



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, May 17, 2026

Order of Worship

THE GATHERING:

Countdown

Opening Song #616 – **“Awesome God”**

Welcome

Wayne Potter

Invitation to Worship

Ben Vergote

Leader: God has shown us what is good: to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God. As we gather for worship, may our hearts be open to hear God’s call and our lives be ready to respond in faith.

All: Come, let us worship the living God!

Opening Prayer

Wayne Potter

Praise Song #440 – **“Jesus Lover of My Soul”**

Children’s Message

Wayne Potter

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

Greet your neighbor!

(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!)

THE WORD:

Scripture Reading – Micah 6:5-16

Message – “Do This”

Wayne Potter

RESPONSE & SENDING:

Time for Reflection and Song of Response #626 – **“As the Deer”**

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.*

Announcements

Wayne Potter

- Last Community Dinner is May 19! Please join us!
- Vineyard Spiritual Retreat, Saturday, May 30

Future Planning Update

Rachel Hunter

Closing Song #15 – *“All Creatures of Our God and King”*

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.**

Benediction

Leader: May we now go into the world with faith in your hearts and love in your hands, to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.

All: Amen!

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, May 17, 2026

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”* arr. by Jones

Choral Prelude – *“The Light of the World”* by Besig

Welcome

Wayne Potter

- Future Planning Update – Reminder to complete the survey
- Last Community Dinner is May 19! Please join us!
- Vineyard Spiritual Retreat, Saturday, May 30

Invitation and Centering Words

Leader: God has shown us what is good: to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God. As we gather for worship, may our hearts be open to hear God’s call and our lives be ready to respond in faith.

Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Ginny Dorner

Leader: The Lord has shown us what is good.

People: We come to learn the ways of God.

Leader: The Lord calls us to do justice,

People: To love kindness,

Leader: And to walk humbly with our God.

People: We gather to worship the One who shows us the way.

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord.

People: Let us worship God together.

Opening Prayer

Ginny Dorner

All: Gracious and loving God, you have shown us your goodness and your mercy. You call us not only to hear your word, but to live it. Open our hearts this day to your presence. Teach us to walk in your ways, to love one another as you love us, and to live lives that reflect your grace. May our worship honor you, and may our lives bear witness to your truth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn 729 – *“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”*

Prayer of Confession

Ginny Dorner

All: Merciful God, you have shown us what is good, yet we confess that we often choose our own way. We ignore injustice when it is inconvenient to confront it. We withhold kindness when patience is required. We forget humility when pride takes hold of our hearts. Too often our faith remains in our words instead of being shown through our actions. Forgive us, O Lord. Renew our hearts. Teach us again to walk humbly with you and to live lives that reflect your love.

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon

Ginny Dorner

Leader: Hear the good news: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, restored, and made new. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All: Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Ginny Dorner

Leader: Since God has reconciled us to one another through Christ, let us share the peace of Christ with one another. The peace of Christ be with you all.

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 – *“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”* arr. by Schrader

Scripture Reading – Micah 6:5-16

Sermon

“Do This”

Wayne Potter

Responsive Hymn 726 – *“Will You Come and Follow Me”* (vs. 1, 3, 5)

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.

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: We dedicate these gifts, Lord, for the work of your church, and we ask you to use all that we have and all that we are in your service. Amen.

Closing Hymn 472 – “*Kum ba Yah*”

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.**

Benediction

Leader: May we now go into the world with faith in your hearts and love in your hands, to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.

All: Amen!

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

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our usher: Rick Welsh, our snack volunteer, 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!

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

Final Spring Free Community Dinner – Tuesday, May 19 from 5-6:30PM

Join us for the final Free Community Dinner of the spring season on Tuesday, May 19, from 5:00–6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome to enjoy delicious pulled pork provided by Village Market Smokehouse for a meal of pulled pork sandwiches, salad and dessert.

Desserts Needed

We are looking for donated desserts to help make the evening extra special. If you are able to bring cookies, bars, brownies, or another favorite sweet treat, please sign up at the Activity Center.

Come share a meal, connect with neighbors, and help us close out a wonderful season of community dinners!

The Art of Vinemaking Half Day Retreat – Saturday, May 30

Through guided time in Ten Hands Vineyard on Old Mission Peninsula, Bette Dickinson, artist and author of *The Art of Vinemaking*, and vinedresser Dave Bos, will lead a contemplative, embodied exploration of John 15 through the lens of real-life vine cultivation. Participants will engage in guided spiritual practices, reflection, and sensory connection to the land as we consider what it means to abide in Christ, the True Vine and surrender to the loving cultivation of the Vinedresser. Together, we’ll explore a flourishing approach to life with God. Space is limited. We’ll plan to carpool with our group, meeting the Traverse City group at TC Presbyterian at 9:00 a.m. and then heading to the vineyard by 9:30 a.m. If you’d like to register online, use the QR code. Sign up today!



Cost	Cash or Check	Online (includes processing fee)
Retreat & Lunch at TC Presbyterian	\$50.00	\$52.00 (includes \$2 processing fee)
Retreat, Lunch at TC Presbyterian & optional wine-tasting	\$65.00	\$68.00 (includes \$3 processing fee)

ONE 10:30AM Outdoor Service – Sunday, May 31

Mark your calendar and plan to join us for an Outdoor Worship Service on Sunday, May 31 at 10:30 a.m. Bring your own chairs and we'll spread out under the tent next to the parking lot. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

Gospel Concert – Sunday, May 31 at 4:00PM

Mark your calendar now for a Gospel Concert on Sunday, May 31 at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Invite your family and friends, and don't miss this special concert!

Future Planning Update

Reminder, we have launched the church-wide survey called Forward in Faith: Led by God, Shaped by You. This survey is a part of the church-wide Future Planning process that our church has begun with the Center for Healthy Churches. Through this process, we hope to clarify our vision, focus our mission, and identify the life-giving needs of our church and community, with the goal of developing a 3-5 year ministry plan for our congregation as we seek to better serve our church, community, and the world at-large.

We're listening—because your voice matters as we plan the future of First Presbyterian Church of Elk Rapids.

As we look ahead, we want to faithfully discern (seek understanding) where God is leading our church. Your input will help guide our priorities, strengthen our ministry, and ensure we continue serving our community with purpose and clarity.

This is an opportunity for every voice in our church to be heard. Your input will help guide our leadership as we plan for the future—how we grow, how we serve, and how we continue to be a meaningful presence in Elk Rapids and surrounding communities.

We invite all members and attendees to participate in our church-wide survey. It's simple, it's important, and it truly makes a difference. Our goal is 100% participation from our church family and all survey responses are strictly anonymous.

The survey will be online and paper copies will be available in the office or at Sunday Service. The survey will close June 1, please have your responses submitted by that date.

If you have questions, please contact Rachel Hunter at marketing@erfpc.org or call the office at 231-264-8167.

Vacation Bible School 2026 Volunteers Needed – June 22-26

We are planning a Vacation Bible School for children in Elk Rapids and the surrounding communities, and we need 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 or 231-590-5346. Save the dates and plan to invite your children, grandchildren, and neighbors to be part of this fun week!

Graduation Recognition – Sunday, June 7

We will be recognizing those men and women in our church family who are graduating from high-school, college, university, or from a specialized school at the 9 or 10:30 a.m. service. Please call the church office at 231-264-8167 or email us at info@erfpc.org to place the name of your graduate on our list. We are also requesting a small photo that we can include on a bulletin board to recognize our graduates.

A Note from the Board of Trustees: Out of an abundance of caution and because of a definite gas smell in the kitchen this week there was a call to DTE to investigate. The result: the stove top and oven in the church kitchen is currently out of operation. We are pursuing a repair but it will take some time. Deacons and the organizers of the Community Dinners are aware of this issue. If you have used the stove top or oven for a function in the last year or two or need it for an upcoming event, please e-mail Peg Burns at kpcburns@gmail.com. We are gathering information about its usage and would like to be able to notify interested parties when it is back in working order.

Girl Scout Troup 8897 Fundraiser: Girl Scout Troup 8897 is doing a fundraiser for the Little Traverse Bay Humane Society. We are collecting gently-used (and clean) blankets and towels, as well as dog and cat food. There is a donation drop-box in the narthex. Donations will be picked up on Friday 5/22. Thanks for your support! Questions can be directed to Hannah & Stella Barrow.

Church Family Mission Trip to Presbytery Point – June 11-14

We are planning a Church Family Mission Trip to Presbytery Point on June 11–14 (Thursday night - Sunday morning)! Join us for a weekend of service and fellowship in the beautiful U.P. as we help Presbytery Point Camp prepare for their summer season. Projects will be available for all ages, skill levels and abilities. All individuals and groups alike are encouraged to join us for this meaningful weekend. If interested, please contact Shannah Vergote at 231-342-9098.

We're Hiring – Director of Youth & Family Life Ministries

We are looking for a creative, energetic, spiritually mature Christian to lead our youth and family ministry efforts at First Presbyterian Church, Elk Rapids. The position serves as the main lead and volunteer coordinator for programs to both children (K to 5th grade) and youth/young adults (6th grade to high school). For a full job description and application, please contact the church office at 231-264-8167 or email info@erfpc.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 open twice every other week: Saturday from 9:00–11:00 a.m. and Tuesday from 4:00–6:30 p.m. Visit elkrapidscommunitycupboard.com or call Pam Coleman at 847-445-8239 for more information.



Discover Your Gifts! Take our quick Ministry Match 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. 5/17
9:00 a Contemporary Service
10:00 a SS & Youth – LH
10:30 a Traditional Service

Mon. 5/18

Tues. 5/19
10:00 a Women's Sm. Grp. – Cf
5:00 p Free Community Dinner

Wed. 5/20
3:00 p Service at Autumn House
6:30 p Praise Team Prac.

Thurs. 5/21
7:30 a Men's Bible Study – AE
9:00 a Session Reports Due
3:00 p Gospel Cct Prac – FH

Fri. 5/22
10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FH
2:00 p Alz Support Group

Sat. 5/23
10:00 a Glen Howse Visitation
11:00 a Glen Howse Funeral