



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 24, 2019

MEDITATION TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS
AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

*Almighty God, through the Lordship of
your Son, Jesus Christ, the powers and
dominions of the world obtain their
purpose, and creation finds its
meaning. Reveal to the world the
gracious rule of Christ, end all enmity
among the nations, and bring us soon
to his glorious, peaceable kingdom;
through Christ who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
forever and ever. 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 – “*Thanksgiving Medley*”
Flautist: Jan Johnson

WELCOME

*GREETING EACH OTHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE

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

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Leader: Gather round,

People: Young, older and in between,

Leader: Gather together.

People: Come from near and far,

Leader: Come open and expectant,

People: Create a symphony of praise,

Leader: A bouquet of joy,

People: Join us as we pray

Leader: That God will weave us into:

People: A people of compassion,

Leader: A community of prayer,

People: A family of care.

Leader: Come, gather round,

People: Hear God’s Word,

Leader: Be challenged to serve,

All: And raise a voice in song.

Betty Tezak

*OPENING HYMN 367 – *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹ (followed by silent confessions) Betty Tezak

All: Almighty God, you brought forth the world for the love of Christ, yet we have lived in rebellion and turned away from our created purpose. We have acknowledged the Lordship of Christ with our lips, but we have not honored him with our lives. We have served the idols of wealth and privilege; we have sought the protection of violence to oppose violence; we have lived in fear of death and loss; we have not loved our neighbors, nor sought reconciliation with our enemies. Therefore we pray: Break our rebellious will. Instruct our hearts in the ways of peace. Expose our insincere thoughts. Give us integrity in our quest for truth. Release us from the fear of death. Grant us courage in the face of evil. Free us for joyful service in Christ our Lord. Empower us to live as citizens of your kingdom. For the sake of the world, in the name of Christ. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – *Kyrie*

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

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS¹ Betty Tezak

Leader: God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Through Christ our Lord, we are forgiven.

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 – *“Let All the People Praise!”*

by Courtney

PROCLAIMING

SCRIPTURE READING – Colossians 1:11-20 (pg. 200 NT)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Disciples Give Ultimate
Allegiance to Christ”

Rev. Jim Porter

VIDEO – *“That’s My King”*

RESPONDING

RESPONSIVE HYMN 37 – *Let All Things Now Living* (vs. 1)

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 – *“Lord of All Hopefulness”* (new hymn p. 683)

*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: Almighty God, receive our offering for the sake of Christ our Lord. Make us worthy stewards of your gifts and generous citizens of the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ, through whom we pray. Amen.

*CONCLUDING HYMN 363 – *Rejoice, the Lord is King!*

*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 – *“Variations for Thanksgiving”* by Curtis

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. 280-283). 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: Connie & Dick Claar; 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), Sandy Davids, Lou Sanford, and First Presbyterian Church of Newberry.

We express our sympathy to Barbara Schantz and her family for the death of Henry Schantz on Friday, November 15. A private memorial service will be held in Canton, Georgia. Memorials can be made to First Presbyterian Church of Elk Rapids.

Chancel flowers are placed by the White family in memory of John White. We are grateful for our time together and cherish his memory.

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.

Save the Date - Florida Snowbirds Lunch Planned for February 8
If you’ll be in Florida in February, mark your calendar now for Saturday, February 8 and watch for more details.

This 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

- 8:30 a.m. Community Cupboard

Sat. 11/30

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

Next Week's Activities

Sun. 12/1

- 9 a.m. Traditional Service
- 10 a.m. Adult Class/SS/Youth
- 11 a.m. Contemporary Service
- 12:15 p.m. Decorate for Christmas
- 4 p.m. Cantata Practice

Mon. 12/2

- 10 a.m. Decorate for Christmas
- 5:30 p.m. Youth MT
- 6:30 p.m. Children's Ed MT

Tues. 12/3

- 9 a.m. Men's Work Group
- 10 a.m. Bible Girls

Wed. 12/4

- 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. 12/5

- 5 p.m. Christmas Tea in Fellowship Hall

Fri. 12/6

Sat. 12/7

- 9 a.m. Deacons Meeting

What's Happening

Advent Class Begins Today

“All I Want for Christmas” by James Moore is the Advent study for this year. Our 5 Sunday classes will take place November 24 through December 22, 10:10 - 11 a.m. Using a dvd and study booklet for resources, we will explore a very personal question: “What are the gifts you would really like to receive from Christmas this year?” Our focus will be on the amazing, life-changing gifts Christmas has for each of us! Classes will be in the Fellowship Hall. You are welcome to attend any or all of the classes even if you haven't registered.

Free Community Dinner - Monday, November 25

Our first Free Community Dinner of the season will take place Monday, November 25 from 5:30-6:30 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 cooking an excellent turkey dinner again and everyone is welcome. We hope to see you Monday night!

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

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. We'll be taking an offering of canned goods or other non-perishable items to support Community Cupboard and ACTS. The director of Community Cupboard says that paper towels, toilet paper, tooth paste, juice and cereal are the items needed most right now. Don't miss this special service that begins immediately following the Free Community Dinner!

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!

Christmas Tea - Thursday, December 5

Christmas Tea is on for Thursday, December 5. Tickets are available on Sundays, so get your ticket today! 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.

Thank You!

Thank you for your donations to Patriot

Place. Your generosity will make a difference to our veterans making the difficult transition to independent living. ~ Outreach Ministry Team

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.

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.

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 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!

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 – Colossians 1:11-20

MESSAGE: “Disciples Give Ultimate Allegiance to Christ”

Rev. Jim Porter

VIDEO – “*That’s My King*”

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 - Tracy Fosdick provided snacks, and Irene & Steve Quick 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.