



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, April 20, 2025

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation to Worship

Stella Barraw

Leader: The stone is rolled away. The tomb is empty. Christ is risen!

All: He is risen, indeed!

Worship Songs - ***“Come Now Is The Time To Worship”***
“King Of Kings”

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 28:1-11

Sermon

“The Joy of Easter”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song - ***“Trading My Sorrows”***

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: God of life and love, we are grateful for your promise of resurrection and new life. Your love is stronger than the powers of evil and injustice. With joy, we bring our gifts to you this day. Use our gifts and our lives to proclaim Christ’s triumph over death. Amen

Closing Song – ***“Praise”***

Benediction

Leader: We have heard the story.
Life triumphed over death.
Grief became joy.
Go now and tell the good news: Christ is risen!

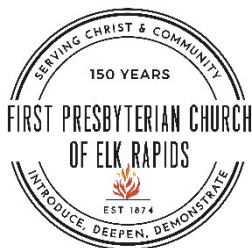
All: He is risen, indeed!

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: Curt and Deb McGee, and our snack volunteer.



10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, April 20, 2025

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – “*Resurrection Victory*” by Larson

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation and Centering Words

Leader: The stone is rolled away. The tomb is empty. Christ is risen!

All: He is risen, indeed!

Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

LeRue Werner

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made.

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Leader: This is the day of resurrection hope.

People: Let us rejoice and celebrate!

Leader: This is Easter Sunday. He is risen!

All: He is risen, indeed!

Opening Prayer

LeRue Werner

All: God of life and love, we are eager to hear the good news of new life. Enter our lives today and cast our fears aside. Lead us on a journey from despair to hope and from grief to joy. We are ready to celebrate and give thanks for your transforming love. We are eager to rejoice in the glory of this day! Give us Easter spirits and open hearts, for Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn 232 – “*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*”

Prayer of Confession

LeRue Werner

All: Come, O God, and bring new life to the dead places in our hearts. When we are weary and afraid, help us trust your never-failing love. May this love banish our fears, nourish our spirits, and deepen our joy. Amen.

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon

LeRue Werner

Leader: God's love is faithful and everlasting. This is the day that God has made. It is filled with new life and hope.

Passing the Peace

LeRue Werner

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen, indeed!

Leader: Please share a joyful sign of Christ's peace with those near you, by saying "Christ is risen!"
Responding, "He is risen, indeed!"

[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 – *"Jesus Is Alive! Alleluia!"* arr. by Shackley

Scripture Reading – Matthew 28:1-11

Sermon

"The Joy of Easter"

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 611 – *"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"*

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.
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Doxology – *"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Offering Prayer

All: God of life and love, we are grateful for your promise of resurrection and new life. Your love is stronger than the powers of evil and injustice. With joy, we bring our gifts to you this day. Use our gifts and our lives to proclaim Christ's triumph over death. Amen

Closing Hymn 238 – *"Thine Is the Glory"*

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

Leader: We have heard the story.
Life triumphed over death.
Grief became joy.
Go now and tell the good news: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen, indeed!

Benediction Response – “Let There Be Peace On Earth”

For anyone desiring special prayers today, LeRue Werner 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: Gordon & Susan Harvey, and our snack volunteer.

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.

Kids Easter Egg Hunt – Today at 10:00 AM

All kids are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt today at 10:00 a.m. (immediately following the 9:00 a.m. service). Please gather in the Fellowship Hall and we'll all proceed to the egg hunt together. Don't miss this fun event!

Free Community Dinner – April 28 from 5:00-6:30PM

You're invited to join us for our final spring Free Community Dinner on Monday, 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!

Save the Dates for Vacation Bible School 2025 – June 23-27

Plan to bring your children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors to Vacation Bible School from Monday, June 23 through Friday, June 27.

Vacation Bible School 2025 Volunteers Needed – June 23-27

We are providing a 5-day Vacation Bible School for all children in Elk Rapids and the surrounding area and we need your help! If you can volunteer in any way during the week of June 23-27 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. please contact Tara DenHerder at denherdeta@tcaps.net or 231-590-5346. Save the dates and plan to bring your children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors!

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 3 ways: In the lower left church mailbox slot near the 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 drop donations in the brown box too! Thank you for your continuous support.

This Week's Activities

Sun. 4/20 – Easter Sunday

9:00 a Contemporary Service
10:00 a Easter Egg Hunt
10:30 a Traditional Service

Mon. 4/21

5:30 p Parenting Dinner – FHall
6:00 p Parenting Class – AEd

Tues. 4/22

11:00 a Garden Club - FHall

Wed. 4/23

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. 4/24

7:30 a Men's Sm Grp – AEd
9:00 a Session Reports Due

Fri. 4/25

10:30 a Choir

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.

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! Scan the QR code or use the link: <https://volunteeraccelerator.ministryarchitects.com/ERFPC/survey.html> Thanks for your willingness to help out!

Easter Plants—To Honor & Remember

Jerry Blight & Felicia Schulte-Blight	In remembrance of Jerry's parents, Mary & Albert Blight, and Felicia's parents and Keith Schulte's grandparents, Helen & Alfred Gillish
Tony & Beth Brolick	In remembrance of our parents and son-in-law
The Conrad & Dempsey Family	In honor of John Conrad
The Conrad Family	In honor of Roger Conrad
William & Virginia Dorner	In remembrance of Nick Dorner
Gary & Edna Hubbell	In remembrance of Tammy Hubbell Papp
Mike & Judy Husby	In remembrance of Don & Barb Bellinger, and Derold & Jean Husby
Tom & Jennifer Klingler	In remembrance of Diane Klingler
Klaus Lehrer & Linda Frank	In remembrance of our parents, Frank, Elizabeth, Ray, and Adeline
Jim Porter & Jaime Klinger	In honor and love of our parents, Bob & Joy Porter, and Carl & Dian Latora
Gary & Marty Reid	In remembrance of our parents, Lou, Peg, Ray, and Patti
Greg & Jennifer Snyder	In remembrance of Pete & Heather Snyder, and Shelly Breimer
Les & Joanne Teague	In honor of our wonderful, faithful choir
Gloria Jean Wheeler	In remembrance of Jack & Scott Wheeler, OT & Viola Wheeler, and Glenn & Millie Miller
Chris & Sarina White, and Amy White & Pete Boet	In remembrance of Vern White
Doug & Kathy White	In remembrance of Ellen & Mike White, and Marge Farnham
Wonacott, Elmore & Asiala Families	In remembrance of Robert G. Wonacott, M.D.
Wonacott, Elmore & Asiala Families	In remembrance of George & Barbara Wonacott, and Samuel & Grace Polony