



## 9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, July 6, 2025

### Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation to Worship

Kady Peck

Leader: Jesus said, "Come away with me and rest a while." In this sacred time of worship, let us lay down the burdens we are carrying, so that we may find our rest in the renewing presence of God.

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

Worship Songs - **"Pour Out My Heart"**

**"All Creatures Of Our God And King"**

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

Kyle Ripley

*(Children are invited to come forward at this time for the children's message.)*

Scripture Reading – Mark 6:30-34

Sermon

"Invitation to Rest"

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song - **"Word Of God Speak"**

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.*

Closing Song – **"Blessed Be Your Name"**

## 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: Mel & Judy Matchett, and our snack volunteer.

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



**10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, July 6, 2025**

### Order of Worship

#### Countdown to Worship

Prelude – “America” by Mauldin

#### Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

#### Invitation and Centering Words

Jesus said, “Come away with me and rest a while.”

In this sacred time of worship, let us lay down the burdens we are carrying, so that we may find our rest in the renewing presence of God.

#### Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

#### Call to Worship

Sandi Gray

Leader: We are called by God,

**People: Drawn to the water of life,**

Leader: Sprinkled with God's love,

**People: Claimed forever in our baptism.**

Leader: We are deeply loved by God and never forgotten.

**People: God claims us and calls us precious in God's sight.**

Leader: Renewed by God's grace, we are sent by God,

**People: To befriend the world,**

Leader: To cherish both young and old,

**People: To comfort the grieving, and lift up the hurting,**

Leader: Forever singing God's praise!

**All: Come, let us worship the living God. Amen.**

Opening Prayer

Sandi Gray

**All: Loving God, give us open hearts today, as open and eager as a toddler's first steps. Give us open ears, that we may hear your words, fresh and wild, both comforting and challenging us. Give us open hands, ready to receive a blessing and to offer gentle care. Gracious God, show us the depth of your love made known to us in the waters of baptism and in the breaking of bread at your table of grace. Live in us today, as we gather to worship You. Amen.**

Opening Hymn 409 – ***"God is Here!"***

Prayer of Confession

Sandi Gray

**All: Divine Companion, You meet us every day, in ordinary moments of encounter, in the common hunger of life. Yet, how often we miss your loving presence, failing to look deep enough, failing to hear clear enough. We confess to setting up narrow boundaries, maintaining established prejudices, refusing to shift perspectives, and thus miss the new thing that You long to do in our midst.**

**Today, send your living water once again to wear away our rock-like defenses. Let our thirst for truth and hunger for the Divine take us to the heart of God, to the healing river of God's love. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

*(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)*

Assurance of Pardon

Sandi Gray

**Leader: Before we can speak for ourselves, God reaches out to us with God's amazing love and grace, and calls us God's own. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Passing the Peace

Sandi Gray

**Leader: As we have been forgiven by God, let us now in turn forgive others in the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Please greet those around you with the words, "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 – ***"Bread of Heaven"*** arr. by Lopez

Scripture Reading – Mark 6:30-34

Sermon

**"Invitation to Rest"**

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 486 – ***"Child of Blessing, Child of Promise"***

Sacrament of Baptism

Emmeline "Millie" Dukes Vanderkaay

Daughter of Alex and Libby Vanderkaay

Sister of Hendrik and Lennox Vanderkaay

Granddaughter of Mary (John) Spore, Rick (Kim) Dukes, and

Robin and Mark Vanderkaay

Goddaughter of Lauren Hamerink and Suzanne Daubin

Kenneth Grant Porter Krastes

Son of Jacob Krastes and Abigail Porter

Grandson of Jim Porter and Jaime Klinger, and

Sherri (Ben) Krastes and Robert Krastes

Godson of Caroline Porter and Hannah Allen

## 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.
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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 abundance, You are the vine, and we are the branches. May these gifts, and our lives, bear good fruit for your kingdom. Use them to bear fruit in this world: the fruits of hope, healing, justice, and joy. May our lives and our giving bring glory to You, today and always. Amen.**

## Closing Hymn 338 – ***"O Beautiful for Spacious Skies"***

## 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: Curt & Deb McGee, and our snack volunteer.

Thank you to our communion servers: Mary Anne Frey, Ken Kohlman, and Don Reynolds.

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.

**New Church Directory** – Did you know that we last published our church pictorial directory in 2019? It's time to bring us to 2025 and keep us current into the future! At its last meeting, Session approved moving to Instant Church Directory, a popular online church directory provider with a mobile and printable option that we can continually update. To prepare for the launch of the new directory, we would like to verify the information that we have on file is correct and up to date so a print out of current information will be in the Narthex for the next two weeks. Please help us by reviewing your information and making changes to it as necessary.

And don't worry, everyone will get a chance to update your pictures and decide what, if any, information you want included in the directory. More information will be coming soon! If you're willing to help in the organization and roll out of the new directory, please contact Peg Burns at [kpcbarns@gmail.com](mailto:kpcbarns@gmail.com).

**Sabbatical Information** – As you may know, Pastor Jim will be leaving on August 4th for a 12 week sabbatical. A Sabbatical Manual has been prepared for the congregation to answer most of the basic questions about a sabbatical. Those are available in the Narthex.

### **Early News for Upcoming Safety & Security Events**

A CPR and basic first aid training session will be held on Saturday, September 27 at 8:00 a.m., open to all members of the congregation. The class will include instruction on how to properly use an AED and respond to basic medical emergencies. Certification is available for up to 9 participants—spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Others are welcome to attend as observers and learn these important, potentially life-saving skills. A sign-up sheet will be available in the Narthex starting in early September.

We recently had an orientation to how to use pepper spray and the demand was so high we will offer another 15 minute class in and around mid-September. A sign-up sheet will also be available.

**Our new van needs you!** We are looking for members who are, well, driven to serve. Specifically, serving behind the wheel. Our Transportation Ministry is expanding and it is important to have a team of alternate drivers to be effective in serving the needs of the ERFPC youth and community. Sign up at the Activity Center. Questions? Contact: Deb McGee at 702-810-6995 or [dmcgee24@gmail.com](mailto:dmcgee24@gmail.com).

**THESE DAYS devotional booklets for July through September 2025 have arrived** and are on the Welcome table in the narthex. Stop and pick up your copy today!

### **An Invitation to Retreat – July 25-27 at Presbytery Point Camp**

We warmly invite you to Presbytery Camp on the shores of beautiful Lake Michigamme for a time of rest, renewal, fellowship, and – most importantly – connection with the presence of God.

The retreat begins Friday, July 25 with dinner at 6 p.m., and concludes with worship on Sunday morning, July 27 at 11 a.m. Led by Rev. Jim Porter, the retreat will feature worship, prayer, devotions on spiritual transformation, and time of fun and fellowship. **Families and kids are welcome!**

The retreat costs \$150 per person and includes two night's lodging at the Mac Lodge, five meals (Friday dinner through Sunday breakfast) and use of the camp facilities. Guests are also welcome to bring their own campers (note: there are no hook-ups, but camping on-site is allowed). Questions? Call 906-869-0925 or email the camp at [director@presbyterypoint.org](mailto:director@presbyterypoint.org) or contact Jim Porter at 248-505-9064 or [jporter@erfpc.org](mailto:jporter@erfpc.org). To register, go to [www.presbyterypoint.org](http://www.presbyterypoint.org) today!

### **Alzheimer's & Dementia Caregiver Support Group – 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of Each Month at 2PM**

For those caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's or dementia. Share support, encouragement, and guidance in a welcoming environment. The group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month from 2:00-3:00 p.m. **Please contact facilitator Kathy Dork at 248-568-4651** if you'd like to attend or if you have questions. **The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 18.**

**Community Cupboard** – 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!



#### **This Week's Activities**

**Sun. 7/6**

9:00 a Contemporary Service  
10:30 a Traditional Service

**Mon. 7/7**

**Tues. 7/8**

2:30 p Harbor Voice Prac.  
6:30 p Deacons - FH

**Wed. 7/9**

9:00 a Finance Comm. - Conf  
6:30 p Praise Team Practice

**Thurs. 7/10**

1:30 p Worship MT - Conf  
7:00 p Trustees – FH

**Fri. 7/11**

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FH