

## 9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, October 13, 2024

### Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Minute for Mission – “Campaign for Kindness”

Mary Sawyer

Invitation to Worship

Polly Conrad

Leader: The fullness of God’s glory is manifest in the stars above and the earth below.  
Even though our lives are small and fleeting in the vastness of the universe,  
God’s glory shines in and through us.

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

Worship Songs - **“Available”**  
**“How He Loves”**

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 6:27-31

Sermon

Mark Holcomb, Director of Spiritual Life  
and other Staff and Youth from Eagle Village

Responsive Song - **“Gratitude”**

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?

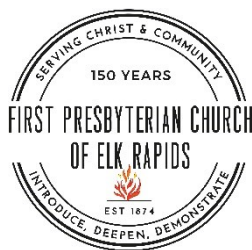
**People: We are called to: Introduce Jesus Christ to those who do not know Him;  
deepen the faith and commitment of those who already know Him;  
and demonstrate Christ's way of love in service to the world.**

*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: Gary & Jan Burns, and our snack volunteer: Judy Husby.



**10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, October 13, 2024**

### Order of Worship

#### Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“We Lift Our Voices”*

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Minute for Mission – *“Campaign for Kindness”*

Mary Sawyer

#### Invitation and Centering Words

Leader: The fullness of God's glory is manifest in the stars above and the earth below. Even though our lives are small and fleeting in the vastness of the universe, God's glory shines in and through us.

#### Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

#### Call to Worship

Ginny Dorner

Leader: Come into God's presence.

**People: All are welcome here.**

Leader: Come into God's glory.

**People: God's glory is all around.**

Leader: As Christ came before us,

**People: we come to worship and to pray.**

Leader: As Christ turned to God,

**People: we bring our anguish and our tears.**

Leader: As Christ came to serve,

**People: we bring our humble hearts.**

Leader: Come into God's presence today.

**People: All are welcome here.**

**All: Let us worship together the living God!**

Opening Prayer Ginny Dorner  
**All: Sing into our hearts, Creator God, as you sang your glory into creation. Speak to our minds with wisdom of old. Draw us into your presence, that we may remember who we are and whose we are. Amen.**

Opening Hymn 435 – ***“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”***

Prayer of Confession Ginny Dorner  
**All: Great and mighty God, create us anew this day. When we pose as greater and mightier than we are, help us be humble and of service in your name. When pride causes us to stumble, strengthen our faith. When fear and shame cause us to shrink, remind us that we are made in your image. Reclaim us as the people you have created us to be, and lead us back to the path of discipleship you have called us to walk. In your great and gracious love, we pray. Amen.**  
*(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)*

Assurance of Pardon Ginny Dorner  
Leader: Christ’s love and mercy are greater than our sins, reconciling us to God and to one another.

Passing of the Peace of Christ Ginny Dorner  
Leader: As Christ came to serve, so now Christ invites us to serve one another with peace and love. Share signs of this service with words of peace and acts of love.  
(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 Song of God”*** by Hayes

Scripture Reading – Luke 6:27-31

Sermon Mark Holcomb, Director of Spiritual Life  
and other Staff and Youth from Eagle Village

Responsive Hymn 684 – ***“Faith Begins by Letting Go”***

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: Great and gracious God, as you have blessed our lives and all of creation, bless the gifts we now return to you. Bless our hands and our lives, that they may serve you and your creation. Continue creating life and hope through our offerings and our ministries. May your glory and your grace shine through everything we give, everything we say, and everything we do. In loving gratitude, we pray. Amen.**

Closing Hymn 306 – ***“Blest Be the Tie that Binds”*** (vs. 1, 3, 5)

## 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: Les & Joanne Teague, Dave Nussdorfer, and Nels Nichols, and our snack volunteer.

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.



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

The Rev. Charles Daniels served our church from 1913-1926 even though he lost his eyesight in 1917.

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

### **New Sermon Series Coming Next Week – “The Campaign for Kindness”**

*“Just as water reflects the face, so one human heart reflects another.” – Proverbs 27:19*

Our world seems to be consumed with division – often typified in the colors red and blue. Rather than stay in our monochromatic silos, the Golden Rule in scripture challenges us to engage in conversation and seek to create whatever common good we can with our relatives, friends, and neighbors who we might consider to be on the “other side” politically and ideologically. As we attempt to come together, the idea is not that we are obliterating either one or trying to change each other, but rather we discover the beauty that can be created when we work together to make the world a better place. The “purple space” is where we cultivate kindness, compassion, humility, respect, and love for one another and for the good of all the world, no matter what.

Join us next week as we explore how we can show kindness to all in our new series “The Campaign for Kindness.”

### **Dedication of Our New Entrance – Wednesday, October 16 at 5:30PM**

Everyone is invited to join us at the front doors for the dedication of our beautiful new front entrance. We’ll have a simple service outside at 5:30 p.m. and then enjoy a time of refreshments with apple cider and donuts. Don’t miss this special gathering of praise and celebration!

## **All Ministry Team Budget Meeting – Wednesday, October 16 at 6:30PM**

This meeting is the first step in our budgeting process for 2025, as well as a celebration of all the ministries of First Pres. All ministry team leaders and/or team members are invited to participate in this important meeting on Wednesday, October 16 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

**October is Staff Appreciation Month** – The Deacons are celebrating staff appreciation month by inviting the staff to a luncheon with the Deacons later in the month. How can you participate? We will be placing bags in the narthex beginning October 4 for your cards and messages. A phone call or an invite to a staff member to go out to lunch or dinner are also good ways to show your appreciation. Let's show our staff how much we appreciate their support and dedication to First Presbyterian Church.

## **Candy Donations & Volunteers Needed for October 31 Halloween Event**

We're collecting candy donations, and looking for volunteers to decorate a station inside the Lighthouse and pass out candy. Contact Wayne Potter at 517-416-2813 if you'd like to participate or have questions.

## **Hurricane Helene Disaster Response**

We've all seen the utter devastation inflicted by Hurricane Helene in North Carolina, Georgia, and other parts of the southeastern U.S. Our hearts and prayers go out to all the people who have been affected by this terrible storm and the destruction left in its wake. We pray especially for those who have lost homes and loved ones in this disaster.

If you would like to give to help with disaster response and provide much needed supplies to those in need, you can go to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance website at:

<https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/hurricane-helene/> for the latest information on the Presbyterian Church's response and ways to give.

Finally, the most important thing we can do at times like these is pray. We encourage all people to pray for everyone who has been affected by this devastating storm:

*God of grace and compassion,*

*In these overwhelming moments of loss and devastation, we come to you with weary hearts that are both heavy and hopeful. We hold in our prayers and hearts all those impacted by the hurricanes, conflicts, and other disasters, and we implore for your mercy, peace, and healing to embrace our siblings all over the world. By your grace, bring comfort to those who are grieving, give strength to the exhausted, and provide shelter for those who have lost everything.*

*May your Spirit move in this, your creation, bringing peace amid the turmoil, and breathing hope into the places that feel broken. May your Spirit continue to be the quiet but constant reassurance that you are with your children and creation, even in the darkest moments, guiding us toward healing and restoration.*

*As we continue to see the news, we lift up the brave souls who are working tirelessly to rescue and assist. Give strength and wisdom for the tasks ahead. And stir our hearts, dear God, to step in with compassion, helping our neighbors, near and far, with kindness, love, and compassion.*

*In all of these disasters, we place our trust in your everlasting promises of your presence and care. Restore what has been shattered and lead us toward a path of renovation, peace, healing, and the renewing power of your always present Spirit.*

*We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.*

-Rev. Edwin González-Castillo, PDA Director

**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** – Did you know that approximately 86% of what First Pres spends from its offerings and pledges occur fairly evenly throughout the year? This includes items like salaries and benefits, utilities, office equipment and supplies and other building and ground routine maintenance costs. To maintain positive cash flow throughout the year, it is helpful for members to make regular offerings and payments on their pledges throughout the year, not only at the end of the calendar year.

**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](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!

**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. 10/13

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

#### Mon. 10/14

9:00 a PEO - FHall  
6:00 p The Chosen – AEd  
7:30 p Personnel – Conf

#### Tues. 10/15

#### Wed. 10/16

6:30 a Breakfast Club – LH  
9:00 a Bulletin Items Due  
12:00 p Staff Appreciation Lunch  
2:00 p UpNorth Group – FHall  
3:00 p Service at Autumn House  
5:30 p Entrance Dedication  
6:30 p All Ministry Team Budget Meeting  
6:30 p Praise Team Practice

#### Thurs. 10/17

9:00 a Session Reports Due

#### Fri. 10/18

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FHall