



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, May 24, 2026

Order of Worship

THE GATHERING:

Countdown

Opening Song – ***“Rest On Us”***

Welcome

Kyle Ripley

Invitation to Worship

Adaline Peck

Leader: On the first Pentecost, the Spirit of God moved among ordinary people and filled them with new life, courage, and hope. Today, we gather with open hearts, trusting that the same Spirit still breathes through each one of us and through the Church, guiding us ever deeper into the love and life of Christ.

All: Come, let us worship the living God!

Opening Prayer

Kyle Ripley

Praise Song – ***“Holy Spirit”***

Children’s Message

Shannah Vergote

(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 Readings – Acts 2:1-13

John 14:15-31

Message – **“All the Things We Cannot See: Living in the Spirit of God”** Rev. Jim Porter

RESPONSE & SENDING:

Time for Reflection and Song of Response – ***“Trust in God”***

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

- VineMaking Half Day Retreat with Bette Dickinson and Dave Bos
- Future Planning Update- Do the Survey Today!
- Youth Mission Project

Rev. Jim Porter

Tara DenHerder

Minute for Mission – “Remembering Those Who Served Our Country” Don Reynolds

Closing Song – **“Tis So Sweet to Trust” from VBS**

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: Go now in the power of the Holy Spirit.

May the wind of God breathe through your life with courage and hope.

May the peace of Christ guard your hearts and guide your steps.

And may the love of God—Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit—remain with you today and always.

All: Amen!

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Kevin & Kathy Rogols, our snack volunteer, and our coffee volunteer: Shelia Conrad.



10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, May 24, 2026

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Come, O Spirit, Truth Divine”* by Larson

Welcome and Announcements

- Future Planning Update- Do the Survey Today!
- VineMaking Half Day Retreat with Bette Dickinson and Dave Bos

Rev. Jim Porter

Minute for Mission – “Remembering Those Who Served Our Country” Don Reynolds

Opening Hymn 338 – **“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”**

Invitation and Centering Words

Leader: On the first Pentecost, the Spirit of God moved among ordinary people and filled them with new life, courage, and hope. Today, we gather with open hearts, trusting that the same Spirit still breathes through each one of us and through the Church, guiding us ever deeper into the love and life of Christ.

Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Doug White

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, come among us.

People: Breathe new life into our hearts and into your Church.

Leader: When fear appears to close us in,

People: the Spirit opens doors of hope and courage.

Leader: When we feel uncertain or alone,

People: Christ sends the Advocate to guide and comfort us.

Leader: The Spirit speaks in every language and to every generation,

People: calling all people into the love of God.

Leader: Come, let us worship the living God,

People: whose Spirit transforms our lives with grace and peace.

Opening Prayer

Doug White

All: Holy and living God, on this Pentecost Sunday we remember how your Spirit rushed through the gathered disciples like wind and fire, awakening faith, courage, and joy. Pour out your Spirit upon us now. Open our hearts to your presence and awaken us to the power of your love at work within and among us.

Lord Jesus Christ, you promised that we would never be left alone, but that the Holy Spirit would teach, guide, and remind us of your love and peace. As we worship today, quiet our fears, renew our minds, and transform our lives, so that we may live as faithful witnesses to your love in the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn of Praise 289 – *“On Pentecost They Gathered”* (verses 1 & 4 only)

Prayer of Confession

Doug White

All: Gracious God, you call us to live by your Spirit, yet too often we rely only upon ourselves. We cling to fear instead of trusting your presence. We resist change rather than allowing your Spirit to transform us. We hold onto anger, worry, and division instead of living in the peace of Christ.

Forgive us when we fail to listen for your voice. Forgive us when we ignore the needs of our neighbors or close our hearts to those who are different from us. Renew us with your Spirit once more. Fill us with love, courage, compassion, and hope, that our lives may bear witness to Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon

Doug White

Leader: The Holy Spirit is poured out upon all people. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and made new. The peace of Christ remains with us, and the Spirit continues to guide us in love and truth. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

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

Passing of the Peace

Doug White

Leader: Since God has made peace with us through Jesus Christ, let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

All: The peace of Christ be with you. 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 – *“Spirit Come Down”* by Hayes

Scripture Readings – Acts 2:1-13

John 14:15-31

Sermon

**“All the Things We Cannot See:
Living in the Spirit of God”**

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 291 – ***“Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness”***

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Jim Porter

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.
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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 and loving God, every good gift comes from you. On this day of Pentecost, we offer these gifts and our very lives in gratitude for the presence of your Spirit among us. Use what we bring to share the good news of Christ, to bring hope where there is despair, peace where there is division, and love where there is need. Fill your Church with renewed vision and courage, that we may live as people transformed by your Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Hymn 295 – ***“Go to the World!”*** (Verses 1 & 4 only)

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: Go now in the power of the Holy Spirit.

May the wind of God breathe through your life with courage and hope.

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And may the love of God—Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit—remain with you today and always.

All: Amen!

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

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Don Reynolds & Rick Welsh, our snack volunteer, 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 (click “Giving”), or by contacting Treasurer Mike Husby at finmanager@erfpc.org. Thank you!

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

Why Red? If you look around the church you see a lot of red. In the Presbyterian Church, red is worn and displayed on Pentecost to symbolize the "tongues of fire" described in Acts 2:1-4. The color represents the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples, as well as the Church's continuing passion, zeal, and divine love.

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

Sign up today! Just go to: <http://www.erfpc.org/vinemaking-retreat/> or click on the QR code here.



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.

Ushers Needed: We are looking for ushers to fill out the Usher Schedule through September. Most important asset for this job is a welcoming smile and a willingness to greet folks as they enter our church for worship. Guidelines can be found at the Activity Center along with a sign-up sheet. Please call/text Judy Matchett at 231-631-4536 with questions or for more information. Thanks!

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 kpcbarns@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.

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 – Please turn in all your Community Cash receipts no later than May 31st. Thank you for supporting the Elk Rapids Community Cupboard! Any questions, contact Pam Coleman at 847-445-8239.

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. 5/24
9:00 a Contemporary Service
10:00 a SS & Youth – LH
10:30 a Traditional Service

Mon. 5/25 – Memorial Day
Office Closed

Tues. 5/26
10:00 a Women's Sm. Grp. – Cf
12:00 p Garden Club – FH

Wed. 5/27
6:30 p Praise Team Prac.
7:00 p Session Meeting – FH

Thurs. 5/28
7:30 a Men's Bible Study – AE
4:00 p Gospel Cct Prac – FH

Fri. 5/29
10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FH

Sat. 5/30
9:00 a Vinemaking Retreat
10:00 a Gospel Concert Dress Rehearsal