



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, March 10, 2024

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Worship Songs - ***“Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)”***
“Yes I Will”
“Be Thou My Vision”

Message to the Children

Wayne Potter

Scripture Readings – 1 Corinthians 13
Matthew 6:5-15

Sermon ***“Learning to Love is Learning to Forgive”***

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song – ***“Word Of God Speak”***

Pastoral Prayer & The 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.

Giving Back to God

- Our Offering- Your gifts honor God and help provide financial support of the ministries and mission of this church.
- Our Service- Get connected! Fill out a Connection Card to get more involved in the life and ministries of the church.
- Our Prayers- How can we help you in prayer today? Fill out a prayer card and let us know.
Please place your financial gift, Connection Card, or Prayer Card in the Offering Box in the narthex.

Closing Song – ***“Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me”***

Charge and Blessing

Leader: In the coming week what does God call us to do?

**People: We are called to: Introduce Jesus Christ to those who do not know Him;
deepen the faith and commitment of those who already know Him;
and demonstrate Christ’s way of love in service to the world.**

*For anyone desiring special prayers today, Mel Matchett will be at the front of the sanctuary to pray for you.
Please come forward after the service.*

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Curt & Deb McGee, and our snack volunteer: Lynne Sheldon.

Chancel flowers are placed by Lynne Sheldon in memory of her husband, Len.



10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, March 10, 2024

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Season of Promise”* by Hayes

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation and Centering Words

Grace is the gift that frees us from sin and binds us to the love of God. It protects us, redeems us, restores us, and makes us whole!

Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Betty Tezak

Leader: Listen! The goodness of God beckons,

People: calling us to goodness and grace.

Leader: Look deep within! The grace of God redeems,

People: saving us and making us whole.

Leader: Look around you! The love of God welcomes,

People: inviting us to worship and praise.

All: Come, let us worship the living God!

Opening Prayer

Betty Tezak

All: God of goodness and grace, gather us in your arms of love. Gather us as people of your goodness and grace. Gather us in worship and prayer, that we may be strengthened with faith and courage. Gather us as those who are eager to live in your light and to share your goodness and grace with all. Amen.

Opening Hymn 445 – *“God, How Can We Forgive”*

Prayer of Confession

Betty Tezak

All: Gracious God, we lift up our hearts this day, for we long to see your salvation. Lift us up from the pits of sin and sorrow, that we may walk in the light of your love and grace. Create us anew as reflections of your love and as offerings of your grace. For we yearn to bless everyone we meet, even ourselves, in your name. In hope and gratitude, we pray. Amen.

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon

Betty Tezak

Leader: In Christ Jesus, we are created to do good things. By God’s grace, we are able to be good people. In God’s goodness, we are created good. In Christ’s grace, we are saved by love, that we may love and be loved.

Anthem – *“Jesus Walked This Lonesome Highway”* by Schroeder

Scripture Readings – 1 Corinthians 13
Matthew 6:5-15

Sermon “Learning to Love is Learning to Forgive”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 293 – ***“Loving Spirit”***

Pastoral Prayer and The 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.

Giving Back to God

- Our Offering- Your gifts honor God and help provide financial support of the ministries and mission of this church.
- Our Service- Get connected! Fill out a Connection Card to get more involved in the life and ministries of the church.
- Our Prayers- How can we help you in prayer today? Fill out a prayer card and let us know.
Please place your financial gift, Connection Card, or Prayer Card in the Offering Box in the narthex.

Doxology – ***“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”***

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Offering Prayer

All: Merciful God, you have richly blessed our lives with love and bounty beyond measure. Bless these gifts we return to you now, as well as our very lives, that we may bestow the same richness of your love and grace in the world upon others. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn 291 – ***“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”***

Charge and Blessing

Leader: In the coming week what does God call us to do?

People: **We are called to: Introduce Jesus Christ to those who do not know Him;
deepen the faith and commitment of those who already know Him;
and demonstrate Christ’s way of love in service to the world.**

Benediction

Benediction Response – ***“Let There Be Peace On Earth”***

*For anyone desiring special prayers today, Ken Kohlman will be at the front of the sanctuary to pray for you.
Please come forward after the service.*

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Curt & Deb McGee, and our snack volunteer: Pam Coleman.

Chancel flowers are placed by Lynne Sheldon in memory of her husband, Len.

Thank you for your generous giving during this challenging time! Your gifts support all of the work and ministries of the church, as we continue to do the work of Christ in the world today. You can mail your pledges to the church at: First Presbyterian Church of Elk Rapids, 404 Spruce Street, Elk Rapids, MI 49629, give through online giving at www.erfpc.org (click on the Giving tab at the top right), or set up a one time or recurring donation by contacting our Treasurer, Mike Husby, at finmanager@erfpc.org. Again, we thank everyone for their continued support of the ministries and mission of the church!

Nursery – Qualified caregivers welcome infants and children during the service.



Did You Know...

Sometime shortly after the completion of the church, two sheds of 4 stalls each were erected on the alley behind the church for the teams and buggies of the attending congregation.

From Celebrate the Journey by Stan Holzhauser. If you would like a copy of the book, please contact the church office.

Free Community Dinner – Monday, March 18 from 5:00-6:30PM

You're invited to join us for our Free Community Dinner on Monday, March 18 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Invite your friends and family and don't miss this excellent meal!

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, March 24

9:00 AM Contemporary Service

10:30 AM Traditional Service

Maundy Thursday, March 28

6:00 PM Soup Supper – Fellowship Hall

6:45 PM Service & Communion – Fellowship Hall

Good Friday, March 29

12 noon–3:00 PM Self Guided Time of Personal Reflection – Sanctuary

Easter Sunday, March 31

9:00 AM Contemporary Service

9:30 AM Easter Brunch – Fellowship Hall

10:00 AM Kids Easter Egg Hunt – Lighthouse

10:30 AM Traditional Service

Easter Plants - Reservations Due Sunday, March 24

Easter plants are once again available for \$10 per plant to remember or honor a special loved one, and help decorate our sanctuary for Easter. To reserve your plants, fill out the form next to the Easter Plant Order Box located at the Activity Center and return it with your donation to the box by Sunday, March 24. Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church (Easter Memorial). Please pick up your flowers after the 10:30 a.m. service on Easter Sunday.

Usher/Greeter Volunteer Opportunities:

If you are interested in helping out as an Usher/Greeter on Sunday mornings, we'd love to have you! Please sign up at the Activity Sign-Up Table, or contact Judy Matchett (231-631-4536) for more information. Looking forward to having you as part of the Usher Team at First Presbyterian!

Capturing our Stories to Mark 150th Anniversary

We are celebrating our sesquicentennial anniversary this year (that's 150 years!). The Anniversary Task Force, headed by Laura Asiala and Jim Lagowski, is seeking youth and young adults who would be interested in interviewing senior members of our church family to capture stories, memories, and oral histories in celebration of that milestone. Training and workshops will be provided. Contact Laura Wonacott Asiala at (989) 430-4644 or LEAsiala@gmail.com if you'd like to learn more.

Discovery Survey – Learn where your talents and interests match the needs of our Ministry Teams by



taking the Discovery Survey! The short survey is designed to find where you might enjoy lending a hand, as well as pointing our teams to who they can contact when support is needed. Just scan the QR code or use this link:

<https://volunteeraccelerator.ministryarchitects.com/ERFPC/survey.html>

Community Cupboard – Community Cash is back! Save Village Market receipts **dated between September 1, 2023 and May 30, 2024** and turn them in one of three ways: In the lower left corner mail slot near the church office, in the box labeled “Community Cash” in the brown box outside the Community Cupboard or mail them to Elk Rapids Community Cupboard, PO Box 572, Elk Rapids, MI 49629. Thank you for your continuous support.

The Community Cupboard is open every other Tuesday and Friday with a "shop for yourself system" for those in need. Check out the website: <https://www.elkrapidscommunitycupboard.com>. Call Pam Coleman at 847-445-8239 for more information or to set up an appointment. Plus, the Community Cupboard is accepting donations in a drop box outside the cupboard entrance on Chippewa Street or by mail to ERCC, Box 572, Elk Rapids MI 49629.

This Week's Activities

Sun. 3/10

9:00 a Contemporary Service
10:00 a Sunday School/Youth-LH
10:30 a Traditional Service

Mon. 3/11

Tues. 3/12

Wed. 3/13

6:30 a Breakfast Club – LH
9:00 a Bulletin Items Due
3:00 p UpNorth Group – FHall
6:30 p Praise Team Practice

Thurs. 3/14

10:00 a Worship MT – Conf
7:00 p 40 Days Small Group – AdEd
7:00 p Trustees – FHall

Fri. 3/8

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FHall