

# 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 22, 2026

Rev. Daniel Wells, Pastor

4400 St. Elmo Avenue • Chattanooga, TN • 37409  
423-821-1424 • [www.stelmopres.org](http://www.stelmopres.org)

## THE MINISTRY

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

#### **Sunday     March 22, 2026**

9:15am     Sunday School for All — Contact Rev. Daniel Wells  
10:30am     Worship Service  
12:10pm     Baby Shower for Sophie & John Sunder. Everyone is invited!  
5:00pm     Middle School Youth Group meets — Contact Lance Wescher  
7:30pm     High School Youth Group meets — Contact Lance Wescher

#### **Monday     March 23**

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

#### **Tuesday     March 24**

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

#### **Wednesday     March 25**

7:00pm     Ecumenical CG meets — Contact Carol Wildeman or Diane Reichmann

#### **Thursday     March 26**

7:30pm     Session meeting — Contact any Elder

#### **Saturday     March 28**

9:00am     Easter Choir Practice

### **Nursery**

#### **Sunday School**

March 22     Kedric Webster and TBD  
March 29     Kathy Tucker and TBD

#### **Worship Service**

March 22     Shelley Madueme and Nathan Sunder  
March 29     Virginia Strom and Ashlee Wells

#### **Little Lambs**

March 22     Jack and Barbara Beckman  
March 29     TBD

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**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 29 at 9:15am**     Adult SS will be a Q&A with Ethan Greene and Seth Mayberry  
**Thursday, April 2 at 7:00pm**     Maundy Thursday Service  
**Friday, April 3 at 7:00p**     Good Friday Service  
**Sunday, April 5 at 9:00am**     Easter Breakfast — Everyone is invited!  
**Sunday, April 12 at 12:10pm**     Congregational meeting to vote on Ethan Greene (RE), Seth Mayberry (D), & Betsy Sunder (DA)  
**Saturday, April 26 at 11:00pm**     Annual Budgets Due to the Finance Ministry Group (Mark and Ed)

## THE MESSAGE

In the Pauline teaching baptism marks the decisive transition from the old world to the new. The believer is transferred from the sphere of sin and death into that of righteousness and life. This change does not rest in a merely ethical transformation, but is grounded in the objective fact of union with Christ in His death and resurrection.- Geerhardus Vos

### **Prelude**

### **Announcements**

### **Musical Preparation**

### **JESUS WELCOMES US**

#### **Greeting**

#### **Call to Worship**

But now listen, Jacob, my servant, Israel, whom I have chosen. This is what the Lord says—he who made you, who formed you in the womb, and who will help you:

*Do not be afraid, Jacob, my servant, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.*

For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.

*They will spring up like grass in a meadow, like poplar trees by flowing streams.*

Some will say, 'I belong to the Lord'; others will call themselves by the name of Jacob;

*Still others will write on their hand, 'The Lord's,' and will take the name Israel. (Isaiah 44)*

#### **Invocation**

**Hymn of Praise:** Rejoice, The Lord is King (#310)

### **JESUS WASHES HIS PEOPLE**

**Scripture Reading:** 1 Corinthians 10:1-5

#### **Confession of Faith**

*Baptism is a sacrament of the new testament, ordained by Jesus Christ, not only for the solemn admission of the party baptized into the visible church; but also, to be unto him a sign and seal of the covenant of grace, of his ingrafting into Christ, of regeneration, of remission of sins, and of his giving up unto God, through Jesus Christ, to walk in newness of life. Which sacrament is, by Christ's own appointment, to be continued in his church until the end of the world. (Westminster Confession of Faith XXVIII.1, 1647)*

#### **Homily**

**Baptismal Vows** (Book of Church Order 56-5)

#### **Prayer of Consecration**

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Henry Ellis Greene

**Hymns of Assurance:** Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus (#481) & O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer (Rejoice! #81)

### **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:** Job 9:1-8 & Matthew 14:22-33

**Preaching of the Word:** "Mountaintop Experiences With Jesus: Wondrous Sovereign of the Sea"  
(Rev. Daniel Wells)

**JESUS SENDS US WITH HIS BLESSING**

**Hymn of Departure:** Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

**Benediction**

# Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

Hopper, Wardell, Pensake

Chords: C, Cm, G, C, C°7, G

Chords: G, C, G, C, G

5  
 1. Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me ov - er life's temp - es - tuous sea;  
 2. Though the sea be smooth and bright spark' ling with the stars of night,  
 3. As a mo - ther stills her child, Thou canst hush the o - ceans wild;  
 4. When at last I near the shore, and the fear - ful break - ers roar

Chords: C, Em, G, C, G

9  
 un - known waves be - fore me roll, hid - ing rock and treach' rous shoal: chart and  
 and my ship's path be a - blaze with the light of hal - cyon days: still I  
 boist' rous waves o - bey Thy will when Thou say'st to them "Be still!" Won - drous  
 twist me and the peace - ful rest, then while lean - ing on Thy breast, may I

Chords: D, C, D7, G

13  
 com - pass come from Thee! Sav - ior, pi - lot me. chart and  
 know my need of Thee! Sav - ior, pi - lot me. still I  
 Sov - 'reign of the sea, Sav - ior, pi - lot me. Won - drous  
 hear Thee say to me: "I will pi - lot thee." may I

Chords: D, C, D7, G

16  
 com - pass come from Thee! Sav - ior, pi - lot me.  
 know my need of Thee! Sav - ior, pi - lot me.  
 Sov - 'reign of the sea, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.  
 hear Thee say to me: "I will pi - lot thee."

## THE MINISTRY

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

- John David Tinholt
- Luke Tinholt
- Rob, Elaine, and Kate Tinholt
- John and Kathy Tucker
- RUF-UTC
- Ridgehaven
- The U.S. Supreme Court
- THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN the World**
- Pray for our faithful witness to our neighbors

### **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.

### **Easter Breakfast**

**April 5th at 9:00am**

**Mark your calendars for our Easter breakfast on Sunday, April 5th, at 9:00am! It is a tradition for our church to come together on Easter Sunday and have a potluck breakfast starting at 9am.**

**Everyone brings breakfast-type casseroles, egg dishes, fruit, cinnamon rolls, or other breakfast goodies.**

**The Fellowship Ministry Group will provide coffee and other beverages. *We also suggest that if you have neighbors, friends, or family who you would like to invite to this, please do so. We would love to have guests!***

**Looking forward to seeing everyone!**

**The Fellowship Ministry Group**

## THE MISSION

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# WIDOWS HARVEST COLLECTION

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We are collecting paper and soap products for  
**Widows Harvest.**

Please bring your **items to the church**  
and place them **downstairs.**

We will be collecting throughout the **month of April,**  
and will be preparing **35 bags** for widows.

Each week, we will update the congregation  
on items still needed.

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### ITEMS NEEDED

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- Laundry detergent**  
*(unscented if possible)*
  - Toilet paper**
  - Clorox wipes**
  - Dish soap**
  - Kleenex**
  - Liquid hand soap**
  - 10 each** of medium & large  
women's **Depends**
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## THE MISSION

### **Pray for the Persecuted Church in the World**

#### **WHY THE PERSECUTED CHURCH MAY BE THE MOST FAITHFUL CHURCH IN THE WORLD**

Source: Persecution.org, March 14, 2026

#### **The Normal Pattern of the Christian Life**

When we open the pages of the New Testament, one truth quickly becomes apparent: the early Christians expected persecution. Jesus himself warned his followers that suffering would accompany discipleship. "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first." (John 15:18) He continued with a sobering reminder: "A servant is not greater than his master. If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also." (John 15:20)

For the first followers of Christ, persecution was not a surprising interruption of their faith. It was an anticipated part of their mission. The Apostle Paul expressed the same reality in stark terms: "Everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted." (2 Timothy 3:12)

From the earliest days of the church, suffering was understood as part of the cost of discipleship. The first Christian martyr, Stephen the deacon, was stoned to death shortly after the resurrection of Jesus (Acts 7:54-60). The Apostle James was executed by King Herod (Acts 12:1-2). The apostles were beaten, imprisoned, and threatened for preaching the gospel (Acts 5:40-42).

Yet the remarkable thing about the early church is that persecution did not silence them. Instead, it strengthened their witness.

Luke records an extraordinary response from the apostles after the authorities flogged them: "The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name." (Acts 5:41) To modern ears, such a response sounds almost incomprehensible. Why would anyone rejoice in suffering? The answer lies at the heart of the Christian gospel.

Read more at — <https://tinyurl.com/ydfkawrr> 📖🔗

## 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](mailto:sepcnursery@gmail.com)
- Youth & Children's Ministry: [sepcyouthgp@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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