



First Presbyterian Church  
of Elk Rapids

404 Spruce Street, Elk Rapids, Michigan 49629  
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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 19, 2020

MEDITATION TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS  
AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

*Holy God, you sent your son to be  
the light of the world, so that all may  
know the brightness of your love.  
Fill us with your grace this day that  
we too may bear witness to his light  
and serve your coming reign. In  
Jesus' name we pray. 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 – “Adagio” by Mozart

WELCOME

\*GREETING EACH OTHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE

MINUTE FOR MISSION Barb Cole

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

### GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP Sandy Davids

Leader: Searching for our true home,

**People: We shall be led on the path to God.**

Leader: Longing for the warmth of home and hearth,

**People: We shall find the fire of God’s presence.**

Leader: Looking for a place to be ourselves,

**People: We shall find acceptance.**

Leader: Yearning to find someone who cares,

**People: We shall know and share God’s love.**

Leader: Hoping for a joy stronger than gray, cold  
mornings and long, dark nights,

**All: We shall know the light of God and  
forever sing God’s praise.**

\*OPENING HYMN 267 – *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (followed by silent confessions) Sandy Davids

**All: Loving God, we have chased after foolish things, and spent our strength on vanity and things of this world, but our labor has been in vain.**

**Deliver us from arrogance and forgive our self-concern, that we may find our reward with you, as servants of your mission of love and hope for all the world. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – *Kyrie*

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

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS<sup>1</sup> Sandy Davids

Leader: Beloved, you are forgiven in Christ, the Lamb who bears our sin and takes away the sin of the world. Happy are those who put their trust in God, and delight to do God's will, for God makes our footing sure upon the rock of Christ.

**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.**

MESSAGE TO THE CHILDREN

Wayne Potter  
Director of Youth & Family Life Ministries

ANTHEM – “*Deep River*”

Soloist: Tom Wiltse

arr. by Helvey

## PROCLAIMING

SCRIPTURE READING – John 1:29-42 (pg. 92NT)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“The Gifts of Curiosity,  
Creativity, and Courage”

Rev. Jim Porter

## RESPONDING

\*RESPONSIVE HYMN 144 – *In the Bleak Midwinter*

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.**

OFFERTORY – *“Come to Me”*

by Forrest

Soloist: Cheryl Knight

\*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: We give you thanks, O loving God, that you have placed in the hearts of your faithful people the gift of generosity and the desire to do your will. Use these gifts to proclaim good news to every nation and restore all people to Christ. Amen.**

\*CONCLUDING HYMN 462 – *I Love to Tell the Story*

\*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 – *“Crown Him With Many Crowns”* arr. by Elvey

**WORSHIP CONCLUDES—SERVICE BEGINS!**

<sup>1</sup>Long, Kim. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1: Advent Through Pentecost (p. 49-51). 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 greeter: Don Reynolds; ushers: Pam Coleman & Ken Kohlman; fellowship hour: Fellowship Team; and snack volunteer: Betty Tezak.

**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 Grace Presbyterian Church of Sagola.

**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.

**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.

## **This Week's Activities**

### **Sun. 1/19**

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

### **Mon. 1/20**

- 11:45 a.m. Adult Ed MT
- 5 p.m. Community Dinner

### **Tues. 1/21**

- 10 a.m. Bible Girls
- 6 p.m. Evening Community Cupboard

### **Wed. 1/22**

- 6:30 a.m. Breakfast Club @ LH
- 9 a.m. Bulletin Items Due
- 1 p.m. Up North Small Group
- 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Unity Service & Potluck at Kewadin United Methodist
- 6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice

### **Thurs. 1/23**

- 9 a.m. Session Reports Due

### **Fri. 1/24**

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Group Bible Study
- 8:30 a.m. Community Cupboard
- 9 a.m. Session Pkts. Printed

## **Next Week's Activities**

### **Sun. 1/26**

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

### **Mon. 1/27**

### **Tues. 1/28**

- 10 a.m. Bible Girls

### **Wed. 1/29**

- 6:30 a.m. Breakfast Club @ LH
- 9 a.m. Bulletin Items Due
- 1 p.m. Up North Small Group
- 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Wired Word @ AmVets
- 6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice
- 7 p.m. Session Meeting

### **Thurs. 1/30**

### **Fri. 1/31**

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Group@TJ Charlies

# What's Happening

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**Announcing the 2020 opportunity to help fill Weekend Food Backpacks for kids in Elk Rapids Schools!** This program provides food for weekends when kids, who normally eat breakfast and lunch at school, are at home without adequate food.

The Outreach Ministry Team is once again asking for your help in supplying 3 basic food items which will help this program get through the lean winter months. The following items can be turned in to the grocery cart in the Narthex any weekend or weekday through Sunday, Feb. 16: 16 oz. jars of peanut butter, cans of tuna or chicken, and cans of Spaghettios or Raviolios.

## **New Adult Ed Class - Begins Today**

“Christianity and World Religions: Questions We Ask About Other Faiths” is the title of our next study which will take place on three Sundays, January 19 & 26 and February 2, 10:15-11:15 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Adam Hamilton’s dvd and book of the same title will be used as resources. Klaus Lehrer will lead discussions that help us gain a better understanding of the similarities and differences between Christianity and the world’s major religions - Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, and Islam. Sign up today at the Activity Center in the Narthex. A donation of \$10 to help cover the cost of the book will be appreciated but not necessary.

## **Free Community Dinner - Monday, January 20**

Make plans to attend our Free Community Dinner on Monday, January 20 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. There is a volunteer sign-up sheet at the Activity Center along with a donation box to help with expenses. Chef Jeremy is once again cooking an excellent meal and everyone is welcome. We hope to see you Monday night!

## **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!

## **David Chown Concert - Sunday, February 9**

Join us on Sunday, February 9 at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary for a free concert. Come enjoy the JAZZ PIANO stylings of David Chown followed by a Hot Beverage Bar. Contact Melanie at 231-392-1862 for details.



## **Annual Meeting—Sunday, February 9**

Session Calls an All Congregation Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 9 immediately following the 9:00 a.m. service to (1) approve the minutes of the 2019 Congregational meeting as printed, or with additions and/or corrections, and receive the 2019 Ministry Teams' and Committees' Annual Reports, (2) approve the pastor's terms of call for 2020, (3) receive the Session-approved 2020 operating budget, and (4) conduct any other business that needs to come before the congregation.

Copies of the annual reports will be available next Sunday, January 26. Non-members are welcome to attend. Members are asked to attend. Please remember that our bylaws require that 10 percent (30 people) of our active membership be present for a quorum.

**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!

## **Youth Winter Camp - February 7-9**

All middle and high school youth are invited to attend Winter Camp from Friday, February 7 to Sunday, February 9. Cost is \$40 per student. Please contact Wayne Potter at 517-416-2813 if you have a youth who would like to attend or if you have questions.

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

We will meet at on Fridays at 6:30 a.m. at different locations 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 for details and if you would like to attend.

**Year-end contribution statements are now available** on the welcome table in the narthex or in your church mailbox. Please take a moment to stop and pick yours up.

## **Wired Word - January Through March**

"Wired Word," our discussion of topics in the news, will resume in January at 6 p.m. at AmVets. We'll meet on January 29, February 5 & 19, and March 4 & 18. Don't miss these thought-provoking discussions!




# 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

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Barb Cole

WORSHIP SONGS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Wayne Potter

## **LEARN**

SCRIPTURE READING — John 1:29-42

MESSAGE: "The Gifts of Curiosity,  
Creativity, and Courage"

Rev. Jim Porter

## **NEXT STEPS**

REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

OUR RESPONSE: GIVING, CHILDREN'S & PRAYER STATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

## **SENDING**

CLOSING SONG

VISION

BENEDICTION

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

**Thank you.** Special thanks to our volunteers from last week - Jan & Gary Burns ushered.

**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.