



First Presbyterian Church
of Elk Rapids

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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

November 17, 2019

MEDITATION TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS
AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

God, who labored creation into being, we give thanks for this day and the privilege to work in your world. We pray this day for those for whom this Lord's Day is not a day of rest but of toil. We pray this day for those who cannot afford to take Sabbath and for those who believe they cannot afford to take Sabbath. Grant us the strength to labor for what is right, just, and fair. Grant us the wisdom to speak out for those who are enslaved, oppressed, and exploited. Grant us the ability to break the chains of injustice and hear the voices of people long silenced. We pray this day for the privilege to work in your world; may we make it better. 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 – “*Prelude in B Minor*” by Martin

WELCOME

*GREETING EACH OTHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE

MINUTE FOR MISSION Pam Coleman

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

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP¹ Marcy Potter

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord, for God has done gloriously;

People: Let us sing God’s praises throughout all the earth.

Leader: Shout aloud and sing for joy,

People: From the highest peaks, to the deepest caverns.

Leader: Shout aloud and sing for joy,

People: From the tiniest creatures, to the greatest herds.

Leader: Shout aloud and sing for joy,

People: In the midst of our joy and our sorrows.

Leader: Shout aloud and sing for joy,

All: As we come to worship the God of all creation!

*OPENING HYMN 49 – *The God of Abraham Praise*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹ (followed by silent confessions) Marcy Potter

All: God of peace we confess we are people of fear. We

have let anxiety rule our days and worry our nights. We

have been distracted by nerves and focused on tension.

We confess we have ignored your command to not be

afraid. Forgive us, O God. Calm our hearts, settle our

stomachs, and renew in us the ability to find our comfort

in you. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – *Kyrie*

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

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS¹

Marcy Potter

Leader: The prophet Isaiah assures us: God is building a new heaven and a new earth; the former things will not be remembered or come to mind. Forgiven and freed, rejoice in what the Lord is creating in you, in me, in all creation.

All: Amen.

*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 – “*O Come Let Us Sing*”

by Berry

PROCLAIMING

SCRIPTURE READINGS – Isaiah 65:17-25 (pg. 696 OT) & Matthew 6:25-34 (pg. 6 NT)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Disciples Take their Faith Public:
Living into God’s Kingdom Today”

Rev. Jim Porter

RESPONDING

RESPONSIVE HYMN 175 – *Seek Ye First*

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Bill & Ginny Dorner

Len & Lynne Sheldon

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 – *“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”* (new hymn p. 700)

***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 DEDICATION¹**

All: God of the wolf and the lamb, the lion and the ox, we give thanks for these gifts and pray they might be agents of your peace. May they serve your creation as we seek your new heaven and new earth. Help us take these gifts out into a world filled with distress and calm it. Help us take these gifts out into a world filled with pain and heal it. Help us take these gifts out into a world filled with silence and speak up; In Jesus’ name. Amen.

CONCLUDING HYMN 697 – *Take My Life

***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 – *“Trumpet Tune”*

by Handel

WORSHIP CONCLUDES—SERVICE BEGINS!

¹Long, Kim. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2: Trinity Sunday Through Reign of Christ (p. 265-268). 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: Connie & Dick Claar, Janeen & Adrian Noecker; fellowship hour: Fellowship Team, and snack volunteer: Joanne Teague.

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), Sandy Davids, and Neebish Island Presbyterian.

Chancel flowers are placed by Les & Joanne Teague in celebration of their 47th wedding anniversary.

Please note that the church office will be closed Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29 for the Thanksgiving holiday. Normal hours will resume the following week.

Thank You!

Dear Outreach Team and Parishioners of First Pres.,
It is people like you, and your willingness to help kids who have endured so much, that will allow them to rise above their circumstances and build successful futures.

Your gift to the Eagle Fund helps us provide services that make a genuine difference in the lives of those who need it most. Because of supporters like you, we can create lasting positive change, giving Eagle Village youth hope for a better life and the skills to succeed.

Thank you for this thoughtful gift. You show your care for Eagle Village children through your support. ~ Carol Hyble, Eagle Village

Update on Caleigh Gordon, (former Eagle Village resident) A family has taken Caleigh into their home as she attends a local college 20 minutes from the family’s home. She is living in a dorm but can spend weekends with the family. She is doing well and finding her way as a college student. We will keep Caleigh in our prayers.

This Week's Activities

Sun. 11/17

- 9 a.m. Traditional Service
- 10 a.m. SS/Youth
- 10 a.m. Presbyterian Women
- 11 a.m. Contemporary Service
- 4 p.m. Cantata Practice

Mon. 11/18

Tues. 11/19

- 10 a.m. Bible Girls
- 1 p.m. Make Your Own Christmas Cards @ LH

Wed. 11/20

- 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
- 7 p.m. Session Meeting

Thurs. 11/21

Fri. 11/22

Next Week's Activities

Sun. 11/24

- 9 a.m. Traditional Service
- 10 a.m. Adult Class/SS/Youth
- 11 a.m. Contemporary Service
- 4 p.m. Cantata Practice

Mon. 11/25

- 9 a.m. Bulletin Items Due
- 4:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Free Community Dinner
- 6:30 p.m. Community Thanksgiving Service

Tues. 11/26

- 10 a.m. Bible Girls

Wed. 11/27

Thurs. 11/28 - Thanksgiving Day

Office Closed

Fri. 11/29 - Day After Thanksgiving

Office Closed

Sat. 11/30

- 12:30 p.m. Christmas Crafts & Caroling

What's Happening

Donate to Free Community Dinner Ministry

Free Community Dinners is now accepting donations; the dinners will always be free to attend and most food is donated, but money helps this ministry continue. The dates for our 2019-2020 Community Dinners are: November 25, January 20, February 17, March 16, and April 20. Volunteer sign ups are available for the November 25 dinner at the Activity Center.

25 Pies Needed for Free Community Dinner on November 25

We need at least 25 pies for the Free Community Dinner on Monday, November 25. Please sign up at the Activity Center if you can bring pies.

Community Thanksgiving Service - Monday, November 25

Mark your calendar now and plan to join with other local churches to begin your holiday week by attending the Community Thanksgiving Service on Monday, November 25 at 6:30 p.m. in our sanctuary. Don't miss this special service that begins immediately following the November Free Community Dinner!

Make Your Own Christmas Cards - Tuesday, November 19

Make Your Own Christmas Cards class with Jana Gillstrom, Tuesday, November 19 from 1-3 p.m. at the Lighthouse. \$20 cost for supplies. You will make 12 greeting cards with envelopes and have enough left over to make 8 more cards. Only 4 spots left. Call Jana Gillstrom at 231-632-5832 for more information.

"Wired Word" - Wednesday, November 20 at AmVets

"Wired Word," our popular discussion of topics in current events is continuing, **Wednesday evening, 6-7:30 p.m., November 20 at the AmVets.** Don't miss this thought-provoking discussion!

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles begins Sunday, December 1. If your family or group has an interest in lighting the Advent Candle on a Sunday during Advent or at one of our three Christmas Eve services, please let us know on the Advent Candle Sign-up Sheet at the Activity Center.

Advent Catered Dinner - Tuesday, December 10

Tickets are on sale on Sundays now for our Advent Dinner catered by Chef Jonathon Heeke on Tuesday, December 10. Appetizers begin at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$10/person, \$25/family. At 7:00 p.m. there will be a concert by area young people, including a special appearance by Travis Hall. Don't miss this special evening!

Help Decorate for Christmas - December 1 & 2

We need volunteers to help with decorations as we approach the holiday season. We'll be meeting on Sunday, December 1 at 12:15 p.m. to get things started, and then again on Monday, December 2 at 10:00 a.m. to finish up. Please sign up in at the Activity Center if you can help on one or both of the dates. Contact Anne Conrad at 231-492-5129 if you have any questions.

Outdoor Nativity Scene Needed for Corner of Spruce & First

We would like to add to our Advent season decorations and are looking for an outdoor nativity scene to illuminate the corner of Spruce & First. If you have one you are willing to donate, please contact Anne Conrad at 231-492-5129.

Christmas Tea - Thursday, December 5

Christmas Tea is on for Thursday, December 5. If you would like to help plan this fun event, call Cheryl Knight at 231-409-3316. If you would like to host a table, call Judy Brummeler at 231-838-4941.

Cookies Needed for Christmas Tea - Thursday, December 5

If you can make cookies for the Christmas Tea, Thursday, December 5, please contact Phyllis Staley at 231-264-5857.

Christmas Cantata—Saturday, December 21

The Elk Lake Community Choir will present their annual Christmas Cantata on Saturday, December 21, at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. You won't want to miss this exciting event!

Christmas Crafts & Caroling - Saturday, November 30 at 12:30 PM

Join us on Saturday, November 30 from 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for Christmas Crafts & Caroling. Invite your friends and family to this fun event! Contact Wayne Potter at 517-416-2813 with questions.

“Shower” Donations for Our Nursery - We have been sprucing up our nursery and are accepting “shower” donations to help as we minister to our little children. Here are items our nursery needs: crib, bouncy seat, swing, bumby seat, crib sheets, toys, board books, changing table, and boppy pillow. If you have donations, please put them in the box by the Activity Center or sign up for larger items.

Safe Harbor Volunteers Needed - December 21-27

We are partnering with the Presbyterian Church in Traverse City to provide volunteers for Safe Harbor Homeless Shelter from December 21-27. For a complete list of the volunteer positions needed and/or to sign up, please see the information at the Activity Center. Contact Wayne Potter at 517-416-2813 with questions.


Pick Up Orphaned Kitchen Items Today - The Deacons recently discovered a number of orphaned items and things no longer needed in the kitchen. Please check the table by the name tag rack to see if any belong to you or can find a home with you. Unclaimed items will be donated after November 17.

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

Pam Coleman

WORSHIP SONGS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Wayne Potter

LEARN

SCRIPTURE READINGS—Isaiah 65:17-25 & Matthew 6:25-34 Sophia McDonald

MESSAGE: “Disciples Take their Faith Public: Living into God’s Kingdom Today” 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 Burns provided snacks, and 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.