



## 9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, September 15, 2024

### Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation to Worship

Kady Peck

Leader: The heavens tell of the glory of God. The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.  
All creation sings God's praise!

**All: Come, let us worship God!**

Worship Songs - ***"All The Poor And Powerless"***  
***"Good Good Father"***

Passing of the Peace

*(Before you sit down, please turn and greet your neighbor. Also, please take a moment to sign the Friendship Pad located at the end of each pew and pass it along to the person next to you. Thanks!)*

Message to the Children

Wayne Potter

*(Children are invited to come forward at this time for the children's message.)*

Scripture Reading – James 3:1-12

Sermon

**"Taming the Tongue"**

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song - ***"O Come To The Altar"***

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 – ***"Oh For A Thousand Tongues To Sing"***

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, Jan Burns 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: Gary & Jan Burns, and our snack volunteers: Deacons are providing cookies in honor of Pastor Jim's birthday this week.



**10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, September 15, 2024**

## Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“O Come and Sing unto the Lord”*

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation and Centering Words

Leader: The heavens tell of the glory of God. The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.  
All creation sings God's praise!

Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Joanne Teague

Leader: The heavens shout of God's glory!

**People: There is so much beauty in this earth and in the heavens!**

Leader: Day by day we are reminded of God's creative love all around us.

**People: Day by day we are blessed with large and small visions of God's glory.**

Leader: Come, let us praise the God of creation.

**People: Let us sing and shout our praises of thanksgiving and joy to God.**

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

Opening Prayer

Joanne Teague

**All: Lord, we have come this day to hear your words of healing love and hope for our lives today. Enter into our hearts and minds through our worship this morning, and teach us how to follow you each and every day. Give us courage and strength to be your faithful disciples both now and always. Amen.**

Opening Hymn 641 – *“When in Our Music God Is Glorified”* (vs. 1, 3, 5)

Prayer of Confession

Joanne Teague

**All: Lord, it is easy for us to say that we will follow You; but then turn our backs and act as though our commitment to You does not mean anything to us. Through Christ, You challenge us to take up our crosses; but when we don't understand what that means, we just shrug and turn away. Forgive us for our lack of commitment and faith. Heal us of our greed and fears. Give us courage to be your faithful disciples and enable us to joyfully proclaim your healing mercies and your transformational love in the world today. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

*(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)*

## Assurance of Pardon

Joanne Teague

Leader: Friends, receive the healing love of Jesus. In Jesus' name, you are forgiven!

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## Passing of the Peace of Christ

Joanne Teague

Leader: Knowing that God has prepared a place for us; knowing that Christ has come to bring us peace, let us greet one another now in the power of God and the glory of Christ's peace.

(Please greet those around you with the words, "Peace be with you." Responding, "And also with you." After the Passing of the Peace, please take a moment to sign the Friendship Pad at the end of the pew, and pass it along to those who are seated beside you.)

## Anthem – *"The Meditations of My Heart"* by Hagenberg

## Scripture Reading – James 3:1-12

## Sermon

"Taming the Tongue"

Rev. Jim Porter

## Responsive Hymn 610 – *"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"* (vs. 1, 4, 5)

## 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. *(The ushers will now come forward to receive this morning's offering. Please place your financial gift, Connection Card, and/or Prayer Card in the offering plate as it is passed along the pew.)*

## 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: For your holy Word, O God, we give you thanks.

For your enduring Wisdom, O God, we give you praise.

For your call to speak truth, O God, we give you glory.

Grant us the courage now to share gifts of your love and grace with all people,

And may these gifts be used for the building of your Kingdom in the world today. Amen.

## Closing Hymn 682 – *"It is Good to Sing Your Praise"* (vs. 1 & 2)

## 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, Marcia Sumerix 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 & Sandy Davids, and Les & Joanne Teague, and our snack volunteers: Deacons are providing cookies in honor of Pastor Jim's birthday this week.

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](http://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](mailto: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.

**Thank You** – Thank you for the prayers that helped me through my recent tests and surgery. Your kindness and support have made such a difference. Thank you for all the cards, flowers, and meals. I am so blessed to have such a wonderful and caring church family! – Chris Schuler



### **Did You Know...**

Elk Rapids was the County Seat of Antrim County. The Court House stood on the northeast corner of Ottawa and Elm Streets and provided space for various organizations and churches to hold meetings.

Facts about the area and First Presbyterian Church from Adam Schuler.

### **Birthday Celebration of Our 90 Year Olds – Sunday, September 22**

Join us for a 90th birthday celebration! We have three members turning 90 this year – Jim Lagowski, Thelma Orzechowski, and Eunice Thompson. We will be having a special recognition and cupcakes on Sunday, September 22 during coffee hour between services from 10-10:30 am. This will be followed by a special recognition at the 10:30 am service. You can also join in the celebration by signing one of the cards beside the gift bags in the narthex or bringing your own card. Our other 90+ honorees are: Joanne Hoezee, Betty Holzhauser, Kenneth Klynstra, Bill & Lou Letsche, Jane Lund, Mona Nelson, Adam Schuler, Don Shurte, Bill Sinclair, and Phyllis Staley. Don't miss this special celebration!

### **Sunday, September 29 – ONE 10:30 AM Service followed by Youth Brunch**

Mark your calendar now for ONE 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, September 29. There will be a youth brunch in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service. Don't miss this special Sunday!

**THE CHOSEN is back with Season 4!** We will be starting on Sept 9 and running for 8 weeks on Monday nights from 6-7:30 p.m. Please sign up in the narthex if you would like to join us. The Study Guides are available in the narthex as well. A donation of \$10 per book is suggested. Even if you have not been involved in the previous seasons you can join in this season. Everyone knows enough about the life of Jesus to pick up the series anywhere.

**Dolly Parton's Imagination Library** – In a recent sermon, Pastor Jim mentioned Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. In this program children, birth to fifth birthday, receive a book in the mail every month at no expense to the parent/guardian. Antrim, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, and Leelanau counties are open to receive registrations. <https://dpil-gtregion.org> (For more information, contact Nancy Muhlig, 231-264-9434.)

**YOUR Stephen Ministry** – Over the past few years, YOUR Stephen Ministry has sent out over 50 booklets to those in our congregation and friends who have experienced a death in their family. This series of four booklets is sent out during the year after the death of the loved one with information on how to have a Stephen Minister walk with them through their grief. Thank you all, for your support of this caring ministry that brings Christ's healing love to hurting people.

**A Note from the Trustees** – Did you know that our annual budget includes a payment per member which supports the Presbyterian Church locally in the Presbytery of Mackinac, regionally with the Synod of the Covenant, and nationally with the Presbyterian Church USA? A \$40.00 per member contribution—also known as ‘per capita’--supports the important work of the Presbyterian Church beyond our congregation. We ask that all members of the congregation contribute annually this per capita offering in addition to your annual pledge to offset the cost of our congregation's participation in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Per capita envelopes are available in the narthex, and you may also select a “per capita” option in online giving.

**THESE DAYS devotional booklets for October through December 2024 have arrived** and are on the Welcome table in the narthex. Stop and pick up your copy today!

**Help Wanted!** Currently, we are looking to fill two staff positions – **AV Coordinator** and **Financial Manager**. If you know of anyone who has gifts and talents in these areas and who would like to become a part of a wonderful church staff, please let us know! You can call the church office at 231-264-8167 for job descriptions and more information regarding these positions, or email Ellen at [info@erfpc.org](mailto:info@erfpc.org) . Thanks!

### **Volunteers Needed!**

We are also looking for additional volunteers in the following areas:

- **AV Help** during worship at both services; Contact Josh McCann at [mccann.joshuap@gmail.com](mailto:mccann.joshuap@gmail.com)
- **Praise Team and Choir members;** Contact Kyle Ripley at [ksripley@gmail.com](mailto:ksripley@gmail.com)  
Or for the Choir, contact Cheryl Knight at [c509knight@gmail.com](mailto:c509knight@gmail.com)
- **Nursery Help** (one or two Sundays each month)

If you have gifts and talents in any of these areas--- and a willingness to help--- please let us know! Just call or email the church office at 231-264-8167 or [info@erfpc.org](mailto:info@erfpc.org). Thanks!

**Take the Survey!** Not sure where your gifts and talents lay? Or where you might be best suited to serve? Then, take our Volunteer Accelerator Survey! It’s fun, informative, and easy to do! Just scan the QR code to the left or click on the link:  
<https://volunteeraccelerator.ministryarchitects.com/ERFPC/survey.html> Thanks for your willingness to help out!



### **Opportunities for Serving Our Community at Maple Bay Farm**

As we look for ways to fight food insecurity in our area, the Outreach Team has several opportunities to serve our community at Maple Bay Farm. Here's how you can help:

- Daily watering is ongoing! Please turn off both main spigots after watering.
- This summer, Mondays and Thursdays starting at 8:00 AM.

We'll keep you updated as more opportunities become available. Hope to see you there!

**Community Cupboard – Community Cash is back!** Save your Village Market receipts dated between Sept 1, 2024 and May 30, 2025 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 left corner of the brown box outside the Community Cupboard or mail them to Elk Rapids Community Cupboard, PO Box 572, Elk Rapids, MI 49629. You can mail or drop donations in the brown box too! Due to your generosity the Elk Rapids Community Cupboard came in 2nd place this year receiving over \$3000.00 from the Village Market. 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.

#### **This Week's Activities**

##### **Sun. 9/15**

9:00 a Contemporary Service  
10:00 a S.S. & Youth - LH  
10:30 a Traditional Service

##### **Mon. 9/16**

6:00 p The Chosen – AEd

##### **Tues. 9/17**

##### **Wed. 9/18**

9:00 a Bulletin Items Due  
2:00 p UpNorth Group – FHall  
3:00 p Service–Autumn House

##### **Thurs. 9/19**

9:00 a Session Reports Due  
6:30 p Praise Team Practice  
7:00 p Trustee Mtg. – FHall

##### **Fri. 9/20**

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FHall