



## 9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, February 16, 2025

### Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation to Worship

Jane Larsen

Leader: Those who place their trust in God are like trees planted by streams of water,  
bearing fruit in due season and with leaves that are ever green.

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

Worship Songs - ***“Raise A Hallelujah”***  
***“Forever Reign”***

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 – Exodus 20:1-17  
Matthew 6:24-34

Sermon “Wintering: Practicing Sabbath as Resistance”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song - ***“Thank You Jesus”***

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 God, Source of every blessing, you have planted us beside living waters and nourished our souls with your ways of life. In gratitude and thanks for the fruit we have born in due season, we return these gifts to you. Bless them with your manifold grace, and multiply them in your mercy, that they may go forth to heal a world trapped in loneliness and isolation. In the name of the one who leads us into life, we pray. Amen.**

## Closing Song – “*My Lighthouse*”

### 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, Jan Burns 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, February 16, 2025**

## Order of Worship

### Countdown to Worship

### Prelude

### Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

### Invitation and Centering Words

Those who place their trust in God are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season and with leaves that are ever green.

### Ringing of the Historic Church Bell

### Call to Worship

Ginny Dorner

Leader: Blessed are those who trust God, whose trust is in the Lord.

**People: They are like trees planted by water, sending out roots by the stream.**

Leader: They have no fear of summer’s heat, nor do they wither in the sun.

**People: In the year of drought, they are not anxious, for their lives bear the fruit of righteousness.**

Leader: Come to the waters of life, all you who trust in the Lord!

**People: We have come to worship and to send forth our roots into streams of God’s living water!**

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

### Opening Prayer

Ginny Dorner

**All: God of blessings and woes, bless us this day with lives filled with love, caring, generosity, and deep, abiding hope. We pray that your kingdom will dwell among all people, and that we may be instruments of your love and your grace. Open our hearts to the joy of healing in a world filled with brokenness and pain. In the name of the one who taught us the ways of light and love, be in our worship today and in our very lives. Amen.**

Opening Hymn 396 – ***“Brethren, We Have Met to Worship”*** (vs. 1 & 4)

Prayer of Confession

Ginny Dorner

**All: Dear Jesus, gentle Guide, loving Friend, heal our foolish ways. Help us to forsake the advice of the wicked and direct us away from sinful paths that we too often follow. Help us to trust in You in all seasons of life, so that we may become like trees planted beside living waters, bearing the fruit of righteousness in due time. Help us to seek the ways of your Spirit in all things and lead us to the waters of eternal life. Forgive us when we go astray. Turn us again to the healing You so freely offer, and mend the brokenness in our lives and in our world. Amen.**

*(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)*

Assurance of Pardon

Ginny Dorner

Leader: God looks at us in our brokenness, and offers blessings to all who turn to the Lord. With the assurance of God’s faithful love, choose this day to be people of blessing.

Passing the Peace

Ginny Dorner

Leader: Those who place their faith in the Lord are blessed. Let us share this blessing with those around us as we pass the peace of Christ.

[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

Duet: Jeff Whittaker and Ginny Dorner

Scripture Readings – Exodus 20:1-17

Matthew 6:24-34

Sermon

“Wintering: Practicing Sabbath as Resistance”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 695 – ***“Change My Heart, O God”***

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

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Offering Prayer

**All: Gracious God, Source of every blessing, you have planted us beside living waters and nourished our souls with your ways of life. In gratitude and thanks for the fruit we have born in due season, we return these gifts to you. Bless them with your manifold grace, and multiply them in your mercy, that they may go forth to heal a world trapped in loneliness and isolation. In the name of the one who leads us into life, we pray. Amen.**

## Closing Hymn 819 – “*Be Still, My Soul*”

### Charge and Blessing

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**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, Ginny Dorner 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: Pam Coleman.

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.

### **Lenten Small Groups Starting March 10 for 6 weeks until Easter on April 20**

Lenten sermons this year will begin on Sunday, March 9 and include 6 lessons. Pastor Jim and the Adult Education ministry team have been working together to coordinate the opportunities for deepening our faith during Lent. Pastor Jim will be basing his sermons on the book [Entering the Passion of Jesus-A Beginner’s Guide to Holy Week](#) by Amy Jill (AJ) Levine. Ms. Levine is a Bible scholar who has concentrated her studies on the New Testament. She brings a scholarly in depth and yet totally readable approach to Jesus’ last week on earth. As a Jew she is able to intertwine the Jewish holidays and traditions that Jesus was honoring and helps us to understand more fully all the opposing powers that were at work.



If you are not currently in a small group and would like to join in the weekly discussions, please sign up in the narthex, scan the QR here, or go to the church website ([erfpc.org](http://erfpc.org)). We will be assigning groups beginning March 3. Please indicate if you are interested in an AM, PM, evening group or joining online. Books are a suggested \$10 donation.

### **Family Bingo Night & Dinner – Sunday, February 23 at 5:00PM**

You’re invited to a Family Bingo Night and dinner on Sunday, February 23 at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The Bingo is designed for all ages, and dinner is provided, so plan on attending this time of fun, food, and fellowship!

### **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”

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. 2/16

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

#### Mon. 2/17

3:00 p Book Study – AEd

#### Tues. 2/18

3:00 p Transportation – Conf

#### Wed. 2/19

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. 2/20

11:30 a Session Reports Due

#### Fri. 2/21

10:30a Choir Rehearsal – FHall