

## 9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, July 13, 2025

### Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation to Worship

Stella Barraw

Leader: In the quiet, God meets us. In the stillness, Christ speaks to us. In the silence, the Spirit stirs within us. Let every heart be still, for God is here.

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

Worship Songs - ***“He Reigns”***  
***“Come To The Table”***

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 – Psalm 46

Sermon “Be Still: the Gift of Silence and Solitude”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song - ***“Lead On Good Shepherd”***

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 – ***“Lion of Judah”***

Charge and Blessing

Leader: In the coming week what does God call us to do?

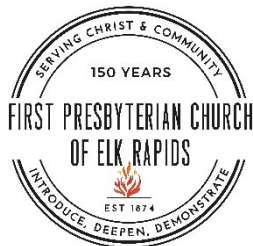
**People: We are called to: Introduce Jesus Christ to those who do not know Him;  
deepen the faith and commitment of those who already know Him;  
and demonstrate Christ’s way of love in service to the world.**

*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: Lorraine Berak & Shelia Conrad, and our snack volunteer.



**10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, July 13, 2025**

### **Order of Worship**

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Now Sing We Joyfully Unto God”* by Young

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation and Centering Words

In the quiet, God meets us.  
In the stillness, Christ speaks to us.  
In the silence, the Spirit stirs within us.  
Let every heart be still, for God is here.

Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Doug White

Leader: Jesus’ invitation to us is clear:  
Come away from the noise and clamor of the world and rest awhile.

**People: We come here today seeking rest for our souls.**

Leader: Lay down your burdens, your worries, your distractions.

**People: We come to be still and to know that God is God.**

Leader: In silence, in solitude, in sacred stillness—  
Let us bow before the Holy One who dwells within and around us.

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

Opening Prayer

Doug White

**All: Eternal God, You are our refuge and our strength, our help in times of trouble, and our peace in moments of calm. As we enter this time of worship, still our racing thoughts, quiet our restless spirits, and open us to your gentle presence. Speak to us in the silence, and remind us that we are held in your love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Opening Hymn 354 – *“Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory”*

## Prayer of Confession

Doug White

**All: God of peace, we confess that we are not good at being still. We fill our days with activity, our minds with distraction, our hearts with anxiety. We rush ahead, forgetting to pause and seek your presence. We confess our fear of silence, and our resistance to solitude. Forgive us, Lord. Teach us to rest in you. Help us to trust that even in stillness, you are at work. Renew us with the gift of your quiet presence. Amen.**

*(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)*

## Assurance of Pardon

Doug White

Leader: Hear the good news: God's love is steadfast. God's mercy is new every morning.  
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new.

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

## Passing the Peace

Doug White

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 – "You Do Not Walk Alone" by Hagenburg

## Scripture Reading – Psalm 46

## Sermon "Be Still: the Gift of Silence and Solitude"

Rev. Jim Porter

## Responsive Hymn 43 – "On Eagle's Wings"

## 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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## 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, in a noisy and restless world, you offer us peace and stillness. Receive these gifts as a sign of our gratitude. Use them—and use us—to share your quiet love in the midst of loud and hurting places. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

## Closing Hymn 546 – "Lord, Dismiss Us With Your 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: Keith & Peg Burns, 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](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 updated our church 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).

**Informational Presentation on Proposed New Library** – There will be an informational presentation on the proposed new library on Sunday, July 20 in the Fellowship Hall following both services. The presentation will be given by Pam Williams, Bill Donberg, and Paula Jorge for educational purposes only.

**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.

**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).

### 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!

### 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.

### 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. 7/13

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

##### Mon. 7/14

7:00 p Personnel – Conf

##### Tues. 7/15

2:30 p Harbor Voice Prac.

##### Wed. 7/16

3:00 p Service at Autumn House  
6:30 p Praise Team Practice

##### Thurs. 7/17

9:00 a Session Reports Due

##### Fri. 7/18

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FH  
2:00 p Alz. Support Group

##### Sat. 7/19

10:00 a Roger Gehrt Visitation  
11:00 a Roger Gehrt Memorial  
Service followed by  
luncheon  
2:00 p Betty Holzhauer Memorial  
Service followed by  
dessert