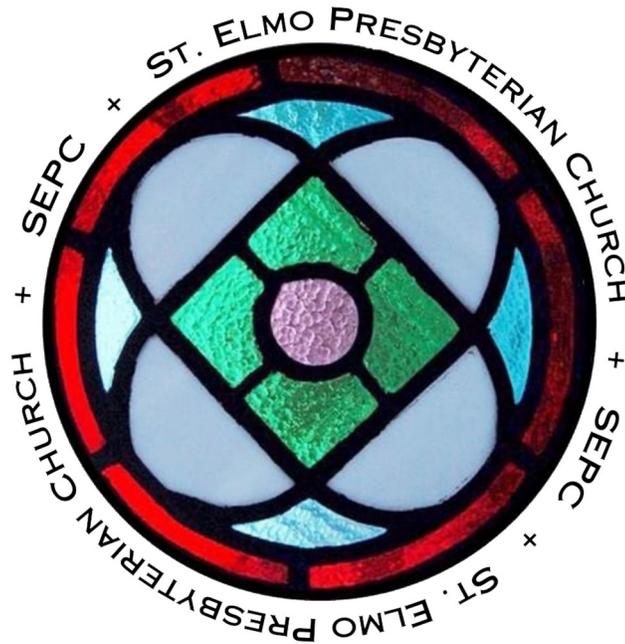


ST. ELMO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

*Our purpose is to be a Spiritual Family that Knows, Lives Out of, and
Proclaims the Wonder of God's Grace in Jesus.*



March 3, 2026

Rev. Daniel Wells, Pastor

4400 St. Elmo Avenue • Chattanooga, TN • 37409
423-821-1424 • www.stelmopres.org

The Ministry

This Week at St. Elmo Presbyterian Church and Community and Live streaming on YouTube

Today

9:15am Sunday School for All — Contact Rev. Daniel Wells
10:30am Worship Service
12:10pm First Sunday Potluck Lunch! Everyone stay!

Monday **March 2**

7:00pm Women's Evening Bible Study meets at Beth Ann Green's — Contact Edith Dryden
7:00pm CAHSE meets at TBD — Contact Cal Boroughs

Tuesday **March 3**

10:00am Women's Bible Study meets at Joni Harbert's — Contact Edith Dryden

Wednesday **March 4**

6:00pm Chickamauga Community Group meets — Contact Jack or Barbara Beckman
6:00pm Flintstone Community Group meets — Contact Betsy or Ed Sunder
6:00pm North Chattanooga Community Group meets — Contact Ethan or Madison Greene
6:00pm St Elmo Community Group meets — Contact Jay or Beth Ann Green
7:00pm Ecumenical CG meets — Contact Carol Wildeman or Diane Reichmann

Thursday **March 5**

10:30am Men's Bible Study meets — Contact Chris Dodson

Saturday **March 7**

5:00pm Men and Future Men's Fellowship at SEPC (10 yrs old+) — Contact Pastor Daniel Wells

Nursery

Sunday School

March 1 Kathy Tucker and TBD
March 8 Priscilla Strom and TBD

Worship Service

March 1 Ashlee Wells and Laurel Slavovsky
March 8 Joni Harbert and Claire Slavovsky

Little Lambs

March 1 The Sunder Family
March 8 Beth Ann and TBD

**To volunteer for Sunday School Nursery, Worship Nursery, or Little Lambs:
<https://tinyurl.com/y9aw7h4a>**

***Navigate between sign ups through the tabs at the top of the page*
Or you can contact Ashlee Wells.**

Upcoming

Sunday, March 8 at 2:00am Daylight Savings Time begins. Turn your clocks FORWARD one hour.

Sunday, March 22 at 12:10pm Baby Shower for Sophie and John Sunder. Everyone is invited!

Friday, March 27 at 7:00pm Good Friday service

Sunday, April 26 Annual Budgets Due to the Finance Ministry Group (Mark and Ed)

The Message

WORDS OF MEDITATION

Your very sins move him to pity more than to anger ... Christ takes your side: his anger is turned upon your sin and his pity is increased all the more towards you, even as the heart of a father is to a child that has some loathsome disease. - Thomas Goodwin

Prelude

Announcements

Musical Preparation

JESUS WELCOMES US

Greeting

Call to Worship

When Israel came out of Egypt, Jacob from a people of foreign tongue,
Judah became God's sanctuary, Israel his dominion.

Tremble, earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob,
Who turned the rock into a pool, the hard rock into springs of water. (Psalm 114)

Invocation

Hymns of Praise: Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery (Rejoice! #19)

JESUS HEARS OUR LAMENT

Corporate Lament

O righteous and holy God, Judge of all the earth, we come before you burdened by the grief of this world.

We lament the violence that fills our streets, the oppression of the weak, the exploitation of the poor, the silencing of the voiceless.

We confess that we have not loved mercy as we ought, nor have we walked humbly before you.

We have been complacent when we should have spoken, comfortable when others suffered.

Arise, O Lord, and vindicate your name. Break the arm of the wicked and sustain the afflicted.

Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Yet even as we lament, we hope in your steadfast love. For you are near to the brokenhearted, and you will not forsake your saints.

Through Jesus Christ, the Man of Sorrows and the King who shall judge in righteousness. Amen.

Hymn of Lament: Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul (Rejoice! #23)

Assurance of Comfort

The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. - Psalm 34:17-18

Hymn of Comfort: My Jesus, I Love Thee (#648)

JESUS RECEIVES OUR GENEROSITY

Offering of Gifts and Thanksgivings

Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow! Praise Him, all creatures here below!

O praise Him! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, three in one!

O praise Him, O praise Him! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Covenant Children's Lesson

3 and 4 year-olds may go downstairs to Little Lambs

JESUS INTERCEDES FOR US

Intercessory Prayer & Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven,
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

JESUS SPEAKS HIS LOVE TO US

Prayer of Illumination

Reading of the Word: Deuteronomy 6:13-19 & Matthew 4:1-11

Preaching of the Word: "Mountain Top Experiences With Jesus: Exploring the Terrain of Matthew" Part 2 (Rev. Daniel Wells)

JESUS HEARS OUR PLEDGE OF FAITH

Confession of Faith

This office the Lord Jesus did most willingly undertake; which that he might discharge, he was made under the law, and did perfectly fulfill it; endured most grievous torments immediately in his soul, and most painful sufferings in his body; was crucified, and died, was buried, and remained under the power of death, yet saw no corruption. On the third day he arose from the dead, with the same body in which he suffered, with which also he ascended into heaven, and there sitteth at the right hand of his Father, making intercession, and shall return, to judge men and angels, at the end of the world.
(Westminster Confession of Faith VIII.4, 1647AD)

JESUS SEALS HIS LOVE TO US

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Consecration

Sursum Corda

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord.

It is fitting and right to do so.

People of God, as you come to the table, what do you proclaim?

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come back again.

The Bread (Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners! #498, 1st & 2nd Stanzas)

The Cup (Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners! 3rd & 4th Stanzas)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

JESUS SENDS US WITH HIS BLESSING

Hymn of Departure: (Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners! 5th Stanza)

Benediction



Please take this with you to pray for these individuals and groups this week:



- Margaret and Darrell Stewart
- Pris Strom
- Ginny Strom
- Bennett and Ashe Sunder
- Dan and Mako Gilchrist: ELI
- North Shore Fellowship
- President Trump and Vice President Vance
- THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN SUDAN (4)**
- Pray for our faithful witness to our neighbors

Pray for the Persecuted Church in SUDAN (4)

UN REPORT SUGGESTS POSSIBLE GENOCIDE IN SUDAN

Source: International Christian Concern, February 20, 2026

United Nations fact-finding mission for Sudan released a report Thursday claiming that the Rapid Support Forces, a nongovernmental militant group battling for control of Sudan, carried out a "coordinated campaign of destruction against non-Arab communities in and around El-Fasher, the hallmarks of which point to genocide."

The report marks the first time that the U.N. has suggested the crisis in Sudan may have risen to genocidal proportions since the civil war began in 2023. The U.S. has previously indicated that it believes the RSF to be engaged in a genocide and has imposed sanctions on the group and its leaders in response.

American sanctions were stiffened yesterday in an action that coincided with the U.N. report.

"Genocidal intent," the U.N. wrote Thursday, "is the only reasonable inference that can be drawn from the RSF's systematic pattern of ethnically targeted killings, sexual violence, destruction, and public statements explicitly calling for the elimination of non-Arab communities."

In just three days of attacks in Al-Fasher's fall, more than 6,000 people were killed, including thousands inside the city and others shot while attempting to flee. Civilians were massacred in neighborhoods, dormitories, and even at a university, while hospitals and displacement camps were attacked, and critical aid routes were cut off.

At least 40,000 people have been killed and roughly 12 million to 13 million people displaced, making it the largest displacement crisis in the world.

According to reports, more than 165 churches have had to close since the war started in 2023. Some churches are used as bases for military operations in the war, with people sheltering there forced out or even killed to make way for soldiers. Members of the clergy have been targeted, with soldiers shooting or stabbing priests and others during their raids. The well-equipped Sudanese Armed Forces often bomb churches, indiscriminately injuring or killing those sheltering inside, including women and children, as it pursues rival RSF forces. 🇸🇩

Men & Future Men (ages 10+) Fellowship Gathering

Hot Dogs, Crazy Bridge Tourney, Proverbs, and S'mores!

Saturday March 7th, 5:00pm. on the church lawn.



**Couples Baby Shower for John and Sophie Sunder
Sunday, March 22 in the Fellowship Hall after church
All are invited!**

Please bring a luncheon type food to share.

**John and Sophie are registered at:
<https://my.babylist.com/babysunder2026>**

**Dan and Mako Gilchrist
Equipping Leaders International**

Praise

- for strong year-end fundraising! The Lord generously provided for our year-end fundraising goals for the anticipated ministry opportunities of 2026: the Lord added new financial partners to our team and many existing financial partners increased their financial participation. Thank YOU all for your prayers, encouragement, and financial commitments to this part of the Lord's work!
- for the Lord's grace, wisdom, skill and stamina for Dan's first year as ELI's Director of Operations; for the people that the Lord is gathering to help address some of the specific challenges facing our growing organization;
- for the new faculty the Lord is bringing to ELI and the new opportunities for expanding our training focus to begin fulfilling our original vision to equip leaders in every sphere of influence;
- for evidence of God's grace sustaining and growing us as a family through new seasons in which family members are beginning to scatter;

Petition

1. for the wisdom and skill to manage the time, multiple responsibilities, and competing priorities that are an unavoidable part of a rapidly growing organization and faithfully addressing personnel and logistical challenges as they arise;
2. for the attentiveness to plan and coordinate teams for our upcoming training events in Tharaka-Nithi: "Doctrine of Christ" via Zoom in March; "Christ-Centered Preaching" in-person in late June; coaching trainees who will be teaching "Living in Grace" in early July; "Doctrine of the Holy Spirit" via Zoom in late September.
3. for wisdom, clarity, and skill as we plan to launch new "Timothy-Led" (i.e. trainee-led) training centers; consider when/where to launch new training networks; explore new training initiatives and partnerships;

Sunday School for All at 9:15am — 2 Topics for Adults

What Does It Mean to Be Presbyterian? From Geneva to St. Elmo (Jessica Novikoff)

This Sunday School class explores the rich and complex history of Presbyterianism, from its roots in the Reformation to its presence in modern America and our own local context. We are gaining a deeper understanding of the theological foundations, key doctrinal distinctions, historical figures, major movements, and unique governing features that have shaped Presbyterian churches in general and the PCA in particular.

A Bible Study Toolbox (Rev. Jeff Hooker)

Tools aren't just helpful, they're necessary for doing a job right. And they give you the confidence that you *can* do the job right. Perhaps our lack of confidence in handling God's Word comes from not having the proper tools or the knowledge to use them. So let's work on the tools to read and understand and apply the Bible. We'll practice with both Old and New Testament books.

Welcome to St. Elmo Presbyterian Church pca

Sunday School for Children and Adults

Sunday School for all ages begins at 9:15am. Adults have two options: one class meets in the Adult Sunday School room downstairs, the other class meets in the Fellowship Hall. Children, 3 y/o through 12th grade, begin with a time of fellowship in the Sunday School wing, before proceeding to their classes. Sunday School breaks for the summer months.

Little Lambs

During Worship, children from 3 through 4 years old are welcome to attend their own Bible Lesson time downstairs after the Covenant Children's Lesson in the Sanctuary.

Nursery Available

During Sunday School and Worship, the nursery is available for babies through 2 y/o, when they are ready for Little Lambs. A Mother's room adjacent to the Nursery is also available.

Youth Group

Youth Group for Middle and High School students meets on Sunday nights from 6 - 8pm, and typically taking a break on the first Sunday of the month. Youth Group meets once a month during the Summer months.

Christian Education Contact Information

Director of Youth and Children's Ministry:
TBD

- Nursery & Little Lambs: Ashlee Wells, sepcnursery@gmail.com
- Youth & Children's Ministry: sepcyouthgp@gmail.com

Parent Committee Chair: Lance Wescher



Online donations/offerings:

You can use this QR code or you may go to -

<https://tinyurl.com/mr7h9e89>

Past Sermons and Church Calendar

Sermons online: <https://soundcloud.com/SEPC4400/sets>

Calendar online: www.stelmopres.org/events



Find us on Facebook:

St. Elmo Presbyterian Church - pca

<https://www.facebook.com/StElmoPresPCA>



To join the St. Elmo Presbyterian Church Email List:

1. Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/3hpenxju>
2. Enter your email address in the gray box
3. Enter your name in the gray box
4. Password is optional
5. Click "Subscribe" and you will be added to the list. You will receive an email with directions for sending an email to the list and also unsubscribing. If you have difficulty signing on, please email Jay Green at jay.green@covenant.edu.

Parking

*Please do not park in front of driveways, or IN driveways, or in front of garages.
Please try to park on the side streets and not on St. Elmo Avenue (painted bike lanes).*

Also, park to the right of the road (in the direction you are going) so that you are not ticketed by the police.

Permission to print music and lyrics: CCLI#418158