



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, November 2, 2025

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Special Announcement from Session:

Upcoming Transition in Family Ministry

Shelia Conrad

Invitation to Worship

Marie Zendler

Leader: As pilgrims walking along the road of faith, we come together in worship —
many voices, yet one body, traveling the same path toward the heart of God.

All: Come, let us worship the living God!

Worship Songs - ***“Come As You Are”***
“Give Me Faith”

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 Readings – Revelation 7:9-12

Philippians 1:3-11

Sermon

**“Life, A Journey of Faith:
Reflections from the Camino”**

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song - ***“By Your Side”***

Celebration of Communion – Bread for the Journey

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.

Minute for Stewardship

Betty Tezak

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 – *“Let’s Trust In Jesus”*

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

*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: Jerry & Felicia Blight, and our snack volunteer.

Thank you to our communion servers: Laura Asiala, Lorraine Berak, Anne Conrad, and Judy Husby.

Chancel flowers are placed by Lou and Nancy Sanford in celebration of their 57th wedding anniversary.



10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, November 2, 2025

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Crown Him, Lord of All”* arr. by Parks

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Special Announcement from Session:

Upcoming Transition in Family Ministry

Shelia Conrad

Invitation and Centering Words

As pilgrims walking along the road of faith, we come together in worship —
many voices, yet one body, traveling the same path toward the heart of God.

Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Joanne Teague

Leader: We are all pilgrims on a journey; we are travelers on the road of faith.

People: We come together to share our lives and seek the presence of God.

Leader: In the company of all God’s saints and surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses—

People: We come to worship God, who makes us one through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Let us worship together the living God!

Opening Prayer

Joanne Teague

All: Gracious and Holy God, you have called us to this place from many different paths, and yet we meet here as one body in Christ. Gather us by your Spirit as you gathered your people on the day of Pentecost. Open our hearts to one another and to you, that in our worship today we might glimpse your Kingdom — a community of grace, compassion, and joy. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn 334 – ***“With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring”***

Prayer of Confession

Joanne Teague

All: Merciful God, you call us to be your people, but we confess that too often we walk our own way. We cling to divisions, hold on to grudges, and fail to welcome the stranger or forgive our neighbor. We forget that we are one body, bound together in Christ. Forgive us, Lord. Heal our brokenness, and renew in us the spirit of community and love. Make us again your people — one in heart, mind, and purpose. Through Christ our Redeemer we pray. Amen.

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon

Joanne Teague

Leader: Hear the good news! In Christ, we are no longer strangers or wanderers, but citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made whole. Thanks be to God!

Passing of the Peace

Joanne Teague

Leader: Since Christ has made us one, let us share the peace of Christ with one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: 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 – ***“My Jesus I Love Thee”*** by Forrest

Scripture Readings – Revelation 7:9-12

Philippians 1:3-11

Sermon

**“Life, A Journey of Faith:
Reflections from the Camino”**

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 460 – ***“Break Thou the Bread of Life”***

Celebration of Communion – Bread for the Journey

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.

Minute for Stewardship

Betty Tezak

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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- 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.

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: Gracious God, we give these gifts as pilgrims on the journey of faith. Bless them and use them to share your love, strengthen your church, and bring hope to the world. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn 545 – ***“Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace”***

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, Joanne Teague 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: Norm & Mary Anne Frey, and our snack volunteer.

Thank you to our communion servers: Betsy Argo, Peggy Bushnell, Don Reynolds, and Joanne Teague.

Chancel flowers are placed by Lou and Nancy Sanford in celebration of their 57th wedding anniversary.

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.

Congregational Meeting—Today following 10:30AM Service

Session calls a Fall All Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 2 in person and via Zoom following worship at approximately 11:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall to (1) elect new church officers (Elders, Deacons, and Trustees), (2) present a Preliminary Budget for 2026, and (3) conduct any other business that needs to come before the congregation. Non-members are welcome to attend. Members are asked to attend. Please remember that our bylaws require that 10 percent (32 people) of our active membership be present for a quorum.

Stewardship Campaign—Grace, Gratitude and Generosity

Please join with your First Presbyterian Church family in our annual stewardship campaign centering on Grace, Gratitude and Generosity. Stewardship packets were mailed or sent electronically - if you did not receive one, pick one up at the Activity Center or contact the office at info@erfpc.org.

Remember to bring a God sighting of his Grace represented by a picture or phrase for the bulletin board this week and a new pair of socks to donate to Safe Harbor as a sign of our gratitude and generosity.

We will dedicate our pledges together on Sunday, November 23 but you can put them in the offering box or submit the electronic pledge form at any time.

Outreach and Mission Volunteer Opportunity – Gleaning

Did you know that 35% of households struggle with access to healthy food while 40% of good food goes to waste? One way to help is through gleaning—gathering leftover fruits and vegetables after harvest for local food pantries. Programs like **Food Rescue's Healthy Harvest** and **Do A Little Good** partner with area farmers to make this possible. Opportunities often come with only 1–2 days' notice. If you'd like to receive updates, contact Janice London (London.janice6@gmail.com) or 330-936-5942) or sign up in the narthex. This is not a commitment, just a way to stay informed.

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.

Resources for Grief Care – Stephen Ministry offers one-on-one support and grief resources, including pamphlets and a display in the narthex. Information on local counseling options is also available. To meet with a Stephen Minister, please contact the office or a Stephen Minister directly.

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.

Community Cupboard – Village Market Community Cash starts September 1st and runs through May 31st. Save your receipts and drop them in the church donation box (lower left corner of the mail boxes in the Narthex) or mail them to PO Box 572, Elk Rapids, MI 49629. Those receipts help us purchase up to 3 months of food for our families. Thank you!

Community Cupboard is open every other Tuesday and Friday with a self-serve system for those in need. Visit elkrapidscommunitycupboard.com or call Pam Coleman at 847-445-8239 for details.

Discover Your Gifts! Take our quick Volunteer Accelerator Survey to find where you can best serve. Scan the QR code or use the link: volunteeraccelerator.ministryarchitects.com/ERFPC/survey.html
Thanks for your willingness to help out!



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

This Week's Activities

Sun. 11/2

9:00 a Contemporary Service
10:00 a Sunday School/Youth - LH
10:30 a Traditional Service
11:45 a Fall Congregational Meeting

Mon. 11/3

7:00 p Sabbath Class – FH

Tues. 11/4

6:30 p Deacons – FH

Wed. 11/5

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

Thurs. 11/6

7:30 a Men's Bible Study – AE
1:30 p Worship MT – Conf

Fri. 11/7

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FH