



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

September 8, 2019

MEDITATION TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS  
AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

*Extravagant God, you pour out blessings upon us and lead us on the path of true life. Help us to choose your way again and again, that we might revel in your love and reflect it to all we meet. In the name of Jesus 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 – “*Exaltation Medley*” art. by Leatherman

WELCOME

\*GREETING EACH OTHER IN CHRISTIAN LOVE

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

### **GATHERING**

CALL TO WORSHIP Doug White

Leader: To take the clay of our lives, and shape disciples:

**People: God calls us to the Potter’s House**

Leader: To receive and mend those who are broken from life experiences:

**People: God calls us to the Potter’s House**

Leader: To love and heal those who are wounded from war:

**People: God calls us to the Potter’s House**

Leader: To shelter all who are outcast and heavily burdened:

**People: God calls us to the Potter’s House**

Leader: Let us enter this place of transformation:

**All: And worship our God!**

\*OPENING HYMN 169 – *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (followed by silent confessions)

Doug White

**All: Merciful God, you call us to be your voices in this world and we stay silent. You call us to be your hands in this world and we keep them hidden. You call us to be your feet in this world and we go our own way. When we meet those who are doubting and say nothing, forgive us. When we meet those who need your touch and do nothing, forgive us. When we are called to take up your cross yet carry nothing, forgive us. Breathe life into these bones bring freedom to these lives that we might declare with heart and soul and voice that you are our Lord and our God. Amen**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE – *Kyrie*

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

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Doug White

Leader: Holy God, we confess that we fail to put our trust in you completely. Instead, we calculate our gains and losses, hoarding the things that do not lead to abundant life. Forgive us, and help us to treasure only you, that we may follow you faithfully and discover the blessings only you can give.

**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

CHORAL ANTHEM – *“Footsteps”*

by Cook/Courtney

## PROCLAIMING

SCRIPTURE READINGS – Jeremiah 18:1-6 (pg. 720 OT) & Luke 14:25-33 (pg. 78 NT)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Disciples Take Faith Seriously”

Rev. Jim Porter

## RESPONDING

\*RESPONSIVE HYMN 738 – *The Wonder of It All*

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.**

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP

Stan Holzhauer

OFFERTORY – *“Blessed Jesus, At Your Word”* #395 in New Hymnal

\*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

**All: Gracious God we thank you for the opportunity to give our time, talent, and treasure for the building of your Kingdom on earth. Bless every gift, tithe, and offering that's deposited into your Kingdom today; we offer this prayer in your mighty name. Amen**

\*CONCLUDING HYMN 572 – *Blessed Assurance*

\*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 – *“Adoration Medley”*

arr. by Leatherman

**WORSHIP CONCLUDES—SERVICE BEGINS!**

## 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 3rd grade.



**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: Joanne & Les Teague; ushers: Sandy & Don Davids; fellowship hour: Fellowship Team; and snacks: Pam Coleman.

**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, Ron Dunbar, Len Sheldon, Terry Hogarth, Sarah Hulwick’s brother Josh, Roger Gehrt, Mary Sawyer’s friend Mac, Mary Sawyer’s friend Brady, and Westminster Presbyterian Church of Harrisville.

**We express our sympathy** to LaCorda Smith and her family for the death of her husband Richard on August 30.

**Chancel flowers** are placed by the Jack White family in loving memory of and gratefulness for the life of Jack White.

**WinSome Women Fall Retreat - October 15 & 16, 16 & 17, or 17 & 18**  
Come, experience enriching worship with award-winning Phillips, Craig, and Dean and hear encouraging speakers Alli Worthington and Kim Phuc Phan Thi at the fall WinSome Women retreat. Register at [wswretreats.org](http://wswretreats.org) for inspiration, fellowship, and fun at Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island October 15 & 16, 16 & 17, or 17 & 18.



## **This Week's Activities**

### **Sun. 9/8**

- 9 a.m. Traditional Service
- 10:00 a.m. SS/Youth & Adult Class
- 11 a.m. Contemporary Service

### **Mon. 9/9**

- 9 a.m. PEO
- 5:30 p.m. Personnel MT

### **Tues. 9/10**

- 9 a.m. Men's Group
- 10 a.m. Bible Girls
- 10 a.m. Outreach MT
- 1 p.m. Worship MT
- 6:30 p.m. Endowment MT

### **Wed. 9/11**

- 9 a.m. Bulletin Items Due
- 3:30 p.m. Communication MT
- 4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Praise Team Practice

### **Thurs. 9/12**

- 5:30 p.m. Fellowship MT
- 7 p.m. Trustees
- 7 p.m. Rotary Rehearsal-Sanctuary

### **Fri. 9/13**

## **Next Week's Activities**

### **Sun. 9/15**

- 9 a.m. Traditional Service
- 10:00 a.m. SS/Youth & Adult Class
- 11 a.m. Contemporary Service

### **Mon. 9/16**

### **Tues. 9/17**

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

### **Wed. 9/18**

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

### **Thurs. 9/19**

- 7 p.m. Rotary Rehearsal-Sanctuary

### **Fri. 9/20**

- 8:30 a.m. Community Cupboard
- 7 p.m. David Chown Concert in Sanctuary

# What's Happening

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## **“Seamless” - Begins Today**

**This class is for you!** Whether you've grown up learning Bible stories or you're exploring Scripture for the first time, this class is for you. In 6 sessions, “Seamless” covers key people, places and promises of the Bible, tying them together into one beautiful, seamless thread. The study brings to life major events from the Old and New Testament and focuses on the truth of the Gospel message.

Class begins today, September 8 through October 13, 10:15-11 a.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Having taught this excellent class twice before, Pam Shuler has agreed to teach it again. Using pictures, maps, dvd and books, Pam will capture your attention and interest as she helps you see the big picture of Scripture. Books, featuring a fold-out map summarizing the study, are available. A donation of \$10 will be appreciated but not required. Everyone is welcome to attend even if you didn't sign up!

## **Sunday School Begins - Today**

If you have children through the 5th grade, make plans to stay for Sunday School today at 10:00 a.m.



**Presbyterian Women would like to thank our church family who helped with the Silent Auction and Dinner.** Those who contacted the businesses, our church donors, our shoppers, our closing and set up team and computer gurus. The dinner preparers, servers, clean up crew and those who came to eat. We are definitely a church family who is blessed. Praise God.

## **Flu Clinic - September 25 at 9AM in Fellowship Hall**

Rite Aid is coming to give flu shots. Call Melanie (231-392-1862) to learn how to sign up. She will give you an email/phone for Rite Aid. You will need insurance information. Let them know if you want shingles vaccine too. Sign up soon - spots are limited.

## **“Wired Word” - Wednesdays, September 18 to November 20**

“Wired Word,” our popular discussion of topics in current events is returning, Wednesday evenings, 6-7:30 p.m., September 18 through November 20. More details to follow.

## **David Chown in Concert - September 20 at 7PM**

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend on Friday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. David Chown is a top jazz pianist in the Northern Michigan area. You won't want to miss this concert!

## **Presbytery Point Camp - Help Support Camp with Donations**

The next Presbytery meeting takes place on September 20 & 21 at the camp. At that time Presbytery will be collecting items to help support the camp.

We would love to participate in helping PRESBYTERY POINT CAMP. If you are able to contribute any of the following items, Bill Clark, Dale Wagner, and Pastor Jim will take them to the UP as they'll be attending the Presbytery meeting. **Please bring items to the church September 1, 8, or 15.**

- Bug Spray
- Carabiners for swim buoys
- Costumes (new or gently used)
- Hemp string
- Large and small waterproof tarps
- Bulk snacks (allergen free preferably i.e., nut free)
- White cotton t-shirts of all sizes
- Heavy-duty rubber gloves (all sizes)



Thank you for helping to support the camp with your donations. The campers will be blessed.

## **Blessing of the Backpacks - Today at 11AM**

All children are invited to bring their backpacks to worship today. At the 11:00 a.m. service our congregation will have a time of prayer for our children as they start the new school year.

## **Men's Fellowship Service Group**

All men are invited to meet on the first and second Tuesday mornings of each month (this month September 10 & 17 because of Labor Day) from 9 a.m. to about 11 a.m. for fellowship and service to the church through work projects. Please contact Wayne Shuler at 231-599-2480 or [wshuler2480@gmail.com](mailto:wshuler2480@gmail.com) for details.

## **Fall Work Camp at Presbytery Point - September 28-October 5**

Volunteers of all ages and skill levels are welcome to help at Presbytery Point Camp September 28-October 5. Let them know you are planning to help for the day, night or multiple days by emailing [director@presbyterypoint.org](mailto:director@presbyterypoint.org) or calling 906-8690-0925.




# 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 STEWARDSHIP

Stan Holzhauer

WORSHIP SONGS

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Wayne Potter

## **LEARN**

SCRIPTURE READINGS — Jeremiah 18:1-6 & Luke 14:25-33

MESSAGE: “Disciples Take Faith Seriously” 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 all our volunteers. We appreciate all you do providing snacks, greeting and ushering!

**Nursery** is in the lower level. Nursery age children, infants and children through 3rd grade 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.