



## 9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, February 9, 2025

### Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation to Worship

Marie Zandler

Leader: The voice of God calls us this day. Christ beckons us to leave our old lives behind, so that we may love God with all of our hearts, minds, souls, and strength, and also to love others as we love ourselves. Will we heed Christ's call? Will we follow where He leads?

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

Worship Songs - ***"Mighty To Save"***  
***"Graves Into Gardens"***

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 – Deuteronomy 5:1-21

Sermon "Wintering: Practicing Sabbath in Community"

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song - ***"What A Beautiful Name"***

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: Gracious and generous God, with hearts full of love, may our spirits sing your praise. As we bring our offering before you this day, bless both us and our gifts, that we may bring your holy presence where it is needed most in your world. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

## Closing Song – *“Forever Reign”*

### 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: Shelia Conrad.



**10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, February 9, 2025**

## Order of Worship

### Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“O Day of Rest and Gladness”* (Glory to God Hymnal)

### Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

### Invitation and Centering Words

The voice of God calls us this day. Christ beckons us to leave our old lives behind, so that we may love God with all of our hearts, minds, souls, and strength, and also to love others as we love ourselves. Will we heed Christ’s call? Will we follow where He leads?

### Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

### Call to Worship

Doug White

Leader: Love is all around,

**People: God’s love deep within.**

Leader: Love in acts of sharing,

**People: Love in quiet listening.**

Leader: Love is all around,

**People: God’s love deep within.**

Leader: A friend to walk beside us when sadness comes,

**People: A friend to rejoice with us when joy arrives.**

Leader: Love is all around,

**People: God’s love deep within.**

Leader: Stronger than death,

**People: Setting loose a song of joy.**

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

Opening Prayer

Doug White

**All: Loving God, who looks at us with love, open our hands and hearts this day, so that we may let go of distractions and obstacles, and follow You to the springs of eternal life. Make this time of worship a holy moment when we sense your Spirit and get caught up in your grace. Then in turn, may we share your great love and grace with others. Amen.**

Opening Hymn 805 – ***“Come Sing to God”***

Call to Confession

Doug White

Leader: The proof of God’s amazing love is this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Because we have faith in Him, we dare to approach God with confidence.

Prayer of Confession

Doug White

**All: Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; both by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.**

*(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)*

Assurance of Pardon

Doug White

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, that you, and I, are forgiven! Amen.

Passing the Peace

Doug White

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 – ***“Name of All Majesty”*** by Fettke

Scripture Reading – Deuteronomy 5:1-21

Sermon

**“Wintering: Practicing Sabbath in Community”**

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 803 – ***“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”***

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.
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## Offering Prayer

**All: Gracious and generous God, with hearts full of love, may our spirits sing your praise. As we bring our offering before you this day, bless both us and our gifts, that we may bring your holy presence where it is needed most in your world. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

## Closing Hymn 694 – *“Great God of Every Blessing”*

## 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, Ken Kohlman 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: Susan Harvey, Kevin & Kim Hoch, and our snack volunteer: Susan Wiltse.

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** – A BIG thank you to the following people who helped prepare the Narthex for painting and carpeting: Gary Reid, Marty Reid, Melinda Hall, Matt Conrad, Anne Conrad, Steve Steinbeck, Tanner Blackmore, Lonna Steinbeck, Wayne Potter and Don Davids.

## **Annual Meeting – Today**

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.

Plus, we will do a brief review year of the past year, and look ahead to some exciting things coming in 2025! God is good! And we are blessed! Come, stay informed. Get involved!

Non-members are welcome to attend. Members are asked to attend. Please remember that our bylaws require that 10 percent (32 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 these excellent meals!

### **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. 2/9**

9:00 a Contemporary Service  
10:00 a Sunday School/Youth-LH  
10:30 a Traditional Service  
11:45 a Annual Congregational Meeting – FHall

##### **Mon. 2/10**

3:00 p Book Study – AEd

##### **Tues. 2/11**

##### **Wed. 2/12**

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

##### **Thurs. 2/13**

7:00 p Trustees – FHall

##### **Fri. 2/14**

No Choir Rehearsal