

## 9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, January 12, 2025

### Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Minute for Mission

Sandi Gray

Invitation to Worship

Jane Larsen

Leader: On entering the house, the Wisemen saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (Matthew 2:11)

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

Worship Songs - **“Come As You Are”**  
**“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 – Matthew 2:1-18

Sermon

“King Jesus and the Flight to Egypt”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song - **“King Of Kings”**

Ordination & Installation of Church Officers

Elders

Dick Gray (Class of 2027)  
Sandra Gray (Class of 2027)  
Janice London (Class of 2027)  
Betty Tezak (Class of 2027)

Deacons

Ginny Dorner (Class of 2027)  
Halle Misico (Class of 2027)  
Magen Misico (Class of 2027)  
Jennifer Snyder (Class of 2027)  
Susan Wiltse (Class of 2027)  
Diane Flatley (Class of 2026)  
Eunice Thompson (Class of 2025)

Trustees

Randy Asmus (Class of 2027)  
Tanner Blackmore (Class of 2027)  
Steve Steinbeck (Class of 2027)  
Andy Zandler (Class of 2027)

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.*

## Offering Prayer

**All: Loving God, you bless us with your love. You know each one of us and call us by name. Help us to live in confidence and trust, knowing that you care for us always. We bring these gifts to you, our source of life. Use them, we pray, that others may experience your grace and live free from fear. Amen.**

## Closing Song – *“Trust In God”*

## 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.**

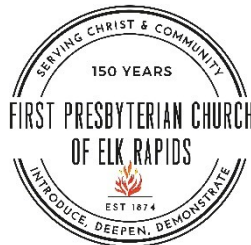
*For anyone desiring special prayers today, Mel Matchett will be at the front of the sanctuary to pray for you. Please come forward after the service.*

## Postlude

## **Worship Concludes – Service Begins!**

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Mel & Judy Matchett, and our snack volunteer.

**Chancel flowers** are placed by Betty, Adam, and Andy Tezak in memory of Robin Tezak’s birthday.



**10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, January 12, 2025**

## Order of Worship

### Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Joy in the Morning”* by Sleeth

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Minute for Mission

Sandi Gray

### Invitation and Centering Words

On entering the house, the Wisemen saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (Matthew 2:11)

## Ringing of the Historic Church Bell

### Call to Worship

Doug White

Leader: When we experience the goodness of life and see God's love all around us,

**People: We know that God is with us and calls us each by name.**

Leader: When we pass through difficulties and stress,

**People: We know that God is with us and calls us by name.**

Leader: When we are discouraged and feel lost and alone,

**People: We know that God is with us and calls us by name, and heals us by His love and grace.**

**All: Blessed be God who is with us always and calls us each by name. Amen!**

### Opening Prayer

Doug White

**All: Lord of Hope and Light, in the midst of darkness you offered light to people who lived in fear. Today that light comes to us as we journey through the season of Epiphany. Open our hearts this day and remind us that you have marked us as people of hope and light. Prepare us to serve you by serving others in your world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

### Introduction of Church Officers

#### Elders

Dick Gray (Class of 2027)

Sandra Gray (Class of 2027)

Janice London (Class of 2027)

Betty Tezak (Class of 2027)

#### Deacons

Ginny Dorner (Class of 2027)

Halle Misico (Class of 2027)

Magen Misico (Class of 2027)

Jennifer Snyder (Class of 2027)

Susan Wiltse (Class of 2027)

Diane Flatley (Class of 2026)

Eunice Thompson (Class of 2025)

#### Trustees

Randy Asmus (Class of 2027)

Tanner Blackmore (Class of 2027)

Steve Steinbeck (Class of 2027)

Andy Zandler (Class of 2027)

### Opening Hymn 463 – *“How Firm a Foundation”*

### Prayer of Confession

Doug White

**All: Creator of heaven and earth, we stand amazed at your power and glory. We are eager to worship you and offer our praise, but we are often reluctant to answer when we hear you calling our name. We sing our songs of tribute in the sanctuary, but often fail to see your presence in others and in the ordinary moments of life. Forgive us when we forget your promise to be with us always, O God. Renew us with the power of your ever-present love, and strengthen us to proclaim your justice throughout the world. Amen.**

*(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)*

### Assurance of Pardon

Doug White

Leader: Hear the words of our Creator, spoken through the prophet Isaiah: “I have called you by name. You are mine. Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.”

### Passing the Peace

Doug White

Leader: As you greet those around you, look at each person and offer these words from Isaiah: “You are precious in God's sight.”

[Please greet those around you saying: “Peace be with you.” Responding, “And also with you.”

Also, please take a moment to sign the Friendship Pad at the end of the pew and pass it along to those sitting beside you.]

### Anthem – *“What the Lord Has Done in Me”* arr. by Larson

Scripture Reading – Matthew 2:1-18

Sermon “King Jesus and the Flight to Egypt”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 692 – **“Spirit, Open My Heart”**

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.*

Offering Prayer

**All: Loving God, you bless us with your love. You know each one of us and call us by name. Help us to live in confidence and trust, knowing that you care for us always. We bring these gifts to you, our source of life. Use them, we pray, that others may experience your grace and live free from fear. Amen.**

Closing Hymn 69 – **“I, the Lord of Sea and Sky”**

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 usher: Dave Nussdorfer, and our snack volunteer: Susan Wiltse.

**Chancel flowers** are placed by Betty, Adam, and Andy Tezak in memory of Robin Tezak’s birthday.

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.

### **New Book Study Begins January 20 –**

#### **“Caring Assertiveness: Relating Directly, Honestly, and with Respect”**

Join us on Monday afternoons, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. in the adult education room January 20 - February 10 as we discuss practical tools to communicate and relate with greater confidence and care. Sign up at the Activity Center today!

**Financial Update** – To the many members who completed a 2025 Pledge Card, Thank you! We have had a tremendous response. Yet we still have 16 members who pledged last year who have not submitted commitments to our Church for this year.

We are currently finalizing the budget for 2025 and would appreciate hearing from you. No matter how large or small, just knowing you are part of our family is a wonderful gesture of faith. If you have not had the opportunity to send in a pledge card for this year, we hope to hear from you soon.

-- Blessings, Mike Husby, Treasurer

**Help Needed Setting Up Coffee Central for 9:00 AM Service** – If you are willing to help set up for Coffee Central for the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Service, please contact Lorraine Berak at 231-620-4869. Thank you!

**2024 Annual Reports Due Monday, January 6** – If you have not yet turned in your Annual Report, please do so as soon as possible. Please keep your report to one page, put it in a Word document, and email it to the office (info@erfpc.org). If you have any questions, please contact Ellen Merillat at the church office (231-264-8167).

**YOUR Stephen Ministry** – There are times when we experience difficulties: loss of a loved one, cancer, hospitalization, disability, discouragement, loneliness, and others. God never intended for us to go through these experiences alone. Stephen Ministers have received 50 hours of care giving training to minister to people experiencing a crisis, facing a challenge, or simply going through a tough time.

Did you know that over the years, 72 people have completed the training for Stephen Ministry and 21 people have completed the training to be Stephen Ministry Leaders. Your church family has been blessed with caring members who have studied and completed this training.

**Take the Survey!** Not sure where your gifts and talents lay? Or where you might be best suited to serve? 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!

**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. 1/12**

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

##### **Mon. 1/13**

##### **Tues. 1/14**

##### **Wed. 1/15**

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

##### **Thurs. 1/16**

9:00 ap Session Reports Due

##### **Fri. 1/17**

10:30a Choir Rehearsal – FHall