



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, August 17, 2025

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Tom Cook

Invitation to Worship

Grace Ward

Leader: God is the Creator of all things, and God calls all of humanity into loving community. So we, in turn, who claim our love for Christ, are invited to extend extravagant welcome in both word and action to all of God's children everywhere.

All: Come, let us worship God!

Worship Songs - ***"Trading My Sorrows"***
"Mighty To Save"

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.)

First Lesson – Jonah 1:1-17

Gospel Lesson – Matthew 14:22-33

Sermon

"Do Overs & Make Overs"

Rev. Dr. Tom Cook

Responsive Song - ***"Your Love Never Fails"***

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 – ***"Every Move I Make"***

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: Curt & Deb McGee, and our snack volunteer.



10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, August 17, 2025

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“He Is the Everlasting God”* by Martin

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Tom Cook

Centering Prayer

Rev. Dr. Tom Cook

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, the faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;
To be understood, as to understand;
To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

St. Francis of Assisi, 1181-1226

Ring of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship (Psalm 92:1)

Ginny Dorner

Leader: Sing a new song to the Lord!

People: Sing to the Lord, all the world!

Leader: Sing to the Lord and praise him!

People: Every day tell the good news that he has saved us!

Opening Prayer

Ginny Dorner

All: Lord we come into worship today as individuals living our own lives in a world with a diversity of challenges. In these moments we give ourselves to you that we might be united by your Holy Spirit and aligned with the gospel and with your purpose for us as a community of faith in this beautiful place. Let your Holy Spirit guide us that we might know the transforming power of Christ in whose name we worship. Amen.

Opening Hymn 720 – *“Jesus Calls Us”*

Prayer of Confession

Ginny Dorner

All: Lord, how we get knocked down in life. How we wonder what we have done to offend you or to deserve it when bad things happen. Lord, forgive us for turning the blame on you when life gets tough. Forgive us for wallowing in the past. For staring at closed doors and idly watching bridges burn. We know Lord that we have made mistakes. What we forget is that you forgive us. We know that bad things happened. What we forget is that you are not the cause, rather you are the redeemer, in the midst of life's dust and rubble holding the pieces and that you are calling us to put it back together with you. Forgive us. Redeem us. Shape us. Form us into Christ-likeness. Now hear these, our silent prayers.

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon (Colossians 1:13-14)

Ginny Dorner

Leader: Friends, He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

People: In Jesus Christ we are a forgiven people, let us forgive one another for His sake. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Ginny Dorner

(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 – *“Bless That Wonderful Name”* arr. by McDonald

First Lesson – Jonah 1:1-17

Gospel Lesson – Matthew 14:22-33

Sermon

“Do Overs & Make Overs”

Rev. Dr. Tom Cook

Responsive Hymn 834 – *“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”*

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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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 all creation, you offer us so many blessings. For creating us in your image and entrusting us to reveal your presence throughout the world, we thank you. Create blessings, even miracles, through the gifts we now bring, that others may sense your abiding presence and know your extravagant love. In gratitude and hope, we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn 686 – ***“God of Our Life”***

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, Ginny Dorner 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.

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.

Outdoor Worship Service – Sunday, August 31 at 10:30 AM

We’re taking church outside! Come enjoy ONE Outdoor Worship Service on Sunday, August 31 at 10:30 a.m. We’ll gather under the tent next to the parking lot—just bring your own chairs and dress for the weather. It’s a great chance to worship together in a beautiful, relaxed setting.

Blessing of the Beginnings – Sunday, September 7 in 9:00 AM Service

Plan to join us on Sunday, September 7 for a special Blessing of the Beginnings for the beginning of the school year for parents, students, grandparents, and friends during the 9:00 a.m. service.

Sunday School Kickoff – September 7, 10:00 AM at the Lighthouse

Join us for the start of a new Sunday School year! We’ll begin with a family breakfast at 10:00 a.m. (right after the 9:00 a.m. service) at the Lighthouse. After breakfast, parents, grandparents, and anyone interested are invited to a meeting to hear about plans for the year ahead, while children and youth enjoy fun activities. For questions, contact Wayne Potter at 517-416-2813.

Antrim County Women’s Conference – Saturday, September 13

Ladies mark your calendars now for the women's conference on Saturday, Sept 13 from 9-2pm. It is being held at the Bellaire High School auditorium. The featured speaker is Robyn Dykstra, an inspirational author, public speaker and Bible teacher. There are two morning sessions and one afternoon session. Pre-registration cost is \$20 per person with an optional \$10 box lunch available. Sign up in the narthex so we can share rides to Bellaire. Sign up for the conference directly by scanning the QR code on the cards available in the narthex or by calling 231-350-1244.

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!

Help Fill Our Board of Deacons and Session Vacancies for the Next Term

The Session of First Presbyterian Church, Elk Rapids, plays a vital role in guiding our congregation's spiritual life, mission, and ministry. Elders on Session help make prayerful decisions about our worship, outreach, finances, and the future direction of our church family.

The Board of Deacons seeks to show God's love in action. They serve and lead our church's congregation in sharing, fellowship, hospitality, and pastoral care.

Beginning in January 2026, we have two vacant elder positions and one vacant Deacon position that need to be filled. Serving on Session or the Board of Deacons is a meaningful way to deepen your faith, use your gifts, and help strengthen the life and witness of our church.

If you feel called, please get in touch with one of the members of the Nominations Team. We encourage you to prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve Christ and our congregation.

"Each one should use whatever gift they have received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."—1 Peter 4:10

Team Members:

Judy Husby jhusby54@gmail.com
Betty Tezak btezak55@gmail.com
Chris Schuler chrisevergreen1@aol.com
Tom Klingler klingler3@earthlink.net

Joanne Teague lesjo.teague@gmail.com
Lynda Nichols lyndanichols9788@gmail.com
Deb McGee dmcgee24@gmail.com

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.

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.

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.

Due to high interest, a second 15-minute pepper spray orientation will also be offered on Sunday, September 14 from 10:00-10:20 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Sign-up will be available soon.

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.

LIVING ON - LOSS SPECIFIC GROUPS

Living On - Young Adults

An open, ongoing support group for people in their 20s and 30s who are mourning any loss. Each group will consist of a time of education, sharing and support. This group is facilitated by Hospice of Michigan and Arbor Hospice Grief Counselors and is largely peer-supported.

1st Monday of the month ☞
6pm - 7:15pm
RSVP with Ryan Miller
616-356-5228 • rymiller@hom.org

Living On - Loss of Parents

An open, ongoing group that meets monthly to discuss grief and loss as it pertains to the death of a parent.

2nd Monday of the month ☞
6:30pm - 8pm
RSVP with Melissa McCreedy
734-794-5127
mmccreedy@arborhospice.org

Living On - Sudden/Traumatic Loss

An open, ongoing group for those that have suffered a sudden loss.

1st Tuesday of the month ☞
5:30pm - 6:45pm
RSVP with Kijrsten Boeve
231-929-1557 • kboeve@hom.org

Living On - Loss of Spouse/Partner

Come and share, or simply listen, as we discuss the various intricacies and many facets of grief after the loss of a spouse or partner.

1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month • 6pm - 7:15pm ☞
RSVP with Stacy Malenfant
989-358-4295
smalenfa@hom.org

2nd Thursday of the month • 6pm - 7:15pm ☞
Hospice of Michigan office
5177 US-10 Ste. B, Ludington
RSVP with Alexandra Irwin
231-527-0913 • alrwin@hom.org

2nd & 4th Thursday of the month • 2pm - 3:30pm ☞
RSVP with Kijrsten Boeve
231-929-1557 • kboeve@hom.org

3rd Thursday of the month • 3pm ☞
Burkholder Family Funeral Home
211 N. Pine St., McBain
RSVP with Will Gasper
231-444-3350 • wgasper@hom.org

Living On - Adult Child

An open, ongoing group that meets monthly to discuss grief and loss as it pertains to the death of an adult child.

2nd Thursday of the month • 10:30am - 11:30am ☞
RSVP with Will Gasper
231-444-3350 • wgasper@hom.org

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, September 19.**

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. 8/17

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

Mon. 8/18

Tues. 8/19

Wed. 8/20

6:30 p Praise Team Practice

Thurs. 8/21

7:30 a Men's Bible Study - AE
9:00 a Session Reports Due

Fri. 8/22

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FH