



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, April 28, 2024

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation to Worship – Psalm 145:17-19

Alice Cannon

Leader: “The Lord is just in all his ways and kind in all his doings. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desire of all who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them.”

All: Let us worship the living God!

Worship Songs - **“10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord)”**
“Faithful Now”

Message to the Children

Wayne Potter

Scripture Reading – John 21:1-19

Sermon

“We Are Easter People:
Living in the Power of God’s Forgiveness”
(A Meal, a Message, a new Mission)

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song – **“Abide”**

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 – **“Send 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, Judy Husby 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: Judy Husby, Shelia Conrad, and our snack volunteer.

Chancel flowers are placed by Bill & Ginny Dorner in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary.



10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, April 28, 2024

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Only Thou Art Holy”* by McDonald

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation and Centering Words

Our series, “We Are Easter People,” continues. The truth of Easter is not something to be argued, reasoned out, or simply contemplated. It is something to be experienced, enjoyed, and marveled at. Easter is meant to be lived... Every Day!

Ringing of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

LeRue Werner

Leader: Come to the vineyard of God.

People: Let us seek the living Christ, the vine of great love.

Leader: Drink from the waters of life.

People: We live in the light of God’s grace.

Leader: Come to the vineyard of God.

People: All are welcome here.

All: Come, let us worship together the living God!

Opening Prayer

LeRue Werner

All: God of love, plant us in the soil of your grace. Nurture us with the strength of Christ, the vine of everlasting life. Enlighten us with the wisdom of your Spirit, which flows through us today and all days. Abide in us this day that we may abide in you and live in your love. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn 268 – *“Crown Him With Many Crowns”*

Prayer of Confession

LeRue Werner

All: Merciful God, You know when we are afraid to love and to truly share the blessings that You have given us with others; You know when we are too cowardly to show mercy to those who have wronged or hurt us. Remind us again that perfect love casts out such fears. Surround us and strengthen us with your perfect love, even in the face of our imperfections. Imbue us with a love so strong, with such growth toward grace and mercy, that we may cast aside our pride and embrace the power of love. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon

LeRue Werner

Leader: Christ is the vine. We are simply branches. If we abide in Christ, Christ's words will abide in us. Ask for whatever you wish in Christ's name and it will be granted. In the name of Christ, you who seek forgiveness are forgiven!

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Passing of the Peace of Christ

LeRue Werner

Leader: Abiding in Christ's love, let us turn to one another and offer signs of forgiveness, love and peace.

Anthem – “*The Heart of Jesus*” by Hayes

Scripture Reading – John 21:1-19

Sermon

“We Are Easter People:
Living in the Power of God's Forgiveness”
(A Meal, a Message, a new Mission)

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 286 – “*Breathe on Me, Breath of God*”

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.
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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: Holy One, all that we have comes from you. You bless our lives with the companionship of your people, the freedom that comes from forgiveness of sin, the joy of thanksgiving for Earth and all its bounty. Turn us toward those in need, in the name of the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Closing Hymn 370 – “*This Is My Father's World*”

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, Joanne Teague 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: Don Reynolds, Janeen Noecker, Drexel Noecker, and our snack volunteer.

Chancel flowers are placed by Bill & Ginny Dorner in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary.

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.

Sincere Thanks – Jaime and I would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to everyone in the congregation for all of your prayers, cards, emails, and notes of care and kindness after the tragic death of our nephew, Luke. Your words of love and support are greatly appreciated as we navigate this difficult time in our family. Please continue to keep our extended family, especially Jaime's sister, Jenny, our brother-in-law Paul, and their other children, Hannah, Joe, and Will, in your prayers. Your continuing prayers are greatly appreciated at this time. – Pastor Jim



Did You Know...

The brick for the original building came from Mr. James Follet, an experienced brick maker who made the brick at his yard south of town. If you look closely around the building, you can see different shades of brick that indicate different additions.

From [Celebrate the Journey](#) by Stan Holzhauer. If you would like a copy of the book, please contact the church office.

What does Resurrection mean to you?

Sharing our Stories - We are looking for people who are willing to share part of their faith story, focusing on Resurrection. How have you experienced the power of Christ's resurrection in your own life and how does that shape how you live today?

We would like to highlight different resurrection stories as a part of our Sunday morning worship during this new series. Questions and doubts are okay to share too! Contact Pastor Jim or the church office, and let us know if you have a story to share. We would love to hear what resurrection means to you!

Wired Word – Beginning Again May 1 & 15

We meet at the Dam Shop on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 6 PM-7PM. Has the news been making you anxious lately? Do you find it harder and harder to decide what, if anything, you can do about it? Then, Wired Word is for you. Come and discuss today's latest topics and view

them from a Christian point of view. Current topics are sent in an article with suggestions for discussion and Bible references. If you do not receive the articles currently, just email Klaus Lehrer at klauslehrer@yahoo.com and he will send you the articles. We will see you Wednesday, May 1st. Join us for a beverage or a meal and enjoy an evening with fellow church members.

Gospel Concert – Sunday, May 19 at 4:00 PM

Mark your calendar now for a Gospel Concert on Sunday, May 19 at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Invite your family and friends, and don't miss this special concert!

Graduation Recognition – Sunday, June 2

We will be recognizing those men and women in our church family who are graduating from high-school, college, university, or from a specialized school at the 9 or 10:30 a.m. service. Please call the church office at 231-264-8167 or email us at info@erfpc.org to place the name of your graduate on our list.

Vacation Bible School 2024 Volunteers Needed – June 24-28

We are providing a 5-day Vacation Bible School for all children in Elk Rapids and the surrounding area and we need your help! If you can volunteer in any way during the week of June 24-28 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. please email Marcy Potter at marcypotter@gmail.com. Save the dates and plan to bring your children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors!

Buttars Flower Fund

The Deacons use the Buttars Flower Fund to supplement the cost of the flowers we use to keep our facility looking beautiful during the different seasons (especially flowers at Easter and poinsettias at Christmas). If you would like to make a donation to help with the cost of flowers, please write Buttars Flower Fund on the memo line of your check.



Did You Know...

Your Stephen Ministry has been sending to church members, families, and friends the Journeying through Grief, a set of four short books to people at four crucial times during the first year after the loss of a loved one. Each book focuses on what the person is likely experiencing at that point in grief, offering comfort, guidance, and hope. The books are also available in Spanish. The books are sent along with a letter offering comfort and contact information if further help is wanted. If you know of anyone who would be in need, please contact the office at 231-264-8167 or one of the Stephen Ministers.

150th Anniversary Picnic – Sunday, July 28, 2024

Following worship we will celebrate our 150th anniversary--we want to include our entire family of faith and also people who are and have been important to our ministry over the generations.

You can expect an invitation soon, but for now, please save the date.

AND if you can think of people in our community and beyond who should be included (think former members, staff members, pastors, students, etc.), please send a note to info@erfpc.org with the names and addresses by May 15.

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. Use this link: <https://volunteeraccelerator.ministryarchitects.com/ERFPC/survey.html> or scan the QR code.

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. 4/28

9:00 a Contemporary Service
10:00 a Sunday School & Youth – LH
10:30 a Traditional Service

Mon. 4/29

Tues. 4/30

Wed. 5/1

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

Thurs. 5/2

Fri. 5/3

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FHall