection – How much Further before admission comes

Communion

Refer to Insert

Communion Hymn:

MV # 194 – ‘Bread of Life’

✦ Offertory Hymn - VU # 538 “For the Gift of Creation”

Offertory Prayer

Gracious God,
Receive these gifts today not as a token of our own perfection,
but as an act of surrender and trust. We give because you have
rescued us.

Bless these offerings of money, time, and talent. Use them to
bring healing where there is pain, and to spread the liberating
good news of Jesus Christ in our community and throughout
your world.

Thanks be to God, through Jesus Christ our Lord! Amen.

✦ Closing Hymn – VU # 567 “Will You Come and Follow Me”

Commissioning/ Benediction

Go out into the world now in peace, under the shelter of an
everlasting kingdom.

Do not be discouraged by the battles within you, or the
brokenness around you. Remember that you do not walk alone.
The God of compassion, will hold you fast whenever you
stumble. Jesus Christ, your Deliverer, will rescue you from
despair and empower your good intentions. And the Holy Spirit
will bring true healing. Thanks be to God! Go in peace to love
and serve the Lord.

Choral Blessing - “Go Now In Peace”

OUR CHURCHES UNITED

Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge



July 5th , 2026

Communion Hymn: MV # 194 – ‘Bread of Life’

The Open Table

The sacrament of communion proclaims and celebrates the gift of life. As we share this meal together, we will be strengthened and renewed. In humility and thankfulness, we recognize our Lord’s sacrifice and our need for forgiveness. We prepare at this moment to enter into communion with God. This plain loaf and common drink we take into ourselves in recognition that Christ alone is the One who satisfies our thirst and gives us the desire to live holy lives.

Communion

On the night before Jesus died, he took a loaf of bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said, “Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup, and poured, saying, “Take and drink; this is the new covenant, remember me.”

**Elements are served -
when all are served, we will share together**

Sacrament elder: The body of Christ, broken for us.
Congregation: The body of Christ

Sacrament elder: The blood of Christ, shed for us.
Congregation: The blood of Christ.

Communion Prayer (Sacrament Elder):

Jesus, You are the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. On this day, we are once again renewed as we have shared at Your table. For Your faithfulness to us, we thank You. Thank You for feeding our souls with Your life-giving love and understanding.

Accept our gratitude, accept our love. This we pray in Your name and offer to You this prayer:

The Lord’s Prayer

Communion Hymn – VU # 967 – ‘Amen, amen, amen’

Communion Hymn: MV # 194 – ‘Bread of Life’

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Communion Hymn – VU # 967 – ‘Amen, amen, amen’

Celebrate Elgin Days Jul 9th - 12th. Elgin United will again be in full participation on July 11th with bake table, raffle table and pulled pork sandwiches. Drop by and pick up some scrumptious baking, win something you've always wanted and have a satisfying lunch. And there's always time for a chat with friends. All in front of the church. See you there.

It's back for Elgin Days! The Kitchen Party at St Columbanus Church Hall, Sun July 12 from 2-4pm. Free admission, donations towards the church roof. Full audio setup with keyboard and Bluetooth capable speakers. Light refreshments served. Doors open 1:30pm.



Huge congratulations to Allison on graduating from Grade 12 ! 🎓 ✨

Allison, your entire church family is incredibly proud of you. Seeing you hold your sign today—*“Serving Him by serving his people”* future Nurse—reminded us all of your beautiful, servant-

hearted spirit. ❤️ 🧡

Nursing is a true calling, and we know God is going to use you to bring so much healing and comfort to others. We love you, we are praying for you, and we are cheering you on as you take this next big step.

Please take note the change in the Office Hours

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 2 p.m., Thursday 9 a.m. to 4 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

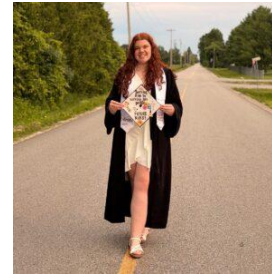
Portland: Will French (613) 803-4684

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

lizchurch1@hotmail.com

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