



9 AM Contemporary Service • Sunday, August 16, 2026

Order of Worship

THE GATHERING:

Countdown

Opening Song – ***“Stand In Your Love”***

Welcome

Kyle Ripley

Invitation to Worship

Alice Cannon

Leader: Worship begins with surrender— offering ourselves fully to God. So come as you are, and let us offer our hearts, our lives, and our whole selves to the God who loves us and makes us new.

All: Come, let us worship the living God!

Opening Prayer

Kyle Ripley

Praise Song – ***“Marvelous Light”***

Children’s Message

Paul Wonacott

(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 12:1-8

Message – “Transformed!:

Rev. Jim Porter

Offering our Whole Selves to God—Body, Mind, and Soul”

RESPONSE & SENDING:

Time for Reflection and Song of Response – ***“Breathe”***

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 – *“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: Friends, worship does not end when we leave this place.

So go into the week ahead and continuing to offer yourselves to God—
in your homes and workplaces,
in your relationships and responsibilities,
in the ordinary moments of every day.

Do not simply conform to the ways of the world,

but allow God to renew your mind, transform your heart, and use the gifts you have been given.

Offer your whole life to God,

and let your life become an act of worship!

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our usher: Mark Weber, our snack volunteer: Bonnie Johnson, and our coffee volunteer: Bonnie Johnson.



10:30 AM Traditional Service • Sunday, August 16, 2026

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Come, Now is the Time to Worship”* arr. by Schrader

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation and Centering Words

Leader: Worship begins with surrender— offering ourselves fully to God. So come as you are, and let us offer our hearts, our lives, and our whole selves to the God who loves us and makes us new.

Ring of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Joanne Teague

Leader: Come, people of God, and offer yourselves to the Lord.

People: We come today to offer our hearts, our minds, and our lives to God.

Leader: Do not be conformed to the ways of this world.

People: But let God renew our minds and transform our lives.

Leader: So let us surrender ourselves to God—

People: And let our whole lives become an act of worship!

All: Come, let us worship the living God!

Opening Prayer

Joanne Teague

All: Gracious and loving God, we come before you today offering ourselves to you. Quiet our hearts and minds in this time of worship and free us from all that distracts us from your presence. By the power of your Spirit, renew our minds and transform our lives. Teach us to surrender ourselves more fully to you—not only here on Sunday mornings, but in the way we live each day, so that everything we do might become an offering of love and praise to you. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn 682 – *“It Is Good to Sing Your Praises”*

Prayer of Confession

Joanne Teague

All: Merciful God, you invite us to offer our whole lives to you, yet we confess that we often hold something back. We want to follow you, but on our own terms. We cling to our own plans, our own desires, and our own need for control. We allow the pressures and priorities of the world to shape us more than your love and grace. Forgive us, O God. Renew our minds. Transform our hearts. Teach us to trust you enough to surrender ourselves to you. Help us to recognize the gifts you have given us and to use them faithfully—not for ourselves alone, but to love you, serve others, and build up the body of Christ in the world today. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon

Joanne Teague

Leader: Friends, hear the good news: God does not ask us to surrender ourselves in order to earn God’s love. We surrender because God has already loved us, already claimed us, and already poured out grace upon us in Jesus Christ. In Christ, we are forgiven. In Christ, we are made new. In Christ, we are set free to live for God.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Joanne Teague

Leader: Because we have received the grace and peace of God in our own lives, we are called to share that peace with others. The peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

(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 – *“Be Thou My Vision”* by Courtney

Scripture Reading – Romans 12:1-8

Sermon

“Transformed!:

Rev. Jim Porter

Offering our Whole Selves to God—Body, Mind, and Soul”

Responsive Hymn 693 – *“Though I May Speak”*

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: Gracious God, you have given each of us gifts according to your grace, and you call us to use those gifts faithfully. Receive now these gifts we offer, but even more, receive us—our time, our abilities, our resources, our hands and feet, our hopes and dreams. Take our lives and use them for your purposes. May our generosity, our service, and the way we live each day become an offering of worship to you and a blessing to the world. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Closing Hymn 475 – *“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”*

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: Friends, worship does not end when we leave this place.

So go into the week ahead and continuing to offer yourselves to God—
in your homes and workplaces,
in your relationships and responsibilities,
in the ordinary moments of every day.

Do not simply conform to the ways of the world,

but allow God to renew your mind, transform your heart, and use the gifts you have been given.

Offer your whole life to God,

and let your life become an act of worship!

All: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

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

Postlude – *“Be Thou My Vision”* by Hopson

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Keith & Peg Burns, 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 Treasurer@erfpc.org. Thank you!

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

Fire Out Gathering – Sunday, August 23

Join us for a fun evening around the fire pit on Sunday, August 23, from 6:00–8:00 p.m. at the fire pit outside the Lighthouse! We’ll enjoy hot dogs, s’mores, and worship music around the campfire. Everyone is invited! Come gather, connect, and enjoy a summer evening together.

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 25 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.

Sunday School & Youth Kickoff – September 13

Join us on Sunday, September 13, for our Sunday School & Youth Kickoff! After the 9:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service, children, youth, and parents are invited to gather at the Lighthouse for breakfast. Children

and youth will enjoy a group activity while parents meet together to learn more about the upcoming ministry year. All children, youth, and parents are welcome!

Celebrating Our 90-Year-Olds! – Sunday, September 13

Join us on Sunday, September 13, as we honor members of our church family who are celebrating their 90th birthday this year. The Deacons will host a cake reception between the worship services as we give thanks for their lives, faith, and the many ways they have blessed our congregation. This year, we are especially celebrating our newest 90-year-olds, Connie Claar and Leonard Orzechowski. We hope you'll stop by to congratulate them and enjoy a time of fellowship together!

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. Register at our website (erfpc.org) on the Women's Retreat scrolling banner or use this link: <https://newhopecc.churchcenter.com/registrations/signups/3568994>. Call or text Marcia Sumerix at 989-964-1420 for more information.

Save the Date: The Art of Vinemaking Retreat – Saturday, October 24

Save the date for The Art of Vinemaking Retreat, a half-day spiritual formation retreat led by Bette Dickinson. Come for a meaningful time of reflection, creativity, and spiritual renewal as we explore the art of growing and tending our faith. More details coming soon!

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.



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. 8/16

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

Mon. 8/17

Tues. 8/18

Wed. 8/19

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

Thurs. 8/20

7:30 a Men's Bible Study – AE
10:00 a Adult Ed MT – AE

Fri. 8/21

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