



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, August 10, 2025

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Kyle Ripley

Invitation to Worship

Jane Larsen

Leader: You have the power, O God, to set all captives free. In Jesus Christ you have sent your liberating Word into the world, breaking the fetters that enslave your people. Make us attentive to the good news of redemption proclaimed in our midst, as here we worship and adore you.

All: Come, let us worship God!

Worship Songs - ***“One Thing Remains”***
“Lord Reign In Me”

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 22:24-30

Sermon

“What Can I Do For You?”

Rev. Dr. Tom Cook

Responsive Song - ***“New Wine”***

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 – ***“My God Is Powerful”***

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: Jerry & Felicia Blight, and our snack volunteer.

Thank you to our communion servers: Laura Asiala, Lorraine Berak, Shelia Conrad, and Mel Matchett.



10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, August 10, 2025

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“The One and Only God”* arr. by Courtney

Welcome

Cheryl Knight

Invitation and Centering Words

Cheryl Knight

Leader: You have the power, O God, to set all captives free. In Jesus Christ you have sent your liberating Word into the world, breaking the fetters that enslave your people. Make us attentive to the good news of redemption proclaimed in our midst, as here we worship and adore you.

Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Doug White

Minister: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!

People: Serve the Lord with gladness!

Minister: Come into his presence with singing!

People: Know that the Lord is God!

Minister: It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

People: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!

Minister: Give thanks to him, bless his name!

People: For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Opening Prayer

Doug White

All: Lord, we come to you today with so many things on our hearts. You call us to be in relationship of loving trust with You and You offer your healing grace to us for those portions of our lives that are broken and injured. Help us to be open to your mercy and healing love. For we ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Opening Hymn 13 – *“The Mighty God with Power Speaks”*

Call to Confession

Doug White

Leader: The proof of God’s amazing love is this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Because we have faith in Him, we dare to approach God with confidence.

Prayer of Confession

Doug White

All: O God, we confess that we have not found ourselves lacking in knowledge of truth, righteousness, or justice. The faith once given to the saints has not been tried and found wanting. Rather, we have tried it and found it difficult. We seek easy answers and simple conclusions. We desire understanding without struggle, and morality without commitment and living without hard decisions. We often are angry because the knowledge of God places demands on our lives. Forgive us. Grant us grace to struggle, strength to endure, the confidence of knowing that to serve you we are called to serve each other, and the faith to understand that in order to be great in your eyes we must be servants.

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon

Doug White

Leader: Hear this good news! The Lord, Who calls us to communion, pours the Holy Spirit into our hearts to reconcile us in mercy and renew us in love.

People: In the assurance of God’s forgiveness in Christ, we celebrate God’s grace with thankful praise and joy.

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Passing of the Peace

Doug White

(Please greet those around you with the words, “Peace be with you.” Responding, “And also with you.” After the Passing of the Peace, please take a moment to sign the Friendship Pad at the end of the pew, and pass it along to those who are seated beside you.)

Anthem – *“Come into God’s Embrace”* by McDonald

Scripture Reading – Luke 22:24-30

Sermon

“What Can I Do For You?”

Rev. Dr. Tom Cook

Responsive Hymn 510 – *“We Gather Here in Jesus’ Name”*

The Sacrament of Communion

All who place trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to share the goodness set before us on this table and to participate fully in this celebration

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise

Communion of the People

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.

Concluding 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: Sovereign God, You hold the history of nations and the humble life of villages in your care. Preserve the people of every nation from tyranny and lead them to peace. Protect them and all of us in this time of upheaval and disaster, that all may enter your Kingdom that cannot be shaken. May these gifts given today be used to continue the work and ministry of Christ in the world today. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn 817 – ***“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”***

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 to our communion servers: Betsy Argo, Peggy Bushnell, Ken Kohlman, and Don Reynolds.

Thank you for your generous support! Your gifts help sustain the ministries and mission of our church. You can give by mail (404 Spruce St., Elk Rapids, MI 49629), online at www.erfpc.org (click “Giving”), or by contacting Treasurer Mike Husby at finmanager@erfpc.org. Thank you!

Nursery – Qualified caregivers welcome infants and children during the service.

Welcome Rev. Dr. Tom Cook This August

We're delighted to welcome Rev. Dr. Tom Cook back to the pulpit for the remainder of August! Many will remember Pastor Tom from his time as interim pastor here from August 2015 to April 2018. Let's take this opportunity to reconnect and warmly welcome him once again.

Pastor Jim's Sabbatical - Pastor Jim began a 12-week sabbatical on August 4. We're grateful for his faithful ministry and pray this time offers rest, renewal, and deeper connection to God. While he is away, we're pleased to welcome a lineup of gifted and familiar guest preachers, including Rev. Dr. Tom Cook, Rev. Dr. Karen Blanchard, Author Bette Dickinson, Rev. Homer Nye, and Rev. Peter Moore. During this time, please direct all questions or concerns to the church office at info@erfpc.org or 231-264-8167 rather than contacting Pastor Jim directly.

New Church Directory Picture Sundays – On Sunday, August 17 and 24, we will be taking pictures for our new directory between services in the Fellowship Hall. This will be on a first come, first served basis and are meant to be quick, casual snapshots – not formal perfect photographs. Remember that this is only one of the ways that you can get you or your families' updated pictures in the directory – you can also upload your own snapshot directly or send one to kpcbarns@gmail.com and Peg Burns will upload your picture for you. This will also be an opportunity to ask questions about the new directory app, sign up to get a printed copy when it is available (by September 30) and provide us with an email if you don't have one on file as this is the ONLY WAY TO GET ACCESS to the online directory. This directory is only for our church family and requires an email and password to access online.

Finally, no pushing or shoving to get your pictures taken – if we don't get everyone in on these two Sundays, we will add additional dates!

Share Your Gifts in Worship! Do you enjoy singing, playing an instrument, or offering special music? Or are you more comfortable behind the scenes with tech and AV? We're looking for people to join our worship and tech teams! If you're interested or want to learn more, contact Kyle Ripley at 616-888-9788 or ksripley@gmail.com.

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.


Resources for Grief Care – The Stephen Ministry has obtained the following information concerning grief counseling in Traverse City with several being related to specific loss. Your Stephen Ministry continues to be available for one on one support as well as contact via mailing of pamphlets throughout the year after a loss. There is a small display in the narthex with resources available. If you wish to have a Stephen Minister meet with you, please contact the office or a Stephen Minister.


Early News for Upcoming Safety & Security Events


A CPR and basic first aid class will be held Saturday, Sept. 27 at 8:00 a.m. All are welcome—certification is available for the first 9 to sign up; others may attend as observers. Learn to use an AED and respond to emergencies. Sign-up begins in early September in the Narthex.

LIVING ON - GENERAL LOSS GROUPS


The focus of Living On support groups is to express feelings and experiences related to the loss of a loved one in a supportive, caring, and non-judgmental environment. Grief and loss topics are addressed as they arise, depending on the interests of those attending the group.

1st Tuesday of the month 
6pm - 7pm
RSVP with Cindy Palmer
248-334-1323 • cpalmer@hom.org

2nd Tuesday of the month 
6pm - 7:15pm
Hospice of Michigan office
989 Spaulding Ave. SE, Ada
RSVP with Ryan Miller
616-356-5228 • rymiller@hom.org

1st Wednesday of the month 
5:30pm - 6:30pm
Hospice of Michigan office
199 Long Rapids Rd., Alpena
RSVP with Stacy Malenfant
989-358-4295 • smalenfa@hom.org

2nd Wednesday of the month 
11am - 12pm
Hospice of Michigan office
830 S. Otsego Ave. Gaylord
RSVP with Tavia Mulholland
989-705-2603 • tmulholland@hom.org

2nd Wednesday of the month 
1pm - 2:30pm
Hospice of Michigan office
932 N Mitchell St., Cadillac
RSVP with Will Gasper
231-444-3350 • wgasper@hom.org

4th Tuesday of the month 
10:30am - 11:30am
RSVP with Meredith Hartmann
734-709-3088
mhartmann@arborhospice.org

Due to high interest, a second 15-minute pepper spray orientation will also be offered in mid-September. Sign-up will be available soon.

Alzheimer's & Dementia Caregiver Support Group – 3rd 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 3rd 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, August 15.**

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. 8/10

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

Mon. 8/11

9:00 a PEO – FH
7:00 p Personnel – Conf.

Tues. 8/12

12:30 p Garden Mtg. – FH

Wed. 8/13

6:30 p Praise Team Practice

Thurs. 8/14

7:30 a Men's Bible Study - AE
7:00 p Trustees – FH

Fri. 8/15

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

Fri. 8/16

11:00 a Visitation for Don Shurte
12:00 p Don Shurte Funeral with
luncheon following