



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, February 15, 2026

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Special Announcement for “The Message of Jesus” – Small Groups begin Next Week!

Invitation to Worship

Marie Zandler

Leader: Come and rest in God’s abundant grace. As we come to worship today, let us lay down judgment and take up mercy instead, trusting that God’s love is wide enough for us all.

All: Come, let us worship the living God!

Worship Song - **“Praise”**
“Yes I Will”

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

Shannah Vergote

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

Scripture Reading – Matthew 5:21-26; 43-48

Sermon

“The Gift of God’s Abundant Grace”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song - **“Way Maker”**

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 Is The Day”**

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 now in the way of Jesus—slow to judge, quick to forgive, eager to seek reconciliation. Love your neighbor, love the stranger, and dare to love even your enemies, trusting that God’s grace will meet you along the way. Go in peace, and live as children of your loving God.

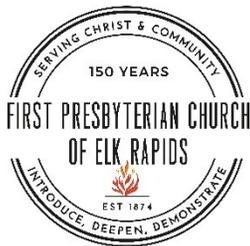
All: Amen.

Benediction

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Gary & Jan Burns, our snack volunteer: Bonnie Johnson, and our coffee volunteer: Bonnie Johnson.



10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, February 15, 2026

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Look to the Day”* by Rutter

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Special Announcement for “The Message of Jesus” – Small Groups begin Next Week!

Invitation and Centering Words

Come and rest in God’s abundant grace. As we come to worship today, let us lay down judgment and take up mercy instead, trusting that God’s love is wide enough for us all.

Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Ginny Dorner

Leader: Come, all who are weary of anger and division.

People: We come seeking the peace of Christ.

Leader: Come, all who long for mercy that is stronger than judgment.

People: We come trusting in God’s grace.

Leader: Come, all who desire to learn the way of love—even for enemies.

People: We come to follow Jesus, who teaches us a better way.

All: Come, let us worship God, whose love knows no boundaries.

Opening Prayer

Ginny Dorner

All: Gracious and holy God, you call us into a way of life that is deeper than rules and more demanding than we often expect. You call us to examine our hearts, to seek reconciliation before righteousness, and to love not only those who love us, but even those we find difficult to understand. As we worship you today, open our hearts to your transforming grace. Teach us to see others as you see them, to let go of judgment, and to grow into the love you have shown us in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn 645 – *“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”*

Prayer of Confession

Ginny Dorner

All: Merciful God, Jesus teaches us that the roots of violence and division lie not only in our actions, but also in our hearts and our words. We confess that we are quick to judge and slow to understand. We hold onto anger, nurture resentment, and speak words that wound rather than heal. We confess that loving our enemies feels beyond us, and praying for those who oppose us feels costly. Yet You call us to love as You love—and to forgive others as You have forgiven us—freely, generously, and without condition. Forgive us, O God. Create in us clean hearts. Teach us the way of reconciliation, and lead us into the fullness of your peace. We pray in silence...

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon

Ginny Dorner

Leader: Hear the good news: God’s love is deeper than our failure, and God’s mercy is stronger than our judgment. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and set free.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Ginny Dorner

Leader: Christ calls us to reconciliation and peace. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you!

Leader: Let us share signs of Christ’s peace with one another.

(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 – *“Who But the Lord?”* by Courtney

Scripture Reading – Matthew 5:21-26; 43-48

Sermon

“The Gift of God’s Abundant Grace”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 738 – *“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”*

Ordination & Installation of Church Officers

Elders

Geney Heaton (Class of 2028)

Chris Schuler (Class of 2028)

Trustees

Ron Dunbar (Class of 2026)

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

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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: Generous God, you have given us more than we could ever earn—grace that forgives, love that welcomes, and mercy that restores. As we offer these gifts, we give ourselves as well. Use what we bring—our time, our resources, our lives—to build a community shaped by reconciliation, a world marked by compassion, and a church that reflects your boundless love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Hymn 819 – *“Be Still My Soul”*

Mission Statement

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Charge to the Congregation

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All: Amen.

Benediction

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

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Rick Welsh & Don Reynolds, our snack volunteer: Susan Wiltse, and our coffee volunteer: Bonnie Johnson.

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!

Thank You, Community Dinner Volunteers! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make our first Community Dinner this past Tuesday such a wonderful success! From those who planned and prepared the meal, to the cooks and bakers who shared their time and talents, to the many hands who set up, served, and cleaned up—your generosity made all the difference.

Because of you, we were able to serve 150 dinners and create a warm, welcoming evening of food and fellowship for our community. It truly was a great night! We are so grateful for the way you share Christ’s love through hospitality and service. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus!

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

Church Family Tubing Outing—Today 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.



Lent is Almost Here -- Sign up for a Small Group Today!

Lent begins on February 18th, Ash Wednesday. 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. We are now forming groups for deeper study, conversation and connection that will meet beginning the week of February 22nd and ending the week of March 29th. Unable to come to all sessions due to your schedule? That's okay! We would still like you to join us! For those that are able, we will collect a \$10 donation to offset the cost of the book.



If you are interested in being part of a small group this lent, please sign up in the church narthex, use this QR code to fill out an electronic form, or reach out to the church office at 231-264-8167. If you have any questions, please contact Christine Kincaid Dewey at kincaiddewey@gmail.com and she will help you get started. Jesus' words changed the world. They can change your life today too! **Sign up today!**

Group #	Day/Time	Location	Group Type	Leader
1	Sundays 10:00 AM	Lighthouse	Parents	Hannah Barrow & Jeremy Cannon
2	Mondays 6:30 PM	Church	All	Christine Kincaid Dewey
3	Mondays 7:00 PM	Zoom	All	Marcia Sumerix
4	Tuesdays 9:00 AM	Church	Women	Jan Burns
5	Tuesdays 10:00 AM	Church	Women	Jan Burns
6	Tuesdays 7:00 PM	Argos Home in Kewadin	All	Jim & Betsy Argo
7	Wednesday 7:45 PM	Zoom	All	Pastor Jim & Kyle Ripley
8	Thursdays 7:30 AM	Church	Men	Klaus Lehrer & Ken Kohlman
9	Thursdays 6:30 PM	Up North Properties (ER)	Women in Midlife	Shannon VanDenBerge
10	Fridays 2:00 PM	Church	All	Pam Coleman

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!

We’re Hiring – Director of Creative AV Content for Worship & Social Media Marketing

We are looking for a creative, spiritually mature Christian to create engaging audio-visual content that supports and enhances worship services and expands the church’s digital presence at First Presbyterian Church, Elk Rapids. The ideal candidate will have experience in live-streaming platforms, audio-visual production, video editing, graphic design and ability to work collaboratively with others. 8 hours per week. Salary based on experience. For a full job description and application, please contact the church office at 231-264-8167 or info@erfpc.org.

Season 5 of *The Chosen* on Mondays – Join us Monday evenings, January 5–February 23, at 6:00 p.m. as we continue Season 5 of *The Chosen*. Each week includes viewing, conversation, and fresh insight into the life and ministry of Jesus. Come every week or whenever you can—you’re always welcome!

Free Community Dinners – Tuesday, March 10 from 5-6:30PM

Plan to join us for our next Free Community Dinner on Tuesday, March 10 from 5:00–6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome to enjoy a delicious meal and good fellowship! Also plan to join us for the rest of the spring dinners – April 21, and May 19. Come as you are and bring a friend!

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.

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

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 runs September 1–May 31. Please save your receipts and drop them in the church donation box in the Narthex or mail them to PO Box 572, Elk Rapids, MI 49629. Your receipts help provide up to three months of food for local families—thank you!

The Elk Rapids Community Cupboard is expanding hours starting November 22 and will be open every other Saturday from 9:00–11:00 a.m., in addition to regular hours on alternating Tuesdays (4:00–6:00 p.m.) and Fridays (8:30–9:30 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!

This Week's Activities

Sun. 2/15

9:00 a Contemporary Service
10:00 a SS & Youth – LH
10:30 a Traditional Service
3:00 p Family Tubing at Mt. Holiday

Mon. 2/16

5:00 p The Chosen

Tues. 2/17

Wed. 2/18

3:00 p Service at Autumn House
6:15 p Soup Supper – FH
6:30 p Praise Team Prac.
7:00 p Ash Wed. Service – FH

Thurs. 2/19

7:30 a Men's Bible Study – AE
9:00 a Session Report Due

Fri. 2/20

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