

First Presbyterian Church, Elk Rapids
Sunday, January 22, 2023
9 AM Contemporary Service
Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Worship Songs – ***“Down To The River to Pray”***
“I’ll Fly Away”

Message to the Children

Wayne Potter

Scripture Reading – Matthew 4:12-23

Sermon “Called by God: the Gift of Bold Action”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Song – ***“I Can’t Even Walk”***

Ordination & Installation of Church Officers

Elders

Laura Asiala (Class of 2025)
David Atkinson (Class of 2025)
Sandy Davids (Class of 2025)
Rae Harfst (Class of 2025)

Deacons

Laura Atkinson (Class of 2025)
Judy Brummeler (Class of 2025)
Mary Anne Frey (Class of 2025)
Sandra Gray (Class of 2025)
Ken Kohlman (Class of 2025)
Courtney Reinhardt (Class of 2024)
Susan Wiltse (Class of 2024)

Trustees

Peg Burns (Class of 2025)
Pam Coleman (Class of 2025)
John Conrad (Class of 2025)
Garry Sumerix (Class of 2025)
Michael Thomas (Class of 2023)

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.

Presentation of Offering and Connection Cards

Closing Song – ***“Will the Circle Be Unbroken”***

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.**

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our usher: Lorraine Berak, and our snack volunteer.

First Presbyterian Church, Elk Rapids
Sunday, January 22, 2023
10:30 AM Traditional Service

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Ancient Word”* arr. by Courtney

Welcome

Rev. Jim Porter

Invitation and Centering Words

Where there is darkness, there is also light. Look for the light, look for love—Look for the power of God’s presence at work in places of love, joy, grace, and hope.

Ringling of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Ginny Dorner

Leader: We come seeking God,

People: the one who guides us and protects us.

Leader: People of God, there is nothing to fear,

People: for God dwells in our hearts.

Leader: Let us shout with joy, for God is here!

All: Let us sing praises to the Holy One!

Opening Prayer (*Isaiah 9, Matthew 4*)

Ginny Dorner

All: God of light, we come tired and weary, carrying many burdens. We come wondering if you are even here. We come seeking your face, seeking your love. In this moment, Holy One, open our hearts to the mystery of your love. Remind us that you are always with us and that you never leave us. Reassure us that you love us, even as you invite us to love one another. In this time and space, may we say “yes” to you. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn 331 – ***“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”***

Prayer of Confession

Ginny Dorner

All: Merciful God, as we seek your love and light, there are times when darkness invades our lives. Forgive us when we hide our true selves from you. Forgive us when we quarrel with one another, allowing our pride to overcome our commitment to the community. Forgive us when we give life’s activities priority over following the ways of Christ. O God, open our hearts to your grace, as you once again fill us with your love and light. Amen.

(Please pause for prayers of silent meditation)

Assurance of Pardon

Ginny Dorner

People of God, hear the good news of the gospel and rejoice! You are forgiven, and God’s grace sets you free to love again. Amen.

Anthem – *“Go Light Your World”* arr. by Pote

Scripture Reading – Matthew 4:12-23

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Called by God: the Gift of Bold Action”

Rev. Jim Porter

Responsive Hymn 187 – ***“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”***

Ordination & Installation of Church Officers

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Presentation of Offering and Connection Cards

Closing Hymn 35 – ***“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”***

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”***

Postlude

Worship Concludes – Service Begins!

Thank you. Special thanks to our usher: Jane Lund, and our snack volunteer: Phyllis Staley.

Thank you for your generous giving during this challenging time! Your gifts support all of the work and ministries of the church, as we continue to do the work of Christ in the world today. You can mail your pledges to the church at: First Presbyterian Church of Elk Rapids, 404 Spruce Street, Elk Rapids, MI 49629, give through online giving at www.erfpc.org (click on the Giving tab at the top right), or set up a one time or recurring donation by contacting our Treasurer, Mike Husby, at finmanager@erfpc.org. Again, we thank everyone for their continued support of the ministries and mission of the church!

Nursery – Qualified caregivers welcome infants and children during the service.

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

Thank You for Your Service! As we install our church officers today, we would like to thank our outgoing Elders, Deacons and Trustees. They are: Elders, Sandra Gray, Ken Kohlman, and Shelly Shively; Deacons, Peggy Bushnell, Jana Gillstrom, Pam Lein, Robin Osterhaven, and Diane Thompson; and Trustees, Don Reynolds, Tom Thompson, and Peter Van Den Berge. We appreciate your faithful service over the years!

One 10:30AM Service Next Sunday, January 29 followed by Brunch & “Town Hall”

On Sunday, January 29 there will be one worship service at 10:30 a.m. followed by a brunch served by the youth at 11:30 a.m., with the “Town Hall” following the brunch at 12:15 p.m. See more information about the “Town Hall” in the announcement titled “Concerns Regarding the 2022 General Assembly.” We hope everyone can attend!

Community Dinners are returning! Tuesday, January 31 from 5-6:30 PM

It is a blessing to be a blessing and what a blessing our Community Dinners have been in the past. They are back on our calendar with dinners scheduled for January 31, February 28, and March 21 to serve our friends and neighbors with an abundance of good fellowship and good food.

It's a piece of cake when we work together for these dinners. Sign up in the Activity Center to bring a cake to our first Community Dinner next week, January 31. You can also call or text Debbie McGee to let us know you want to let us have a cake and eat it, too! Contact information: 702-810-6995 or dmcgee24@gmail.com. What a sweet way to serve!

Annual Meeting – Sunday, February 12

Session Calls an All Congregation Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 12 in person and via Zoom immediately following worship at approximately 11:45 a.m. to (1) approve the minutes of the 2022 Congregational meeting as printed, or with additions and/or corrections, and receive the 2022 Ministry Teams' and Committees' Annual Reports, (2) approve the pastor's terms of call for 2023, (3) receive the Session-approved 2023 operating budget, and (4) conduct any other business that needs to come before the congregation.

Non-members are welcome to attend. Members are asked to attend. Please remember that our bylaws require that 10 percent (31 people) of our active membership be present for a quorum.

Wired Word – 1st & 3rd Wednesdays

Have you ever wondered how the Bible could help us with many of the troubling things that are going on in the world today? Wired Word is a Bible based look at how we can discuss and see world events from a different view point. Contact Klaus Lehrer at klauslehrer@yahoo.com to get on the Wired Word email list so you can join this informative group. They meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month.

“The Chosen” Season 2 – 8 Mondays from 6-7:30PM Beginning January 2

All sessions are from 6-7:30 p.m. If you cannot make it to all the sessions, please join us at any time you can during the 8 sessions. You can download on your phone or tablet the whole season for free at thechosen.tv. Please sign up at the activity center in the Narthex and take your book for Season 2. We will be taking \$5 donations for the books on January 2nd.

We're Hiring – Contemporary Worship Director

We are looking for a musically-gifted, spiritually mature Christian to lead our Contemporary Worship Services at First Presbyterian Church, Elk Rapids. The ideal candidate will have experience in planning and leading worship at a similar sized church (about 300 members) and experience in recruiting and developing worship teams. 20 hours per week. Salary based on experience. For a full job description and application, please contact the church office at 231-264-8167 or info@erfpc.org.

A Trip to Scotland with Pastors Jim and Jaime – Only 4 Spots Left!

If you would like to travel Scotland with Pastors Jim and Jaime, there are only 4 spots left! The remaining spots will be reserved on a first come, first served basis. If you are thinking about going, please contact Pastor Jim as soon as possible at jporter@erfpc.org!

Men's Bible Study – 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 7:30 AM

All the men of the church are invited to join Pastor Jim for a bi-weekly Bible study that meets the first and third Thursdays of the month at 7:30 a.m. in the church fellowship hall. Please note the new earlier time. Join us for a thoughtful study, good conversation, and fellowship with other men as we journey through life together!

Sunday School & Youth Group – 10:00AM at the Lighthouse

If you have children through the 5th grade or youth, make plans now to bring them to Sunday School and Youth Group each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. at the Lighthouse. Please contact Wayne Potter at 517-416-2813 with questions.

Concerns Regarding the 2022 General Assembly

Some members of the church have expressed concern over some of the actions that were taken at 2022 General Assembly of the P.C.(U.S.A.) that was held this past June. In order to address these concerns and answer questions regarding the General Assembly, Session has scheduled a "Town Hall" meeting on Sunday, January 29. There will be one worship service at 10:30 a.m. followed by a brunch served by the youth at 11:30 a.m., with the "Town Hall" following the brunch at 12:15 p.m. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear any concerns and answer questions from the congregation, so that all may come to a greater understanding of the actions of the General Assembly. All friends and members of the church are invited to attend.

For a summary of the 2022 General Assembly, you may go to the P.C.(U.S.A.)'s website: www.pcusa.org (search for "2022 General Assembly"). Or, you can read a report that was provided by church member Bill Clark by contacting Bill at elderbcjr@yahoo.com.

In the meantime, if anyone has any questions or concerns regarding the General Assembly that they would like addressed before the meeting on January 29, please contact Pastor Jim at jporter@erfpc.org or by calling the church office at 231-264-8167. Thank you!

Questions, concerns, or suggestions for the Safety & Security Team? Please contact the church office at info@erfpc.org or 231-264-8167.

It's Community Cash time again! Please keep all your Village Market receipts dated **Sept 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023** and turn them into the Elk Rapids Community Cupboard. They can be placed in the ERCC box in the Narthex, the brown donation box outside the cupboard, or mailed to ERCC Box 572, Elk Rapids, MI. Thank you so much.

This Week's Activities

Sun. 1/22

9:00 a Contemporary Service
10:00 a Sunday School & Youth @ LH
10:30 a Traditional Service

Mon. 1/23

1:00 p 40 Days of Prayer Team Meeting – Conf
5:30 p "The Chosen" Group – FHall

Tues. 1/24

Wed. 1/25

6:30 a Breakfast Club @ LH
9:00 a Bulletin Items Due
3:00 p Up North Small Group – FHall
6:30 p Praise Team Practice
7:00 p Session Meeting

Thurs. 1/26

Fri. 1/27

10:30 a Choir Rehearsal