



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, August 2, 2026

Order of Worship

THE GATHERING:

Countdown

Opening Song – ***“Build My Life”***

Welcome

Kyle Ripley

Invitation to Worship

Reid Conrad

Leader: Today we will hear that God loves all people. No matter who we are or where we come from, God welcomes all with open arms. We are all part of God's family through Jesus, so let's open our hearts and worship God together!

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

Opening Prayer

Kyle Ripley

Praise Song – ***“King Of Kings”***

Children's Message

(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 10:1-15

Message – ***“God's All-Inclusive Grace”***

Rev. Jim Porter

RESPONSE & SENDING:

Time for Reflection and Song of Response – ***“Been So Good”***

Celebration of Communion

For Communion today everyone is invited to come forward by the center aisle to receive the gluten free bread and juice. After partaking of the elements, you may return to your seat by the side aisle.

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

Closing Song – “*My Life is in You, Lord*”

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 and Benediction

Leader: Go now into the world remembering that the same Lord is Lord of all.
Welcome others as Christ has welcomed you.
Speak words of hope.
Practice compassion.
Cross the boundaries that divide people.
Share the good news with humility, joy, and love.

All: Amen!

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

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

Thank you to our communion servers: Laura Asiala, Lorraine Berak, Judy Husby and Kathy Rogols.



10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, August 2, 2026

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – “*How Great Thou Art*” by Raney

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation and Centering Words

Leader: In a world that often divides people by race, nationality, politics, wealth, or background, we gather to celebrate the good news that God's love knows no such boundaries. In Jesus Christ, there is no distinction that can separate us from God's grace. Today, let us worship the God who welcomes all people with open arms and calls us to do the same.

Ring of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Geney Heaton

Leader: We come from different places, carrying different stories and experiences.

People: Yet we are gathered by one Spirit into one family of faith.

Leader: The same Lord is Lord of all, and is generous to all who call upon Him.

**People: God's grace is wider than our divisions,
God's mercy deeper than our failures,
God's love stronger than our fears.**

Leader: Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

**All: Come, let us worship the God whose love embraces every nation, every generation,
and every heart.**

Opening Prayer

Geney Heaton

All: Gracious and welcoming God, you have called us together from many walks of life to become one people through Jesus Christ, our Lord. We thank you that your love is not reserved for a select few but is poured out generously upon all who seek you. Open our hearts to receive your grace anew today. Remove every barrier that keeps us from loving one another as you have loved us. Fill us with your Holy Spirit so that our worship may honor you, strengthen our faith, and send us into the world as joyful witnesses to your saving love. Through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn 666 – “O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright”

Prayer of Confession

Geney Heaton

All: Merciful God, You created every person in your image, yet too often we draw lines where you have built bridges. We are quick to judge those who are different from us and slow to recognize your image reflected in them. We allow prejudice, fear, and pride to shape our relationships more than your love. We sometimes believe your grace belongs more to people like us than to those whose experiences, beliefs, cultures, or backgrounds differ from our own. We keep silent when you call us to share your good news and hesitate to welcome others with the same generosity you have shown to us. Forgive us, gracious God. Break down the walls that divide us. Teach us to trust your boundless mercy, to rejoice in your welcome of all people, and to become faithful ambassadors of your reconciling love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon

Geney Heaton

Leader: Hear the good news! The Apostle Paul declares: "There is no distinction...the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call upon him. Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." In Jesus Christ, God has forgiven us, welcomed us, and made us one people. Our sins are forgiven, our lives are made new, and we are sent to share this good news with the world.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Geney Heaton

Leader: Since God has welcomed us in Christ, let us welcome one another with that same grace. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

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

(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 at the Cross” by McKibben

Scripture Reading – Romans 10:1-15

Sermon

“God’s All-Inclusive Grace”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 521 – “In Remembrance of Me”

Celebration of Communion

For Communion today everyone is invited to come forward by the center aisle to receive the gluten free bread and juice. After partaking of the elements, you may return to your seat by the side aisle.

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, every good gift comes from your gracious hand. Receive these offerings as signs of our gratitude and as instruments of your mission. Use them to proclaim the good news, to care for those in need, to welcome the stranger, and to bear witness that your love is for all people. May our giving reflect the generosity you have first shown to us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Closing Hymn 853 – ***“We Are Marching in the Light of God”***

Mission Statement

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Charge and Benediction

Leader: Go now into the world remembering that the same Lord is Lord of all.

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Practice compassion.

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Share the good news with humility, joy, and love.

All: Amen!

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

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers, our snack volunteer, and our coffee volunteer: Lorraine Berak.

Thank you to our communion servers: Betsy Argo, Ginny Dorner, Sandi Gray, and Don Reynolds.

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.

Breaking of the Bread – Be sure to pick up a loaf of bread today after the service. A sheet of suggestions on how you might share the bread comes with the bread.



Today is Loose Change Sunday – All donations collected in the red bucket in the narthex will be given to the Elk Rapids Schools Backpack Program, which provides nutritious, non-perishable food for food-insecure students to take home on weekends. Thank you for helping provide care and encouragement to children and families in our community through your generosity.

Harbor Voices Concerts – Thursday, August 6 & Friday, August 7 at 7:00PM

We are hosting the Harbor Voices special concert of Patriotic Music at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 6 and Friday, August 7, as part of the Harbor Days celebrations. Come celebrate the 250th anniversary of our country!

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, August 11 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.

Joyful Abundance! Women's Conference on Saturday, September 19

Save the date September 19 for Joyful Abundance! Psalm 16:11 "In Your presence is fullness of joy." The Antrim County Christian Community of Churches is having a Women's Conference featuring author/writer Christine Hoy. It is on Saturday, Sept 19 from 9-2 at the Bellaire High School Performing Arts Center. We will be carpooling to Bellaire. Cost is \$20 pp. including lunch. Sign up online at www.tinyurl.com/ACWC2026 or contact Marcia Sumerix for more information.

Is God Calling You to Serve?

From our Church Nominations Team: We have good news! All positions for Session and the Trustees are now filled. Thanks be to God!

We are now looking for just two more people to serve as **Deacons** for the church. Our Deacons are a great group of people who lead ministries of care, compassion, and service to both our church and community, providing help with communion preparation, funeral hospitality, coffee on Sunday mornings, and occasional visitation to homebound members of the church.

Could God be nudging your heart to serve in this important ministry?

If so, please contact a member our 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 – 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 – 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 or call Pam Coleman at 847-445-8239 for more information.

This Week's Activities

Sun. 8/2

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

Mon. 8/3

Tues. 8/4

3:00 p Harbor Voices Prac. – Sanc.
6:30 p Deacons – FH

Wed. 8/5

6:30 p Praise Team Prac.

Thurs. 8/6

7:30 a Men's Bible Study – AE
1:00 p Worship MT
7:00 p Harbor Voices Concert – Sanc.

Fri. 8/7

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal – FH
7:00 p Harbor Voices Concert – Sanc.



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!