



One 10:30 AM Service • Sunday, September 29, 2024

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Kyle Ripley

Invitation to Worship (Psalm 8:1, 3, 9)

Marie Zender

Leader: O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and stars that you have established; O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

All: Come, let us worship God!

Worship Songs - ***“Come Thou Fount”***
“O Praise The Name”

Greeting One Another in Christian Love

(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 – Luke 24:13-35

Sermon

“The Gift of Having an Open Mind”

Rev. Karen Blanchard

Responsive Hymn 721 – ***“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”***

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: Generous God, thank you for the gifts you bestow upon us daily. Make us aware of each blessing that comes our way — and create in us the constant desire to be blessings for others. Bless what we bring before you, we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn – *“I’ll Fly Away”*

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, Jan Shurte 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 & Louise Pond, and Peg Burns, and our snack volunteer: Christine Dewey.

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.

Thank You – I wanted to thank everyone for all the cards and the 90th birthday celebration last Sunday. I’m looking forward to the 10th decade of life and seeing what it will bring. – Dr. Kenneth Kleyn



Did You Know...

The first minister of First Presbyterian Church, Rev. Joshua B. Hall, came to Elk Rapids from New York State to cure his asthma.

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

Today – ONE 10:30 AM Service followed by Youth Brunch

We have ONE 10:30 a.m. service today followed by a youth brunch in the Fellowship Hall. Don’t miss this special Sunday and plan to stay for brunch!

Women’s Retreat 2025 – We are beginning to plan for our Women’s Retreat in 2025. If you are interested in helping to plan this retreat contact Judy Brummeler at 231-838-4941.

THE CHOSEN is back with Season 4! We started on Sept 9 and are 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.

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 – The purpose of our Endowment Fund is to be permanent and self-sustaining, supporting First Presbyterian long into the future. Only the investment income is available for spending; the principal is not available to be spent—only to be invested. The amount of endowment spending available each year is calculated in January based on a formula established by the Endowment Committee and approved by Session. This available spending is then allocated in three distinct “buckets” – Mission/Outreach, New and Special Program Support, and Facilities. Grants are written by Ministry teams and submitted to the Endowment Ministry Team for available funds. Generally, all available funds are used every year.

Giving to the Endowment Fund is different than giving to a specific capital project, like the Welcome Project whose funds are used for that specific purpose. Usually, that’s immediate, but sometimes, like in the case of a big building project, the bills are paid out over a period of months. In that case, the funds for the capital project are also held in an investment account and earn interest until needed – in fact, we earned almost \$10,000 of interest income for the project because of your faithful and early gifts!

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!

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!

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. 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
- **Praise Team and Choir members;** Contact Kyle Ripley at ksripley@gmail.com
Or for the Choir, contact Cheryl Knight at 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. Thanks!

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. 9/29

10:30 a One Service
11:30 a Youth Brunch following
Worship Service

Mon. 9/30

6:00 p The Chosen – AEd
7:00 p Choir – FHall

Tues. 10/1

Wed. 10/2

6:30 a Breakfast Club – LH
9:00 a Bulletin Items Due
2:00 p UpNorth Group – FHall
3:00 p Service at Autumn House
6:30 p Praise Team Practice
7:00 p Session – FHall

Thurs. 10/3

Fri. 10/4

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FHall