



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, February 2, 2025

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation to Worship

Jane Larsen

Leader: Love guides the way through every season, in every situation, and in every life.
Faith, hope, and love abide; these three, and the greatest of these is love.
(1 Corinthians 13)

All: Come, let us worship the living God!

Worship Songs - ***“Lord I Lift Your Name On High”***
“Lion of Judah”

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 Readings – Genesis 1:20 – 2:3

Exodus 20:8-11

Sermon

“Wintering: Experiencing Sabbath as Gift”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song - ***“You Never Let Go”***

Celebration of Communion

For Communion today everyone is invited to come forward by the center aisle to receive the gluten free bread and juice. After partaking of the elements, you may return to your seat by the side aisle.

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.*

Offering Prayer

All: Bless these gifts, O God, with your love, with your strength, and with your presence. May the ministries this offering supports be a sign of your love, strength, and presence in the world. Help us to become the people of God that You call us to be. Amen.

Closing Song – “Yes I Will”

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.**

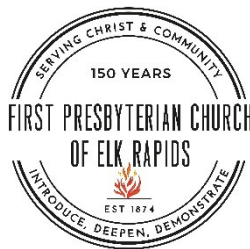
For anyone desiring special prayers today, Shelia Conrad will be at the front of the sanctuary to pray for you. Please come forward after the service.

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Lorraine Berak & Shelia Conrad, and our snack volunteer: Judy Husby.

Thank you to our communion servers: Laura Asiala, Hannah Barrow, Lorraine Berak, and Shelia Conrad.



10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, February 2, 2025

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – “*Lord of All Hopefulness*” (Glory to God Hymnal)

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation and Centering Words

Love guides the way through every season, in every situation, and in every life. Faith, hope, and love abide; these three, and the greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13)

Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Sandi Gray

Leader: Welcome! You are invited!
To gather around the table,

People: Touch a mystery,

Leader: Rest in God’s presence,

People: Around us, within us,

Leader: Causing us to smile,

People: To feel renewed,

Leader: To look with hopeful eyes,

People: To raise a joyful song of God’s love!

All: Come, let us worship the living God!

Opening Prayer

Sandi Gray

All: God of love and life, speak to our hearts this day. Speak words of wisdom and faith. Open our hearts and minds so that we may perceive your message of love, even when it's hard to hear. Strengthen our faith to answer your call, even when we don't feel confident or capable. Be our wisdom, our strength, and our love, that we may bring your wisdom, strength, and love to the world. Amen.

Opening Hymn 353 – *“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”* (vs. 1 & 4)

Prayer of Confession

Sandi Gray

All: God of grace, and God of love, You pour your never-ending love into our hearts and lives, and bless us each day with your overflowing grace. Be patient, we ask, with our impatience. Calm us with your abiding love in all of our encounters. Forgive us when we go astray and forget that it is your love that sustains us. Fill us again with the fullness of your grace, that we might extend loving forgiveness to others. In your name, we pray. Amen.

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon

Sandi Gray

Leader: Faith, hope, and love remain. But it is through the greatest of these, love, that we forgive and are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

Passing the Peace

Sandi Gray

Leader: Let us speak with words of love and with gestures of peace, as we share the peace of Christ with one another.

[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 – *“Remember Me”* by Adams/Andrews

Flautist – Christine Dewey

Scripture Readings – Genesis 1:20 – 2:3

Exodus 20:8-11

Sermon

“Wintering: Experiencing Sabbath as Gift”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 498 – *“Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken”*

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Offering Prayer

All: Bless these gifts, O God, with your love, with your strength, and with your presence. May the ministries this offering supports be a sign of your love, strength, and presence in the world. Help us to become the people of God that You call us to be. Amen.

Closing Hymn 817 – *“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”*

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: Pam Coleman & Ken Kohlman, and our snack volunteer: Betty Tezak.

Thank you to our communion servers: Ginny Dorner, Ken Kohlman, Don Reynolds, and Betty Tezak.

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.

All Hands on Deck! – Looking for volunteers to help after the service on Sunday, February 2 to empty the Narthex and Multipurpose Room in preparation for painting the week of February 3. This includes moving furniture, removing items from the walls and removing the carpet baseboard throughout the area. If you are available to help, please contact Pam Coleman at 847-445-8239.

Annual Meeting – Sunday, February 9

Session Calls an All Congregation Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 9 in person and via Zoom immediately following worship at approximately 11:45 a.m. to (1) approve the minutes of the 2024 Congregational meetings as printed, or with additions and/or corrections, and receive the 2024 Ministry Teams’ and Committees’ Annual Reports, (2) approve the pastor’s terms of call for 2025, (3) receive the Session-approved 2025 operating budget, and (4) conduct any other business that needs to come before the congregation.

Non-members are welcome to attend. Members are asked to attend. Please remember that our bylaws require that 10 percent (31 people) of our active membership be present for a quorum.

Year-end contribution statements are now available on the welcome table in the narthex or in your church mailbox. Please take a moment to stop and pick yours up.

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

Free Community Dinners – February 24, March 31 & April 28 from 5:00-6:30PM

You're invited to join us for our Free Community Dinner on Mondays, February 24, March 31 and April 28 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Chef Jeremy will be preparing a delicious dinner each month. Invite your friends and family and don't miss this excellent meal!

Book Study – “Caring Assertiveness: Relating Directly, Honestly, and with Respect”

Please note the new study dates. Join us on Monday afternoons, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. in the adult education room January 27 - February 17 as we discuss practical tools to communicate and relate with greater confidence and care. Sign up at the Activity Center today!

Volunteers Needed!

Both ACTS & Community Cupboard have immediate needs for volunteers.

ACTS – Acme Christian Thrift Store & Food Pantry, located in Acme, needs help in their thrift store, which is open Tuesday-Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with the greatest need from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. There's something for everyone to do! Examples of volunteer jobs include answering the phone, sorting and pricing donations, and working with customers in the thrift shop. Scheduling is very flexible – it can be an hour or two, a full day or occasionally as your schedule allows. To volunteer or ask questions, contact Carol Hockin at 231-267-3002 ext 5. Additional information is available at <https://www.acmechristian.org/volunteer.html>.

Community Cupboard – Located in church basement, Community Cupboard is open every other week on Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. and Friday at 8:30 a.m. and needs drivers to help deliver groceries to those unable to drive. All deliveries are within the ER school district. To volunteer or for more information, contact Pam Coleman at 847-445-8239.

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!

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. 2/2

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

Mon. 2/3

3:00 p Book Study – AEd

Tues. 2/4

6:30 p Deacons – FHall

Wed. 2/5

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. 2/6

Fri. 2/7

10:30a Choir Rehearsal – FHall