

**First Presbyterian Church, Elk Rapids**  
**Sunday, September 5, 2021**  
**9 AM Contemporary Service**

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Wayne Potter

Worship Songs – ***“Come As You Are”***  
***“Yes I Will”***

Message to the Children

Wayne Potter

Scripture Readings – Psalm 46  
Exodus 3:1-15

Sermon                    ***“Hearing God’s Call”***

Rev. Judy Kuiper, Guest Minister

Responsive Song – ***“O Come To The Altar”***

Celebration of Communion

Rev. Judy Kuiper

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Judy Kuiper

**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.**

Offering

Rev. Judy Kuiper

Closing Song – ***“How Great Is Our God”***

Charge and Blessing

Rev. Judy Kuiper

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: Barb Cole.

**Chancel flowers** are placed by Betty Tezak in memory of and gratitude for family.

Please note that the church office will be closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 6. Normal offices hours will resume on Tuesday, September 7.

**First Presbyterian Church, Elk Rapids**  
**Sunday, September 5, 2021**  
**11 AM Traditional Service**

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho”* arr. by Hayes  
Solo: Jeff Whittaker

Welcome

Betty Tezak

Ringing of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Betty Tezak

Leader: Lord, open our hearts this morning to hear your words of compassion.

**People: Lord, help us to truly listen to you and to hear your voice speaking to us today.**

Leader: Lord, open our spirits this morning to strengthen our faith.

**People: Lord, help us to work for you as we seek to become your hands and feet at work in the world.**

Leader: Lord, open our minds and hands this morning that we might truly share with others.

**People: Lord, make us ready to serve all those who are in need.**

**All: Lord, make us ready to both receive your grace and then share your love and grace with all. Help us to become witnesses to your healing love. AMEN.**

Opening Hymn 31 – *“Let Us with a Gladstone Mind”*

Opening Prayer

Betty Tezak

**All: Lord of mercy and compassion, be with us this day as we seek to hear and experience the healing love of Jesus. Remind us that in the breaking of the bread and in the sharing of the cup we are recipients of Christ’s care and compassion. And as we gather today for worship, whether we are at home or here in the sanctuary, remind us once again that we are called to bring the same hope and love to others. Prepare us for service in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

Anthem – *“The Prayer”*

Duet: Cheryl Knight & Jeff Whittaker

Scripture Readings – Psalm 46

Exodus 3:1-15

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Hearing God’s Call”

Rev. Judy Kuiper, Guest Minister

Responsive Hymn 525 – *“Let Us Break Bread Together”*

Celebration of Communion

Rev. Judy Kuiper

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer Rev. Judy Kuiper  
**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.**

Offering Rev. Judy Kuiper

Closing Hymn 753 – ***"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"***

Charge and Blessing Rev. Judy Kuiper

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 Rev. Judy Kuiper

Benediction Response – ***"Let There Be Peace On Earth"***

Postlude

### **Worship Concludes – Service Begins!**

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Don & Louise Pond, and our snack volunteers.

**Chancel flowers** are placed by Betty Tezak in memory of and gratitude for family.

**Please note that the church office will be closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 6.** Normal offices hours will resume on Tuesday, September 7.

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](http://www.erfpc.org) (click on the Giving tab at the top right), or set up a one time or recurring donation by contacting our Financial Manager, Kim McCann, at 269-806-4073. Again, we thank everyone for their continued support of the ministries and mission of the church!

### **Sunday School Begins – Sunday, September 12**

If you have children through the 5th grade, make plans now to bring them to Sunday School beginning September 12 between services at 10:00 a.m. at the Lighthouse. Please contact Wayne Potter at 517-416-2813 with questions.

### **Blessing of the Backpacks - Sunday, September 12 at 9AM Service**

Everyone is invited to bring their backpacks, totes and book bags to worship on Sunday, September 12. At the 9:00 a.m. service our congregation will have a time of prayer for all those beginning the new school year.

**The Nominating Committee needs your help** in suggesting persons you may consider as nominees for Elders, Deacons, Trustees and members of the Nominating Committee for the class of 2024. As you prayerfully reflect on members whom you believe would serve well in spiritual leadership capacities, please contact Cal Osterhaven (517-388-4350) or Connie Clark (248-672-4234) with your recommendations for any of these positions.

## **Survey for Adult Ed Now Available – Return by September 15**

**We need your input!** The Adult Ed Ministry Team is getting ready to plan future studies and programs. We would very much like to know more about your areas of interest and availability. Please take a few minutes to complete a simple survey designed to give us direction. Whether or not you've ever participated in Adult Ed studies, you are encouraged to fill out the survey and **return it by September 15, 2021**. Thank you very much for your assistance.

You can access and return the survey by:

- Using this link to take the survey online: <https://forms.gle/fWuqMeYP5g5b9mRw8>
- Picking up a paper copy from the Adult Ed plastic bin in front of the church doors and returning it to the same bin.

## **Parents' Meeting – Sunday, September 19 Between Services**

There will be a meeting for all parents of school aged children and youth on Sunday, September 19 in the Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. between services. We'll be sharing plans for the coming school year. Contact Wayne Potter at 517-416-2813 with questions.

## **Stephen Ministry Training Coming this Fall**

Mark your calendar and plan to attend our Stephen Ministry training on Monday evenings, September 27 through November 22 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. and Saturday mornings October 30 and November 13 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Contact Sandra Gray (419-934-0790), Connie Clark (248-672-4234), or Klaus Lehrer ([klauslehrer@yahoo.com](mailto:klauslehrer@yahoo.com)) for more information.

## **New Member Class - Mondays, October 11 & 18**

Here's an opportunity to explore becoming a member of our family of faith. Mark your calendar and plan to attend our new member class on two Monday evenings, October 11 & 18 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. This is a two-part orientation with Pastor Jim to learn more about who we are. Please email ([info@erfpc.org](mailto:info@erfpc.org)) or call (231-264-8167) the church office if you would like to attend.

## **Buttars Flower Fund**

The Deacons use the Buttars Flower Fund to supplement the cost of the flowers we use to keep our facility looking beautiful during the different seasons (especially flowers at Easter and poinsettias at Christmas). If you would like to make a donation to help with the cost of flowers, please write Buttars Flower Fund on the memo line of your check.

## **Next Wired Word Discussion – Wednesday, September 15 at 6:30 PM**

The next Wired Word discussion will be Wednesday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m. at AmVets. Please contact Klaus Lehrer for more information at [klauslehrer@yahoo.com](mailto:klauslehrer@yahoo.com).

## **The Walk – New Small Group Study**

**Need a walk? A spiritual walk?** If you do, then our next Adult Education study is meant for you! In his dvd and book [The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life](#) Adam Hamilton focuses on the idea of walking with Jesus. It is a simple way of thinking about our Christian life. We are followers of Jesus. We are seeking to learn from him, emulate him, do what he wants us to do, go where he wants us to go, and walk on the journey of life with him. Each of the five spiritual practices we will study is rooted in Jesus's own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament.

Options for joining a small group:

1. Form your own group and choose where and when you want to meet. The facilitator will be given a copy of the dvd and book as well the leader's guide. Participants may choose to download, order, or purchase the books from the Adult Ed team. Contact Nancy Muhlig, [nmuhlig@charter.net](mailto:nmuhlig@charter.net), 231-632-3712 for assistance.

2. Join an existing group, all of which at this time are planning to meet weekly for six weeks in person. Donations of \$10 to help cover the cost of the book will be appreciated but not required.

	<b>Monday Mornings</b>	<b>Monday Evenings</b>	<b>Tuesday Mornings</b>	<b>Sunday Mornings</b>
Time	10-11:30 AM	7-8:30 PM	10-11:30 AM	9:30-10:50 AM
Dates	Oct. 4 – Nov. 8	Oct. 4 – Nov. 8	Sept. 14 – Oct. 19	Oct. 3 – Nov. 7
Location	Fellowship Hall/Narthex Conference Room	Fellowship Hall	Lower Level of Lighthouse	Narthex Conference Room
Contact to Register	Pam Coleman 847-445-8239 <a href="mailto:pbj0607@me.com">pbj0607@me.com</a>	Nancy Muhlig 231-632-3712 <a href="mailto:nmuhlig@charter.net">nmuhlig@charter.net</a>	Robin Osterhaven 517-388-0007 <a href="mailto:rosterhaven1977@gmail.com">rosterhaven1977@gmail.com</a> OR Marcia Sumerix 989-964-1420 <a href="mailto:sumerixmj60@gmail.com">sumerixmj60@gmail.com</a>	Nancy Muhlig 231-632-3712 <a href="mailto:nmuhlig@charter.net">nmuhlig@charter.net</a>

Option for individual study:

When the above classes have finished, the materials will be available for others to use. Materials can also be ordered online at [christianbooks.com](http://christianbooks.com).

**Join the Contemporary Worship Team!** Do you sing or play an instrument? Do you have a heart for the Lord? Do you want to be more involved in the contemporary service? If you answered yes to all of these questions, then consider joining the contemporary worship team! We are especially needing pianists and guitarists but everyone who is interested in joining should reach out. If you are interested in joining the worship team, please contact Rachel Stratton at [rachstratton1@gmail.com](mailto:rachstratton1@gmail.com).

**Volunteers for Coffee Hour Snacks Needed**

There is a sign up in the narthex for volunteers to bring in baked goods or snacks for our coffee hours each Sunday. If you would like to bake or bring in a snack, please mark it down on the sign up list. Please have your snack here by 8:30 a.m. for the Contemporary Service and 10:00 a.m. for the Traditional Service. Thank you for volunteering!

**Volunteers Needed for our Sunday Morning AV Team!**

We are looking for volunteers to join our Sunday morning AV Team. Training is provided. If you are interested, please contact Shawn Pollack at [av.team@erfpc.org](mailto:av.team@erfpc.org) or feel free to talk to him after the service.

**New Covid Guidelines**

**We're pleased to announce the following new guidelines:**

- Allow the choir/praise band to return to full numbers.
- Continue to use the prepackaged cups/wafers for Communion through August.
- Continue to leave bulletins on the lectern through August.
- Allow coffee/snacks to be served in doors beginning in July.
- Allow food to be served in the Fellowship Hall for events/meetings beginning June 26.
- Reopen the Lighthouse for use by the church and community.
- Continue to keep the offertory boxes in the narthex through August.
- Continue to recommend masks for those adults who are not vaccinated and for children over the age of 2.

Philippians 2:2-4 says: *"Be of the same mind, having the same love, being of full accord and one mind... In humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others."*

We are grateful to be a part of such a loving and caring congregation! Thank you for your cooperation as we journey through this together! Keep the faith!

In Christ's Love, The Session of First Presbyterian Church of Elk Rapids