



Jan. 28, 2026

As I sit here on a very snowy Sunday, wearing my sweats, as I have been under the weather since Friday, I marvel at the amount of snow that has fallen with more in the forecast. Being a born and bred Canadian, snow does not intimidate me. There are pictures of me, in my youth, standing beside a snowbank which was a good 2 feet higher than me. I have plowed through the highways in Montreal in my tiny Honda Civic, where there were little more than 2 ruts in the road due to the fact that the plows had not yet done their job. I also remember trudging home from university on a cold, snowy night. No one was out. The night air was silent with the snow falling ever so gently upon the road. I was alone in a dark void of wonder. The crunch of my boots was the only sound. That is the memory of “good snow” that I keep close to me. Shovelling the driveway and sidewalks.... not so much. I thank God for a wonderful neighbour who insists on “borrowing” my snowblower so that he can clear my driveway, as well as his and to help whatever neighbour needs assistance. Following are some reflections on how we can look upon snow as part of God’s wonderful world which he has so wondrously created for us.

A very snowy day offers a unique, often forced, pause in the busyness of life, providing a perfect backdrop for spiritual reflection, stillness, and gratitude.

Here are spiritual reflections on a snowy day, categorized by theme:

1. The Blanket of Grace and Forgiveness

- **Covering Imperfections:** Just as fresh snow covers the dirt, dead leaves, and broken pavement, it acts as a visual metaphor for God's grace, covering the stains of sin and imperfection in our lives.
- **Whiter than Snow:** The purity of a snowy landscape echoes the scripture from Psalm 51:7, "Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow," inviting a reflection on personal purification and receiving divine forgiveness.
- **A Clean Start:** A new snowfall represents a "blank slate," a chance to begin again and see the world (and our lives) as refreshed and renewed.

2. The Invitation to Stillness

- **A Holy Pause:** Snow muffles the sounds of the world, creating a natural silence that invites us to ***"Be still, and know that I am God"*** (Psalm 46:10).

- **Slowing Down:** A heavy snowfall forces a halt to daily commutes and hectic schedules, offering an opportunity for rest, reflection, and intentional time with God.
- **The Comfort of Shelter:** The cold outside highlights the blessing of a warm home, reminding us to be grateful for shelter and to pray for those who lack it.

3. God's Creativity and Power

- **Unique Design:** The knowledge that no two snowflakes are identical highlights the limitless creativity of the Creator, reflecting that you, too, are uniquely crafted with purpose.
- **Sovereignty Over Nature:** Snow is a testament to God's power. Psalm 147:16 says, "**He gives snow like wool; He scatters frost like ashes,**" reminding us that He is in control of the circumstances that sometimes bury us.
- **Preparation for New Growth:** Snow nourishes the earth for the spring. Similarly, "winter" seasons in life—though difficult—prepare us for future growth and blooming.

4. Lessons in Trust and Renewal

- **Temporary Nature:** Snow is fleeting; it falls, dazzles, and then melts. This mirrors the seasons of life, reminding us to trust that difficult, "icy" trials will not last forever, and spring will come.
- **Trusting the Path:** When landmarks are buried, we are forced to walk by faith, following the footsteps already laid before us.
- **Transformation:** The transition from a muddy, brown landscape to a white wonderland symbolizes the transformative, life-giving power of God to change dead, barren areas of our lives into something beautiful.

A Simple Prayer for a Snowy Day

Lord, thank You for the beauty of this snow and the reminder of Your cleansing grace. As this white blanket covers the earth, help me to feel my sins covered and washed away by Your love. In the silence of this day, let me rest in Your presence, trust in Your power, and remember that You are preparing my heart for a new season. Amen.

Blizzard

Linda Pastan

*the snow
has forgotten
how to stop
it falls
stuttering
at the glass
a silk windsock*

*of snow
 blowing
 under the porch light
 tangling trees
 which bend
 like old women
 snarled
 in their own
 knitting
 snow drifts
 up to the step
 over the doorsill
 a pointillist's blur
 the wedding
 of form and motion
 shaping itself
 to the wish
 of any object it touches
 chairs become
 laps of snow
 the moon could be
 breaking apart
 and falling
 over the eaves
 over the roof
 a white bear.*



Worship Calendar

Feb. 1	Blessed is the Upside-Down Kingdom Micah 6:1-8 & Matthew 5:1-12	Rev. Eric Lee
Feb. 8	TBA	Pastor Won Hwang
Feb. 15	TBA	Pastor Tim Connor
Feb. 22	TBA	Rev. Jan Hieminga
Mar. 1	Seeing Without Hating Ecclesiastes 7:16-22 Titus 3:1-7	Rev. Eric Lee



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pancake Supper

Tuesday, Feb. 17th @ 6:00 PM

Free Will Offering gratefully accepted

A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board

Everyone is welcome to join us for our famous Down East Pancakes, homemade by our in-house chefs.

Fellowship hour to follow with a Sing-Along led by Susan Chopp

This will be a wonderful opportunity to socialize with you friends as we prepare for the Lenten season.

Matching Gift Campaign Results

The Graceview Matching Gift Fund Raising Campaign conducted in the month of December 2025 was a tremendous success. A total of \$12,490 was donated, which includes the \$5,000 matching gift, and that amount will all go toward reducing our 2025 annual deficit. Special thanks go to our Matching Gift Donor who had the idea for the campaign and donated the matching gift, and to all those in the congregation who so generously supported the campaign. Thank you all.



Coffee Sign-Up

It is that time of year again when we are looking for volunteers to serve coffee and tea after worship. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Adamson Lounge.

Feb. 1 – Koko & Chuka

Feb. 8 - ????

Feb. 15 - ????

Feb. 22 - ????

Mar. 15 – Carol & Iris

Thank you to all of you who have given so willingly of your time and efforts. We appreciate you!!



PRAYER REQUESTS AND PASTORAL CARE

* Pray for the people of war-torn countries who are living in fear and uncertainty. Pray for those close to home who need your special love and guidance during trying times. Pray for our country, Canada.

* **Also, please keep these people in your prayers:**

Godfrey Miringu's mother-in-law, Paul Mgobo's family, Bob Woolley, Joan and Peter Kohar, Giulietta Ponzini, Ryan Jory, John Thomas, Harold Hussey, Teresia Njoki, Roman and Adrian P., Ed Latimer, Ethel Waite, Lynne Bishop, Debbie Homebrooke and family, Margaret Munene's brother Simon, Lenore Carty, Shelia Thomas' grandson, Carter, the Jarvis family, Olive S.

Please keep these folks, and indeed, everyone in our church family and people around the world, in your prayers.

Note from your editor...could you please advise me from time to time on the status of your loved ones so that updates can be recorded and shared to prove that the power of prayer does work miracles.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- * Tuesdays @ 11:00 AM – Walking Group – All are welcome
- * Thursdays @ 2:00 PM – Worship service at Centennial Park Place
- * Thursday, Jan. 29 @ 9:30 AM – Sing! Etobicoke @ GV
- * Friday, Jan. 30 @ 2:00 PM – Music & Worship
- * Sunday, Feb. 1 @ 11:45 AM – Bell Ringers rehearsal
- * Monday, Feb. 2 @ 7:00 PM – Outreach Team
- * Tuesday, Feb. 17 @ 6:00 PM – Pancake Supper
- * Sunday, Mar. 1 @ 10:30 AM – Sacrament of Holy Communion
- * Saturday, Mar. 7 – Women's World Day of Prayer (details will follow)
- * Sunday, Mar. 8 @ 11:30 AM – Annual General Meeting

Prayer/Reader/Announcements for 2026

	<u>Prayer Roster</u>	<u>Lay Readers</u>	<u>Welcome and Announcements</u>
Feb. 1	Koko Ikele	Chuka Ikele	Susan Chopp
Feb. 8	Kathy Twynam	Jean Fox	Bob Twynam
Feb. 15	Margaret Munene	Maureen Screen	Kathy Twynam
Feb. 22	Rachael Chen	Margaret Munene	Nancy McPherson
Mar. 1	Pastor Eric	Georgena Engineer	Nancy McPherson
Mar. 8	Halyna Parypa	Bob Twynam	Susan Chopp
Mar. 15	Nancy McPherson	Susan Chopp	Bob Twynam



Sing! Etobicoke

To register, please visit: <https://www.neilsonparkcreativecentre.com/event/sing-etobicoke/>

For information, please email: alex@neilsonparkcreativecentre.com or call 416-622-5294.

Sing! Etobicoke, Encore, 2026 Winter Schedule

2026-01-29	9:30 AM	GV	Be My Light	W26ASE4
2026-02-05	9:30 AM	NPCC	Guest Day (with Men Aloud)	W26ASE5
2026-02-12	9:30 AM	GV	Love Me Tender	W26ASE6
2026-02-19	9:30 AM	GV	Singin' in the Rain	W26ASE7
2026-02-26	9:30 AM	GV	Catch a Falling Star	W26ASE8
2026-03-05	9:30 AM	NPCC	Do I ever Cross Your Mind?	W26ASE9
2026-03-12	9:30 AM	NPCC	Here Comes the Sun (Songs of Spring)	W26ASE10

WEEKLY GIGGLE



Where to Find Us

Contact Person	Email Address	Phone Number	Role/Note
Susan Chopp	choppertini@hotmail.com	419-953-7582	Weekly News
Pastor Eric	pastor@graceview.ca	416-621-0888 (press #1)	Church related issues
Church Office (Halyna)	office@graceview.ca		Church Secretary
Dr. Glen DeLine	delineglen@gmail.com	905-849-0388	Music Director
Graceview Website	https://graceview.ca/calendar-events		
Facebook Page	Graceview Presbyterian Church		
Instagram Page	https://www.instagram.com/graceview.presbyterian?igsh=MnlpeXE5YTYyN2ly		

February Calendar



february 2026

29
Sing! Etobicoke 9:30 -
GV
Service @ CPP
2:00

30
Music & Worship
2:00 PM

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 Outreach Team Meeting 7:00 PM	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28