



10:30 AM One Outdoor Service • Sunday, August 31, 2025

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Tom Cook

Invitation to Worship (*Adapted from Guillaume Apollinaire*)

Stella Barraw

Leader: God said, "Come to the edge."

People: But they said, "It's too far."

Leader: God said, "Come to the edge."

People: But they said, "It's too dangerous."

Leader: God said, "Come to the edge."

People: But they said, "We might fall."

Leader: God said, "Come to the edge."

People: So they came to the edge...

Leader: God pushed them... and they flew.

Worship Song – ***"We Won't Be Shaken"***

Verse 1

**This world has nothing for me
This life is not my own
I know You go before me
And I am not alone
This mountain rises higher
The way seems so unclear
But I know that You go with me
So I will never fear
I will trust in You**

Chorus

**Whatever will come our way
Through fire or pouring rain
We won't be shaken
No we won't be shaken
Whatever tomorrow brings
Together we'll rise and sing
That we won't be shaken
No we won't be shaken
Oooh oh oh
Oooh oh oh
Oooh oh oh
No we won't be shaken**

Verse 2

**You know my every longing
You've heard my every prayer
You've held me in my weakness
'Cause You are always there
So I'll stand in full surrender
It's Your way and not my own
My mind is set on nothing less
Than You and You alone
I will not be moved, oh**

Chorus

**Whatever will come our way
Through fire or pouring rain
We won't be shaken
No we won't be shaken
Whatever tomorrow brings
Together we'll rise and sing
That we won't be shaken
No we won't be shaken**

Bridge

**We will trust in You
We will not be moved
We will trust in You
And we won't be shaken
No we won't be shaken**

Chorus

**Whatever will come our way
Through fire or pouring rain
We won't be shaken
No we won't be shaken
Whatever tomorrow brings
Together we'll rise and sing
That we won't be shaken
No we won't be shaken
Oooh oh oh
Oooh oh oh
Oooh oh oh
No we won't be shaken**

CCLI#764321

Worship Song – ***“Everlasting God”***

Verse 1

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord

Chorus

Our God, You reign forever
Our hope, our strong deliverer
You are the everlasting God
The everlasting God
You do not faint, You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak
You comfort those in need
You lift us up on wings like eagles

Chorus

Our God, You reign forever
Our hope, our strong deliverer
You are the everlasting God
The everlasting God
You do not faint, You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak
You comfort those in need
You lift us up on wings like eagles

Chorus

Our God, You reign forever
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Greeting One Another in Christian Love

(Before you sit, please turn and greet your neighbor. Also, please take a moment to sign the Friendship Pad. Thanks!)

Message to the Children

Wayne Potter

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

First Lesson – II Peter 3:8-14

Gospel Lesson – John 10:7-18

Sermon

“Get a Winning Lottery Ticket Here”

Rev. Dr. Tom Cook

Responsive Song – ***“The Heart Of Worship”***

Verse 1

When the music fades
All is stripped away
And I simply come
Longing just to bring
Something that's of worth
That will bless Your heart

Pre Chorus

I'll bring You more than a song
For a song in itself
Is not what You have required
You search much deeper within
Through the way things appear
You're looking into my heart

Chorus

I'm coming back to the heart of worship
And it's all about You, all about You, Jesus
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it
When it's all about You, all about You, Jesus

Verse 2

King of endless worth
No one could express
How much You deserve
Though I'm weak and poor
All I have is Yours
Every single breath

Pre Chorus

I'll bring You more than a song
For a song in itself
Is not what You have required
You search much deeper within
Through the way things appear
You're looking into my heart

Chorus

I'm coming back to the heart of worship
And it's all about You, all about You, Jesus
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it
When it's all about You, all about You, Jesus

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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.

Closing Song – “*This Is The Day*”

Interlude 1

**The day, this is the day.
The day, this is the day.**

Verse 1

**This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made,
that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.**

Chorus 1

**This is the day that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made.**

Interlude 2

**The day, this is the day.
The day, these are my friends.**

Verse 2

**These are my friends, these are my friends
That the Lord has made
that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.**

Chorus 2

**These are my friends that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.
These are my friends, these are my friends
That the Lord has made.**

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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, Judy Husby will be at the front to pray for you. Please come forward after the service.

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Randy & Peg Asmus, Eunice Thompson, and our snack volunteer: Marcia Sumerix.

Thank You, Rev. Dr. Tom Cook. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Rev. Dr. Tom Cook for preaching and leading us in worship throughout the month of August while Pastor Jim is on sabbatical. We are grateful for Pastor Tom's faithful ministry and the encouragement he has shared with our congregation. **Please join us after today's service for cookies, provided by our Deacons, as we celebrate and show our appreciation!**

Thank you. I would like to express my deep appreciation to my church family. These last four months have been really difficult and I would not have made it through those times without family and friends, You all were there with prayers, hugs, food, emails and cards. May our God bless every one of you. – Jan Shurte and our family

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.

Outreach and Mission Ministry Team Volunteer Opportunities

According to Food Rescue: "35% of households struggle with access to healthy food and 40% of good food goes to waste." **Gleaning** - to gather leftover produce after a harvest that would otherwise go to waste, is one way to alleviate this issue.

There are currently opportunities to glean fruit and vegetables both locally and in the surrounding areas. **Food Rescue's Healthy Harvest** program works to reduce food waste and address food insecurity. **Do A Little Good** is in contact with many local farmers to obtain dates when gleaning is available. All of the produce gleaned is given to area food pantries. You and your family can help make a difference by participating in gleaning fruits and vegetables that would otherwise go to waste.

Unfortunately, there is often only a 1-2 day notice of these opportunities. We are compiling a list of people who would be interested in participating in gleaning. Please provide an email address or phone number to Janice London (co-chair Outreach and Mission Ministry Team) at London.janice6@gmail.com or 330-936-5942 and she will notify you of available opportunities as soon as she is aware of them. There is also a sign-up sheet in the narthex. This is not a commitment to participate, just expressing a desire to know about the opportunities.

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.

Help Fill Our Session Vacancy 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.

Beginning in January 2026, we have one vacant elder position that needs to be filled. Serving on Session 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 contact a member 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	Joanne Teague	lesjo.teague@gmail.com
Betty Tezak	btezak55@gmail.com	Lynda Nichols	lyndanichols9788@gmail.com
Chris Schuler	chrisevergreen1@aol.com	Deb McGee	dmcgee24@gmail.com
Tom Klingler	klingler3@earthlink.net		

New Directory Available! Our new directory is now available online and a print version will be available by October 1. The directory is meant for our family of faith; it is not publicly available (like Facebook or other social media).

You can access the directory via the web or via your mobile device:

1. A free mobile app is available in the Apple® App Store and the Google Play™ Store. Search for “Instant Church Directory” to download. Important: Your email address must be listed in the directory before you can log in. This is for your phone, kindle or iPad.
2. To access the directory on your computer, go to <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/> and enter your email address as listed in the directory. Click on “Send Secure Sign-In Link.” Then check your email and click on the “Log in to Instant Church Directory” button found in your email.

If you have difficulty logging in, please contact Peg Burns at kpcbarns@gmail.com for assistance. You must have a valid email address on file with the church office to be able to log in to the new directory.

We will have Tech Help Sundays on September 21 and September 28 between services to help you download the app to your phone, iPad, Kindle, or other mobile devices.

The directory is designed so that you can add (and change!) your picture or your family’s picture at any time. There are 2 ways to do that:

1. Upload your own favorite photo using the mobile app or website. Under the menu setting, you will find an option to “Edit My Family”. This is where you can upload a photo, correct directory information, add additional information and make phone numbers or email addresses private.
2. Send a favorite family photo via e-mail or text to Peg Burns at kpcbarns@gmail.com or (616) 901-0960. It doesn’t have to be a formal picture – just one that you love of your family or yourself!

Would you like a printed directory? Sign up at the Activity Center. To ensure copies are ready by October 1, please submit your photo (if you’d like one included) by September 20.

If you have any questions, please contact Peg Burns at kpcbarns@gmail.com or (616) 901-0960.

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! The Transportation Ministry is building a team of alternate drivers to serve ERFPC youth and our 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.

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 • rynmiller@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 KJirsten 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 • airwin@hom.org

2nd & 4th Thursday of the month • 2pm - 3:30pm
RSVP with KJirsten 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

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 at the Activity Center.

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 at the Activity Center.

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. Please note that the next meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 26.

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!

Lakeland Elementary Back-to-School Drive – These are requests directly from the school social worker and office staff that support kids who come to school with shoes that don't fit or have holes. Pants are for kids who have accidents, come with holes in pants or get messy on the playground. Having these things on hand in various sizes really helps to solve issues quickly and give kids the dignity they need to feel confident at school and focus on learning.

Lakeland Elementary Back-to-School Drive

New or never-used pull on-sneakers
Kids' sizes 1-5 (ages 7-11).

Elastic waist band pants in neutral color.
Sizes for K - 2nd grade most needed.

August 28 - September 5

Drop-off Location:
Fischer Insurance in Downtown Elk Rapids during their business hours!

Questions? Email Ellie at kirkpatrick.eb@gmail.com

Youth Shoe Size Chart

Age	US size	Foot length
7 yrs.	1Y	7 5/8
8 yrs.	2Y	8
9 yrs.	3Y	8 3/8
10 yrs.	4Y	8 5/8
11 yrs.	5Y	9

General Youth Pant Sizes:

- XS (4-6 yrs)
- S (6-7 or 7-8 yrs)
- M (8-10 yrs)
- L (12-14 yrs)
- XL (16-18 yrs)

This Week's Activities

Sun. 8/31

10:30 a ONE Outdoor Service

Mon. 9/1 – Labor Day

Office Closed

Tues. 9/2

6:30 p Deacons – FH

Wed. 9/3

6:30 p Praise Team Practice

Thurs. 9/4

7:30 a Men's Bible Study – AE

1:30 p Worship MT – FH

Fri. 9/5

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FH