



# First Presbyterian Church of Elk Rapids

404 Spruce Street, Elk Rapids, Michigan 49629  
231-264-8167 • [info@erfpc.org](mailto:info@erfpc.org)

Rev. Jim Porter, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Sandra Murray, Parish Associate  
Cheryl Knight, Director of Music Ministries  
Melanie Stoll, Contemporary Worship Leader  
Wayne Potter, Director of Youth and Family Life Ministries

## January 5, 2020

### MEDITATION TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

*Giving God, you have  
adopted us as your children,  
sisters and brothers of your  
beloved, Jesus Christ.  
Empower us to be holy and  
blameless witnesses to your  
glorious reign of peace and  
love now come into this  
world. Amen.*

### **Our Mission**

Introduce Jesus Christ to those who do not know Him;  
Deepen the faith and commitment of those who already know Him;  
Demonstrate Christ's way of love in service to the world.

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

# Traditional Worship – 9:00 AM

*\* Signifies the congregation may stand as able. | Please silence all electronic devices.*

## Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian Church!

If you do not have a church home in the area, we invite you to make our church yours. Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbor so you can get acquainted.



*We encourage you to take a moment to check in on Facebook.*

### PREPARING

THE PRELUDE – “*Eternal One*”

arr. by Sterling

WELCOME

\*GREETING EACH OTHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE

RINGING OF THE HISTORIC CHURCH BELL AND  
LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

### GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

LeRue Werner

Leader: A new year has begun.

**People: Light has dawned;**

Leader: Blessings abound!

**People: Feel God’s holy presence.**

Leader: Open your hearts to

**People: Warmth!**

Leader: Hope!

**People: Joy!**

Leader: Love!

**People: A table of abundant food!**

Leader: The cup of God’s salvation!

**All: This is the day our God has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

\*OPENING HYMN 151 – *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (followed by silent confessions) LeRue Werner

**All: Great God of love, you created us for love, called us to share love, and to mirror in our relationships the kindness, care and generosity that you show us. We have good intentions, but we fall short of being truly loving. We look out for ourselves and take lightly the needs of others.**

**Remind us again that loving ourselves involves loving God and others. Save us from a selfish love, a narrow preoccupation with self that ignores the rainbow of your creation. Teach us to be good friends and faithful companions as we follow the way of Christ. In his name. Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – *Kyrie*

**Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us;  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

LeRue Werner

Leader: Friends, hear the good news of your salvation: God freely bestows God's grace on us through Jesus Christ. In Christ we receive redemption and forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of the grace that God lavishes on us. So be reconciled to God and one another.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

\*GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without  
end. Amen. Amen.**

## PROCLAIMING

SCRIPTURE READING – Matthew 2:1-12 (pg. 2 NT)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“The Gift That Keeps On Giving”

Rev. Jim Porter

## RESPONDING

\*RESPONSIVE HYMN 128 – *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

### THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*All who place trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to share the goodness set before us on this table and to participate fully in this celebration.*

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & 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.**

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE\*\*

*The Pastor will give instructions for how we will partake of the bread and the cup.*

OFFERTORY – *“In the First Light”*  
Soloist: Ken Price

arr. by Rouse

## \*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION<sup>1</sup>

**All: Gracious God, you have brought us together from many backgrounds and conditions to be this church together. Therefore we praise you with songs, shouts, and these offerings and gifts. Multiply them for your service, that they - and we - might become your presence in the world. Amen.**

## \*CONCLUDING HYMN 119 – *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

## \*CHARGE AND BLESSING

**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

## \*BENEDICTION RESPONSE – *“Let There Be Peace On Earth”*

THE POSTLUDE – *“Prince of Peace”*

arr. by Sterling

## WORSHIP CONCLUDES—SERVICE BEGINS!

\*\*Bread cubes are gluten free and juice is alcohol-free.

Thank you Katherine Beier for playing flute today.

<sup>1</sup> Long, Kim. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1: Advent Through Pentecost (p. 16-17). Westminster John Knox Press.

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Welcome friends.** If you are a guest, please take a moment to sign the Friendship Pad at the end of each pew, and include a phone number or email address so we can acknowledge your visit today. We hope your worship experience is meaningful and uplifting. Meet new friends at “Fellowship Hour” in the narthex before and after worship. Also, be sure to pick up a “Welcome” folder from our guest table also located in the narthex.

**Child care.** Qualified caregivers welcome infants and children through 5 years old.



**We have an induction hearing loop system** for hearing aid users. Please switch hearing aids to “T” or see the sound technician for help.

**Large print bulletins and hymn sheets available from an usher.**

**Thank you.** Special thanks to our greeters: Pam Coleman & Ken Kohlman; ushers: Shelly & Chris Shively, Lori & Paul Caruso; and fellowship hour: Fellowship Team.

**Thank you** to our communion servers today: Mary Anne Frey, Peggy Bushnell, Don Reynolds, John Werner, and Betty Tezak-choir.

**Prayer requests:** Don & Sandy Davids’ granddaughter Alexa, Karyl Mangus’ granddaughter Jessica, Donald Kinloch, Olivia Lein, Suzanna Lein, Mike Cameron, Caleigh Gordon (Former Eagle Village resident), Nash Nichols (Tom & Diane Thompson’s grandson), Denise Elmi’s son Josh, Len Sheldon, Roger Gehrt, Mary Sawyer’s friend Mac, Caroline Dixon, Edson Murray, Bruce Hulwick, Carolyn Cross (Sandy Davids’ mother), Lou Sanford, Tom Klingler, Nilah Farmer, Les Teague, and Rogers City Westminster Presbyterian Church.

**Chancel flowers** are placed by Dave & Marilyn Nussdorfer in celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary.

**Elk Rapids School Snow Days** - If Elk Rapids Schools have a snow day, the office will not open until 12 noon or may not open at all (depending on the weather). If you have a meeting scheduled, we encourage you to call the church or the person heading up the meeting before you venture out.



## **This Week's Activities**

### **Sun. 1/5**

- 9 a.m. Traditional Service
- 10 a.m. SS/Youth
- 11 a.m. Contemporary Service

### **Mon. 1/6**

- 9 a.m. Hospitality Team
- 5:30 p.m. Personnel MT

### **Tues. 1/7**

- 9 a.m. Women's Retreat Meeting
- 10 a.m. Bible Girls
- 6 p.m. Community Cupboard

### **Wed. 1/8**

- 6:30 a.m. Breakfast Club @ LH
- 9 a.m. Bulletin Items Due
- 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice

### **Thurs. 1/9**

- 7 p.m. Trustees Meeting

### **Fri. 1/10**

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study at Noel Peter's
- 8:30 a.m. Community Cupboard
- 9 a.m. Annual Reports Due

## **Next Week's Activities**

### **Sun. 1/12**

- 9 a.m. Traditional Service
- 10 a.m. Youth Brunch
- 11 a.m. Contemporary Service

### **Mon. 1/13**

- 1 p.m. Worship MT

### **Tues. 1/14**

- 10 a.m. Bible Girls

### **Wed. 1/15**

- 6:30 a.m. Breakfast Club @ LH
- 9 a.m. Bulletin Items Due
- 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 6 p.m. Wired Word @ AmVets
- 6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice

### **Thurs. 1/16**

### **Fri. 1/17**

# What's Happening

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## **New Sermon Series Begins Today**

We're excited to begin our new sermon series "The Gifts That Keep On Giving" - discovering and living into the gifts God offers. Plan to join us as the series continues!

## **A New Men's Bible Study is Starting!**

We will meet at Noel Peter's on Friday, January 10, at 6:30 a.m. and are looking at the book of James. It's all about putting our faith in action. Please contact Pastor Jim at 231-264-8167 or Mel Matchett at 231-264-6377 if you would like to attend.

## **Youth Brunch - Sunday, January 12**

There will be a youth brunch in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, January 12 from 10:00—11:00 a.m. There will be no youth group or children's Sunday School classes to allow everyone to enjoy the brunch. The cost for your meal is a donation to the youth group.

**2019 Annual Reports Due Friday, January 10** - Now is the time to begin putting together your Annual Report, covering the activities of your group or ministry team for 2019. Please try to keep your report to one page, put it in a Word document, and email it to the office ([info@erfpc.org](mailto:info@erfpc.org)) by 9 a.m. Friday, January 10, 2020. If you have any questions, please contact Ellen Merillat (231-264-8167).

## **Prayer for Christian Unity at Kewadin United Methodist—January 22**

Join with churches in our area for a gathering of fellowship and prayer on Wednesday, January 22 at Kewadin United Methodist, 7234 Cairn Hwy., Kewadin. It begins with a potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m. followed by an Ecumenical Prayer Service at 6:30 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass and don't miss this special service!

## **Florida Snowbirds Lunch - Saturday, February 8**

If you are in Florida in February, plan to attend the "First Presbyterian South" lunch on February 8 at 12 noon at Captain's Table Restaurant, Fisherman's Village, Punta Gorda, FL. To reserve a spot, contact Connie Claar at 231-883-9408 or [connieclaar@torchlake.com](mailto:connieclaar@torchlake.com) by January 31.

## Wired Word - Begins Again January 15

"Wired Word," our discussion of topics in the news, will resume Wednesday, January 15, at 6 p.m. at AmVets. We'll continue to meet on February 5 & 19, and March 4 & 18. Don't miss these thought-provoking discussions!

**The Community Cupboard needs your receipts** from Village Market for the Community Cash program. Thanks to those who are already participating. Let's all help our Community Cupboard by bringing in our receipts!

## New Photo Directories Are Here!

Come and pick up your directory at the church office. If you had your picture taken or submitted a picture, your directory will have your name on it and is free of charge. If you did not have your picture taken but would like a directory, we have a limited number available for a suggested donation of \$10.

## Opportunities to Get Involved

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If you would like to use your time and talents to serve or be more involved on Sunday mornings or on one of our ministry teams (committees), please contact those listed below.

### Sunday Mornings:

Breakfast Cook at the Lighthouse .....	Wayne Potter 517-416-2813
Greeter ( <i>sign up at Activity Center</i> ) .....	Lynne Sheldon 586-484-1303
Traditional Worship Snacks ( <i>sign up at Activity Center</i> ) .....	Sandy Davids 231-409-8859
Contemporary Worship Snacks ( <i>sign up at Activity Center</i> ) .....	Anne Conrad 231-492-5129
Nursery .....	Wayne Potter 517-416-2813
Usher for traditional or contemporary service .....	Judy Matchett 231-264-6377
Sanctuary Choir .....	Cheryl Knight 231-409-3316
Contemporary Praise Team .....	Melanie Stoll 231-392-1862
Sound .....	Pete VanDenBerge 231-264-9551
Visual .....	Pete VanDenBerge 231-264-9551
Children's Ministries .....	Wayne Potter 517-416-2813
Communication Ministry Team .....	Jim Porter 248-505-9064
Fellowship Ministry Team .....	Joanne Teague 231-264-6162
Outreach Ministry Team .....	Peggy Bushnell 231-322-4926
Presbyterian Women .....	Cheryl Knight 231-409-3316
Volunteer for Free Community Dinners .....	Anne Conrad 231-492-5129
Worship Ministry Team .....	Judy Husby 231-264-9843
Youth Group .....	Wayne Potter 517-416-2813



# Contemporary Worship Service — 11:00 AM

*Please silence all electronic devices.*

## **Welcome to worship at First Presbyterian Church!**

If you do not have a church home in the Elk Rapids area, we invite you to make our church yours. We are an open congregation and we welcome you. Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbor so you have an opportunity to get acquainted.



*We encourage you to take a moment to check in on Facebook.*

Fellowship & Refreshments in Narthex

## **ADORE**

GREETING

WORSHIP SONGS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Wayne Potter

## **LEARN**

SCRIPTURE READING — Matthew 2:1-12

MESSAGE: "The Gift That Keeps On Giving" Rev. Jim Porter

## **NEXT STEPS**

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

OUR RESPONSE: GIVING, CHILDREN'S & PRAYER STATIONS

COMMUNION\*\*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

## **SENDING**

CLOSING SONG

VISION

BENEDICTION

## **WORSHIP CONCLUDES—SERVICE BEGINS!**

\*\*Bread cubes are gluten free and juice is alcohol-free.

**Thank you.** Special thanks to our volunteers from our last contemporary service on December 22 - Judy & Mel Matchett ushered.

**Thank you** to our communion server today for the 11 a.m. service: Lorraine Berak.

**Nursery** is in the lower level. Infants and children through 5 years old can be dropped off and picked up by parents or a responsible adult.

**Worship through your gifts:** You may offer a gift during the 'Next Steps' portion of the service. A box is located in the front of the church for your offering.