



One 10:30 AM Service • Sunday, February 8, 2026

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Revelation Song”* arr. by Larson

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation to Community Dinner- this Tuesday!

Pam Coleman

Invitation and Centering Words

Stella Barraw

Leader: Jesus says we are the light of the world. We don't hide God's love—we share it.
God, help us shine with love and kindness today, as we worship You!

Ringing of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Doug White

Leader: You are the light of the world.

People: A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

Leader: Let your light shine before others.

People: So that God's love may be seen.

Leader: Come, let us worship the living God—

All: With joy, courage, and faith!

Opening Prayer

Doug White

All: Loving God, You call us to be salt and light in the world. When we are unsure, give us courage. When we are afraid, give us grace. When we are tempted to stay quiet, remind us that our lives can point others to You. Shape us today by your Word and your Spirit, so that our faith may be seen in love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Opening Song – *“Here I Am To Worship”*

Message to the Children

Shannah Vergote

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

Anthem – *“I Love You Lord”* arr. by Pethel

Scripture Reading – Matthew 5:13–20

Sermon

“The Gift of Faithful Witness:
Shining God's Light in the World Today”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song – *“My Lighthouse”*

Reception and Welcome of New Members

Kevin & Geney Heaton

Libby Thompson

Klaus Lehrer

Ky & Martha Webb

Daniel Smith & Lacey Matthews

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 – *“This Little Light Of Mine”*

Mission Statement

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.**

Charge to the Congregation

Leader: Go into the world shining with God's love. Share your faith with kindness.
Live your faith with courage.

All: Amen.

Benediction

Benediction Response – *“Let There Be Peace On Earth”*

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Don Reynolds & Ken Kohlman, our snack volunteer: Judy Husby, and our coffee volunteer: Judy Husby.

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 Treasurer@erfpc.org. Thank you!

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

ONE Service at 10:30AM – Today

Join us on Sunday, February 8 for ONE blended service at 10:30 a.m., featuring both the choir and praise team, with a lighter liturgy. Following the service, we will hold our Annual Congregational Meeting. Make plans to join us for this special Sunday!

Annual Meeting – Today following the Worship Service

Session Calls an All Congregation Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 8 in person and via Zoom immediately following worship at approximately 11:45 a.m. to (1) approve the minutes of the 2025

Congregational meetings as printed, or with additions and/or corrections, and receive the 2025 Ministry Teams' and Committees' Annual Reports, (2) approve the pastor's terms of call for 2026, (3) receive the Session-approved 2026 operating budget, and (4) 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.

Youth Group SUPERSERVE Sunday – Today from Noon-3:00PM

All youth are invited to SUPERSERVE Sunday on February 8. Come for youth group, stay for lunch at the Lighthouse, and then catch a ride with us to serve lunch to the homeless at Grace Episcopal Church in downtown Traverse City from 12 noon – 3:00 p.m.

Lent Is Almost Here—Sign up for a Small Group Today!

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which is February 18 this year. This year, we will be using Adam Hamilton's book *The Message of Jesus: Words that Changed the World* to guide us in worship and Bible study. As part of our Lenten experience, we are now forming small groups for deeper study, conversation, and connection. Please sign up for a small group today, and/or let us know if you might be willing to lead or host a small group. No special expertise is required—just a willingness to help guide discussion and create a welcoming space. Resources and support will be provided. If you are interested in being a part of a small group this Lent, please sign up in the church narthex or reach out to the church office at 231-264-8167. Jesus' words changed the world. They can change your life today! Come to worship and sign up today!

Lenten Small Groups – Sign up today!	
Day & Time	Group
1. Sunday at 10AM	Young Adult & Parents Group at Church
2. Monday PM	"Chosen" Group at Church
3. Monday PM	Online Group via Zoom
4. Tuesday AM	Women's Group
5. Tuesday AM	Women's Group
6. Wednesday PM	Online/Hybrid Group
7. Thursday at 7:30AM	Men's Group
8. Thursday PM	Women's Group at UpNorth Center

Ash Wednesday – "A Service of Healing and Wholeness"

Join us on Ash Wednesday, February 18, for a soup supper at 6:15 p.m. followed by a service of healing and wholeness at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will offer special prayers for healing and wholeness along with the anointing of oil (James 5:14). For those who would like the imposition of ashes, that will be done immediately following the service of healing and wholeness. Make plans now to attend this special service!

If you would like to bring soup, bread or dessert, please sign up at the Activity Center in the narthex. See you at supper!

Year-end contribution statements are now available on the welcome table in the narthex or in your church mailbox. Please take a moment to stop and pick yours up.

Free Community Dinner – Tuesday, February 10 from 5-6:30PM

Join us on Tuesday, February 10, from 5:00–6:30 PM for our Free Community Dinner featuring Comfort Food Casserole Night. Everyone is welcome to enjoy a hearty, home-style meal and good fellowship! Also plan to join us for the rest of the spring dinners – March 10, April 21, and May 19. Come as you are and bring a friend!

Help Us Share Comfort at Our Free Community Dinner – Tuesday, February 10

Our next Free Community Dinner is Comfort Food Casserole Night on Tuesday, February 10, and we'd love your help! You can be part of this welcoming ministry by signing up to bring a casserole or dessert to share with our neighbors. Homemade comfort food makes a big difference, and every dish helps us extend hospitality and care to our community. Sign up at the Activity Center in the narthex and thank you for being the hands and heart of Christ through food and fellowship.

Season 5 of *The Chosen* – Mondays at 6PM

We're excited to continue to gather for Season 5 of *The Chosen*! Join us Monday evenings, January 5–February 23, at 6:00 p.m. for an inspiring time of watching, conversation, and connection. Each week offers meaningful discussion and fresh insights into the life and ministry of Jesus. Whether you can join us every week or just once in a while, you're always welcome. Don't miss this powerful shared experience—sign up today at the Activity Center!

Church Family Tubing Outing—Sunday, February 15 at 3PM

Join us for a church family tubing outing at Mt. Holiday on Sunday, February 15 at 3:00 p.m.! After seeing how much fun the youth group had last month, we're excited to open this event to the whole church family. Children are encouraged to attend (must be at least 42" tall), and all elementary-age students must have a parent present. Please RSVP to Shannah at 231-342-9098. An online waiver is required, and completing it ahead of time is strongly encouraged.

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!

Thanks to feedback from a recent client survey, the Elk Rapids Community Cupboard is expanding its hours to ensure greater accessibility. It will now be open every other Saturday from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., starting November 22. These new hours are in addition to existing hours every other week on Tuesdays from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Visit elkrapidscommunitycupboard.com or call Pam Coleman at 847-445-8239 for more information.

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. 2/8

10:00 a Youth – LH
10:30 a ONE Blended Service
11:45 a Annual Congregational Meeting – FH

Mon. 2/9

6:00 p The Chosen

Tues. 2/10

5:00 p Free Community Dinner

Wed. 2/11

6:30 p Praise Team Prac.

Thurs. 2/12

7:30 a Men's Bible Study – AE
7:00 p Trustee Meeting – FH

Fri. 2/13

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FH