



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, March 2, 2025

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

- Coming Soon – “Entering the Passion of Jesus”

Invitation to Worship

Alice Cannon

Leader: By God’s mercy, we are redeemed and renewed to shine with the love of Christ.

In Jesus’ name, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Worship Songs - **“From The Inside Out”** **“Holy Forever”**

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 9:28-36

Sermon

“Transformed!”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song - **“You Are My King (Amazing Love)”**

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 Glorious God, shine through this offering that we now return to you. May our gifts and our very lives bless your world and reveal your love for all to see. In gratitude, we pray. Amen.

Closing Song – *“Graves Into Gardens”*

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.

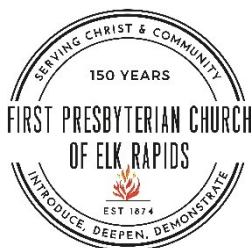
For anyone desiring special prayers today, Nancy Muhlig will be at the front of the sanctuary to pray for you. Please come forward after the service.

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers, Shelia Conrad, Anne, Harry & Polly Conrad, and our snack volunteer.

Thank you to our communion servers: Hannah Barrow, Anne Conrad, Shelia Conrad, and Mel Matchett.



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

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Come and Be Joyful”* by Vivaldi/Hopson

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

- Coming Soon – *“Entering the Passion of Jesus”*

Invitation and Centering Words

As God’s glory shone in and through Christ Jesus, may God’s glory shine in and through us with the beauty and grace of Christ’s love.

Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Sandi Gray

Leader: Christ has called us here,

People: inviting us to offer our praise and prayer.

Leader: May Christ’s presence be revealed to us in this time,

People: showing us the way to go.

Leader: May Christ’s glory shine in our worship,

People: so that Christ’s glory may shine in our lives.

All: Come, let us worship the living God!

Opening Prayer

Sandi Gray

All: God of glory and power, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us today. Reveal to us your wisdom and guidance. Manifest through us your Spirit of glorious grace and love. And make your loving presence known to all, through the ministries and mission of your church. Help us become the people of God that You call us to be. Amen.

Opening Hymn 307 – *“God of Grace and God of Glory”*

Prayer of Confession

Sandi Gray

All: Gracious God, we tremble in the presence of your glory and power. Strengthen our courage today, that we might look upon your love and stop shrinking away in fear. Embolden us to trust your grace, no matter how grave our transgressions or ashamed our hearts may be. Shine upon us with your mercy, that we may shine for all to see. Grant us confidence in both your grace and your abundant love. In your loving name, we pray. Amen.

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon

Sandi Gray

Leader: By God’s mercy, we are redeemed and renewed to shine with the love of Christ. In Jesus’ name, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Passing the Peace

Sandi Gray

Leader: United in the Holy Spirit, let us share signs of love and peace 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 – *“With This Bread, With This Wine”* by Mozart/Medema

Scripture Reading – Luke 9:28-36

Sermon

“Transformed!”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 525 – *“Let Us Break Bread Together”*

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.
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- 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: Glorious God, shine through this offering that we now return to you. May our gifts and our very lives bless your world and reveal your love for all to see. In gratitude, we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn 649 – *“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”*

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, Sandi Gray 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: Kevin & Kim Hoch, and Don Reynolds, and our snack volunteer: Pam Coleman.

Thank you to our communion servers: Betsy Argo, 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.

Ash Wednesday – “A Service of Healing and Wholeness”

Join us on Ash Wednesday, March 5, for a soup supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by a service of healing and wholeness at 6:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will offer special prayers for healing and wholeness along with the anointing of oil (James 5:14). For those who would like the imposition of ashes, that will be done immediately following the service of healing and wholeness. Make plans now to attend this special service!

If you would like to bring soup, bread or dessert, please sign up at the Activity Center in the narthex. See you at supper!

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). 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.

“For I know the plans I have for you...” – The 2025 Stewardship Ministry Team, Co-chaired by Peg Burns and Debbie McGee (Trustees), is looking for one or two at large members of the congregation to join our team for this sabbatical year. We are looking for creative individuals who are enthusiastic about why pledging and supporting First Presbyterian with time, talents and treasure is important. As a team, we do not solicit pledges or gifts on a person by person basis – you will not be asked to make “an ask.” In addition, the Stewardship Ministry Team is a support to Mike Husby, Treasurer, who holds all of the individual giving information confidentially. If you are willing to serve, please contact Peg Burns at kpcbarns@gmail.com or Debbie McGee at dmcmcgee24@gmail.com

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

You're invited to join us for our Free Community Dinner on Mondays, 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!

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 Needs Paper & Plastic Bags – The Community Cupboard Food Pantry is in need of paper and plastic grocery bags. They can be dropped off in the donation box in the Fellowship Hall or the brown outdoor box outside the Cupboard entrance. Thank you!

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. 3/2

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

Mon. 3/3

6:30 p Deacons – FHall

Tues. 3/4

6:30 a Breakfast Club – LH
9:00 a Bulletin Items Due
2:00 p UpNorth Group – AEEd
6:00 p Soup Supper – FHall
6:30 p Praise Team Practice
6:45 p Service – FHall

Thurs. 3/6

Fri. 3/7

10:30a Choir Rehearsal – FHall

Sat. 3/8

10:00a Visitation
11:00a Memorial Service for
Joyce Smith