



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, July 12, 2026

## Order of Worship

### THE GATHERING:

Countdown

Opening Song – ***“Shout To The North”***

Welcome

Kyle Ripley

Invitation to Worship

Ben Vergote

Leader: Even though we make mistakes, God loves us, forgives us, and fills us with hope through the Holy Spirit. Through Jesus, God calls us to live lives of hope and love.

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

Opening Prayer

Kyle Ripley

Praise Song – ***“Battle Belongs”***

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 Reading – Romans 8:1-11

Message – “Broken Spirits, Broken Lives:

Rev. Jim Porter

Finding God’s Grace in Both the Joys and Struggles of Life”

### RESPONSE & SENDING:

Time for Reflection and Song of Response – ***“You Are My King (Amazing Love)”***

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

Rev. Jim Porter

- Contemplative Prayer Gathering this Tuesday at 12 noon in the Sanctuary

## Closing Song – *“You Know Me”*

### 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.

Remember that there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.

Set your minds each day on the things of the Spirit—on all that is true, honorable, just, compassionate, and loving.

And as God's Spirit continues to heal your own heart, may you become an instrument of God's healing in a broken world.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always.

**All: Amen!**

### Postlude

## Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

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



## 10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, July 12, 2026

### Order of Worship

#### Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“This Is the Day That the Lord Has Made”* by Carter

#### Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Jim Porter

- Contemplative Prayer Gathering this Tuesday at 12 noon in the Sanctuary

#### Invitation and Centering Words

Leader: We gather today as people who know both the joy and the struggle of faith. Though we often fall short of God’s desire for our lives, in Jesus Christ God meets us with grace, heals our brokenness, and gives us hope. Through the Holy Spirit, God calls us to live lives of love and compassion for all people.

#### Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

#### Call to Worship

Doug White

Leader: Come, all who long for hope and healing.

**People: We come seeking the life that only God's Spirit can give.**

Leader: There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

**People: Thanks be to God! Through Christ we are forgiven and set free.**

Leader: Come, let us set our minds on the things of the Spirit: compassion, kindness, mercy, and peace.

**People: May God's Spirit renew our hearts and transform our lives.**

Leader: Let us worship the God who brings life from brokenness and hope from despair.

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

## Opening Prayer

Doug White

**All:** Gracious and loving God, You know us completely—our strengths and our weaknesses, our hopes and our fears, our faith and our failures. You know how often we struggle to live as you have called us to live, and yet you never turn away from us. Open our hearts this day to the power and peace of your presence, Lord. Quiet every distraction. Lift every burden. Heal every wound. Fill us with your Spirit, so that our worship may honor you, our lives may reflect your love, and our world may be touched by your grace. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Opening Hymn 267 – *“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”*

### Prayer of Confession

Doug White

**All:** Merciful God, we confess that we have often tried to live by our own strength rather than by the power of your Spirit. Too often we allow fear instead of faith, resentment instead of forgiveness, judgment instead of compassion, and self-interest instead of love to shape our lives. We confess that we have contributed to the brokenness of your world through words spoken in anger, opportunities ignored, kindness withheld, and neighbors overlooked. Forgive us, O God. Heal what is broken within us. Renew our minds. Restore our spirits. Fill us once again with the life-giving presence of your Holy Spirit, so that we may become instruments of your peace and witnesses to your grace.

*(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)*

### Assurance of Pardon

Doug White

Leader: Hear the Good News! The Apostle Paul reminds us: *“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”* In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Through the Holy Spirit, we are given new life. We are no longer defined by our failures, but by God's redeeming love. 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 reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, let us now be reconciled with one another. May the peace of Christ, made possible through the power of the Holy Spirit, dwell richly in your hearts. The peace of Christ be with you all.

**People: 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 – *“Grace Alone”* by Brown & Nelson

Soloists: Mike Hurtubise and Ann Murray

### Scripture Reading – Romans 8:1-11

### Sermon

“Broken Spirits, Broken Lives:  
Finding God's Grace in Both the Joys and Struggles of Life”

Rev. Jim Porter

### Responsive Hymn 707 – *“Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord”*

### 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: Generous God, every good and perfect gift comes from you. Receive these offerings as signs of our gratitude and our desire to participate in your work of healing the world. Use these gifts—and our very lives—to bring hope where there is despair, compassion where there is suffering, unity where there is division, and love where there is fear. Empower us by your Spirit to be faithful stewards of all you have entrusted to us, so that others may come to know the grace and peace of Jesus Christ. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.**

## Closing Hymn 721 – ***“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”***

## 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.

Remember that there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.

Set your minds each day on the things of the Spirit—on all that is true, honorable, just, compassionate, and loving.

And as God's Spirit continues to heal your own heart, may you become an instrument of God's healing in a broken world.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always.

**All: Amen!**

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

## Postlude

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

Thank you. Special thanks to our usher: Don Reynolds & 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](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.

**Thank You!** Thank you to everyone who helped make Vacation Bible School and Youth Mission Week a wonderful success! Your time, talents, prayers, and generosity made a lasting impact on the children and youth who participated. **Watch for more opportunities to connect and serve in the weeks ahead,** and join us this fall for our Sunday School & Youth Group Kickoff on Sunday, September 13!

## **Listening for God – New Contemplative Prayer Gathering**

All are invited to join *Listening for God*, our contemplative prayer gathering, as we seek a deeper awareness of God's presence through silence, prayer, and reflection. The next gathering will be Tuesday, July 14 at 12:00 noon in the Sanctuary.

We normally meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Come experience a peaceful time of resting in God's presence and listening for God's guidance.

## **Commissioning of Paul Wonacott**

Join us on Sunday, July 19, as we commission Paul Wonacott as our new Director of Youth & Family Ministries during both the 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. worship services. This special time of prayer and blessing marks the beginning of Paul's ministry with our church family. We encourage everyone to attend as we welcome and support him in this important role.

**WHAT WOULD YOU DO** if an armed subject entered the church? Find out on Tuesday, July 21 at 6 p.m., Fellowship Hall.. Presented by your Safety/Security Team, the Antrim County Sheriff Kevin Hoch and Under Sheriff George Lasater. Don't miss this possible lifesaving session.

## **ONE 10:30AM Outdoor Service – Sunday, July 26**

Mark your calendar and plan to join us for an Outdoor Worship Service on Sunday, July 26 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!

## **Is God Calling You to Serve?**

God is doing exciting things at First Presbyterian Church of Elk Rapids, and we believe God has wonderful things in store for our congregation in the years ahead. As we continue to seek God's vision for our future, we are looking for faithful followers of Jesus Christ who feel called to serve in leadership. Could God be nudging your heart to serve?

Each year, members of our congregation are called to serve as church officers in one of three important ministries:

**Elders** provide spiritual leadership and help guide the mission and ministry of our church through Session and its ministry teams.

**Deacons** lead ministries of compassion, care, and service, offering Christ's love to our congregation and community through visitation, Communion, funeral hospitality, and other acts of care.

**Trustees** provide faithful stewardship of the church's property, finances, and legal responsibilities, helping ensure that our congregation has the resources needed for ministry.

This year we are seeking:

- **2 Deacons** for the Class of 2029 and 1 Deacon for the Class of 2028
- **1 Elder** for the Class of 2029
- **2 (possibly 3) Trustees** for the Class of 2029

Please take time to pray and ask whether God may be calling you to serve in one of these leadership roles. If you sense God leading you—or if you would simply like to learn more—we encourage you to speak with a member of the Nominating Team. (Church officers must be members of First Presbyterian Church.)

Nominating Team: Judy Husby (Co-Chair), Betty Tezak (Co-Chair), Joanne Teague, Lynda Nichols, Tom Klingler, and Chad Vergote.

**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** –Thank you for supporting the Elk Rapids Community Cupboard! The 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](http://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](http://volunteeraccelerator.ministryarchitects.com/ERFPC/survey.html)  
Thanks for your willingness to help out!

### **This Week's Activities**

**Sun. 7/12**

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

**Mon. 7/13**

**Tues. 7/14**

12:00 p Contemplative Prayer – Sanc.  
3:00 p Harbor Voices Prac. – Sanc.

**Wed. 7/15**

3:00 p Service at Autumn House  
6:30 p Praise Team Prac.

**Thurs. 7/16**

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

**Fri. 7/17**

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