



## 9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, March 29, 2026

### Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation to Worship

Ben Vergote

Leader: Hosanna is on our lips today, yet we know the road leads to the cross.  
On this Palm Sunday, let us worship the One who comes in humility—  
bringing peace, love, and salvation to all.

**All: Come, let us worship the living God!**

Worship Song - **“Come Let Us Worship And Bow Down”**  
**“Come Now Is The Time To Worship”**  
**“Beautiful One”**

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 21:1-11

Sermon

“The Power of Humility”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song - **“Indescribable”**

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 with Children

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 peace,  
following the One who entered Jerusalem with both humility and courage.  
Let us walk the road of Holy Week with Christ—  
not only in celebration, but in faithfulness—  
Bearing witness to his love,  
serving with compassion,  
and trusting in the promise that beyond the cross  
lies resurrection and new life.

**All: Amen.**

## Benediction

## Postlude

### **Worship Concludes – Service Begins!**

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Shelia Conrad & Mark Weber, our snack volunteer: Shelia Conrad, and our coffee volunteer: Shelia Conrad.



**10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, March 29, 2026**

## Order of Worship

### Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Let the People Sing Hosanna!”* by Johnson

### Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

### Invitation and Centering Words

Hosanna is on our lips today, yet we know the road leads to the cross. On this Palm Sunday, let us worship the One who comes in humility—bringing peace, love, and salvation to all.

### Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

### Call to Worship

Ginny Dorner

*(waving palm branches)*

Leader: Lift up your voices, O people of God! Shout Hosanna!

**People: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Leader: Rejoice, for your King comes to you—

**People: Humble and riding on a donkey.**

Leader: Not in power, but in peace; not in might, but in love.

**People: We welcome Christ with joy, even as we follow him to the cross.**

Leader: Sing Hosanna in the highest!

**All: Come, let us worship the living God!**

### Opening Prayer

Ginny Dorner

**All: Gracious and loving God, we gather this day to remember the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. We wave our branches and sing our praises, yet we know this journey leads toward suffering and sacrifice. Open our hearts this day to receive Christ not only in celebration, but also in truth. Teach us to follow him in humility, to walk with him through the shadows of Holy Week, and to trust always in your redeeming love. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

## Opening Hymn 196 – ***“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”***

### Prayer of Confession

Ginny Dorner

**All: Holy and merciful God, we confess that our praise is often shallow, and our faith too easily shaken. We shout “Hosanna!” on Sunday, yet too often turn away when the path becomes difficult. We long for a king of power, but resist the servant of love. Forgive us for the ways we fail to follow Jesus fully. Forgive our desire for our own glory and comfort, while ignoring the needs and the suffering of others. Turn our hearts again toward your Son, that we may walk in his way—the way of humility, mercy, and love. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

*(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)*

### Assurance of Pardon

Ginny Dorner

Leader: Hear the good news: The One who entered Jerusalem in humility is the same One who went to the cross in love and was raised in glory on Easter Sunday. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and set free to follow him faithfully. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### Passing of the Peace

Ginny Dorner

Leader: As those forgiven and reconciled through Christ, let us share his peace with one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

(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 – *“A Palm Sunday Calypso”* arr. by Hayes

### Scripture Reading – Matthew 21:1-11

### Sermon

*“The Power of Humility”*

Rev. Jim Porter

### Responsive Hymn 177 – ***“I Will Come to You”***

### 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: Generous God, you have given us the greatest gift—your Son, who came not to be served but to serve. As we offer these gifts, receive them as signs of our gratitude and devotion. Use them—and us—to proclaim your kingdom of peace, to lift up the humble, and to share your love with the world. May our giving reflect the self-giving love of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

## Closing Hymn 198 – *“Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!”*

### 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.**

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not only in celebration, but in faithfulness—  
Bearing witness to his love,  
serving with compassion,  
and trusting in the promise that beyond the cross  
lies resurrection and new life.

**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 & Susan Harvey, our snack volunteer: Shelia Conrad, and our coffee volunteer: Shelia Conrad.

**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](http://www.erfpc.org) (click “Giving”), or by contacting Treasurer Mike Husby at [finmanager@erfpc.org](mailto:finmanager@erfpc.org). Thank you!

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



### Holy Week Schedule

**Palm Sunday, March 29**  
9:00AM Contemporary Service  
10:30AM Traditional Service

**Maundy Thursday, April 2**  
6:15PM Soup Supper – Fellowship Hall  
7:00PM Service & Communion – Fellowship Hall

**Good Friday, April 3**  
12:00PM Good Friday Service – Sanctuary

**Easter Sunday, April 5**  
9:00AM Contemporary Service  
10:00AM Kids Easter Egg Hunt  
Meet in Fellowship Hall following Service  
10:30AM Traditional Service

### Easter Plants - Reservations Due Today

Easter plants are available for \$10 per plant to remember or honor a special loved one, and decorate our sanctuary for Easter. To reserve your plants, fill out the form next to the Easter Plant Order Box located at the Activity Center and return it with your donation to the box by Sunday, March 29. Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church (Easter Memorial). Flowers can be picked up after the 10:30 a.m. service on Easter Sunday.

### Maundy Thursday Service & Communion – April 2 at 6:15 PM

Join us on Maundy Thursday, April 2, for a soup supper at 6:15 p.m. followed by the service and communion at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. 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!

## Good Friday Service – April 3 at 12:00 PM

Join us on Good Friday, April 3, for a brief but powerful service at 12:00 p.m. Plan to attend this 30-40 minute service as you prepare for Easter!

## Kids Easter Egg Hunt – Easter Sunday, April 5 at 10:00 AM

All kids are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 5 at 10:00 a.m. (immediately following the 9:00 a.m. service). Please gather in the Fellowship Hall and we'll all proceed to the egg hunt together. Don't miss this fun event!

## Vacation Bible School 2026 Volunteers Needed – June 22-26

We are planning a 5-day Vacation Bible School for children in Elk Rapids and the surrounding communities, and we would love your support! If you are available to volunteer in any capacity during the week of June 22–26, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., please contact Tara DenHerder at [taradenherder8@gmail.com](mailto:taradenherder8@gmail.com) or 231-590-5346. Save the dates and plan to invite your children, grandchildren, friends, and neighbors to be part of this meaningful and fun week!

## Free Community Dinners – Tuesday, April 21 from 5-6:30PM

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

## Family Mission Trip to Presbytery Point – June 12-14

We are planning a Family Mission Trip to Presbytery Point on June 12–14! All ages are welcome to attend, making this a wonderful opportunity for families to serve together. More details will be shared soon, but we'd love to begin getting a sense of interest. If your family is interested, please contact Shannah Vergote at 231-342-9098.

**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](mailto: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 – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://elkrapidscommunitycupboard.com) or call Pam Coleman at 847-445-8239 for more information.

### This Week's Activities

#### Sun. 3/29 – Palm Sunday

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

#### Mon. 3/30 – ER Spring Break Week

7:00 p Lent Group – Zoom  
7:00 p Future Planning – Zoom

#### Tues. 3/31

9:00 a Women's Lent Group – AE  
10:00 a Women's Lent Group – Cf

#### Wed. 4/1

6:30 p Lent Group at Argo's  
6:30 p Praise Team Prac.  
7:45 p Lent Group – Zoom

#### Thurs. 4/2 – Maundy Thursday

7:30 a Men's Bible Study – AE  
6:15 p Soup Dinner  
7:00 p Maundy Thursday Service – FH

#### Fri. 4/3

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FH  
12:00 p Good Friday Service - Sanctuary



**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](http://volunteeraccelerator.ministryarchitects.com/ERFPC/survey.html) Thanks for your willingness to help out!