

First Presbyterian Church, Elk Rapids
Sunday, September 12, 2021
9 AM Contemporary Service

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Welcome

Wayne Potter

Minute for Mission

Robin Osterhaven

Worship Songs – ***“Mighty To Save”***
“God of Wonders”

Message to the Children – *“Blessing of the Backpacks”*

Wayne Potter

Scripture Reading – Mark 8:27-35

Sermon

“Paradigm Shift”

Wayne Potter

Responsive Song – ***“Jesus Messiah”***

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.

Offering

Closing Song – ***“Revelation Song”***

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 and snack volunteer: Shelia Conrad.

Chancel flowers are placed by Marcia and Garry Sumerix in honor of all those who served and gave their lives in Afghanistan.

First Presbyterian Church, Elk Rapids
Sunday, September 12, 2021
11 AM Traditional Service

Order of Worship

Countdown to Worship

Prelude – *“The Lord is the Strength of My Life”* arr. by Allen

Welcome

Wayne Potter

Minute for Mission

Marcia Sumerix

Ringing of the Historic Church Bell

Call to Worship

Marcy Potter

Leader: We gather together in the name of the One who bids us come.

People: We gather together to hear the words of the One who is Love.

Leader: We gather together to sing praises of the One who teaches peace.

All: Come, let us worship!

Opening Prayer

Marcy Potter

Leader: As we open our service today, we want to take a moment to pray for the children of our community as well as children around the world who recently started a new school year.

All: Lord, we pray that the children of our community, and around the world, will experience the peace of God this year that exceeds all understanding. We pray they will not worry about things they cannot control, but that You will guard their hearts and minds and keep them trusting in You. We pray they will not only enjoy the peace of God, but peace with God. We pray they will develop a spirit of gratitude and thanksgiving as You provide for them. We pray that You will give them the capacity for joy in the midst of these uncertain times. Amen!

Opening Hymn 401 – *“Here In This Place”* (verses 1, 2, 4)

Anthem – *“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”* arr. by Allen

Scripture Reading – Mark 8:27-35

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Paradigm Shift”

Wayne Potter

Responsive Hymn 743 – *“O God, You Are My God”* (2 times)

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.

Offering

Closing Hymn 39 – *“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”*

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 Ginny Dorner, Lynda Nichols and Betty Tezak for singing for us today.

Thank you. Special thanks to our ushers: Don & Sandy Davids, and our snack volunteer: Phyllis Staley.

Chancel flowers are placed by Marcia and Garry Sumerix in honor of all those who served and gave their lives in Afghanistan.

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 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 – Today

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.

Celebration for Rachel Stratton’s One Year Anniversary with First Pres.

Please join us in celebrating Rachel Stratton's one-year anniversary of joining the music program. We will be having a cake on Sunday September 26th during coffee hour between the two services. Be sure to stop and congratulate Rachel, have some cake and sign the poster of good wishes that will be in the narthex.

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.

Currently needed: A lady to help LaCorda Smith on Sunday mornings. Responsibilities include: arrive at 9:00 a.m., help her get dressed and ready for church, prepare a light breakfast, transport to church and back home (11:00 service). This is a paid position of \$75 each Sunday. Please call Julie at 264-499-4061 or Ron at 231-631-2353.

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.

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.

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) 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) or call (231-264-8167) the church office if you would like to attend.

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, 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.

	Monday Mornings	Monday Evenings	Tuesday Mornings	Sunday Mornings
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	<i>Note date change:</i> Oct. 13 – Nov. 22
Location	Fellowship Hall/Narthex Conference Room	Fellowship Hall	Lower Level of Lighthouse	Narthex Conference Room
Contact to Register	Pam Coleman 847-445-8239 pbj0607@me.com	Nancy Muhlig 231-632-3712 nmuhlig@charter.net	Robin Osterhaven 517-388-0007 rosterhaven1977@gmail.com OR Marcia Sumerix 989-964-1420 sumerixmj60@gmail.com	Nancy Muhlig 231-632-3712 nmuhlig@charter.net

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.

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.

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 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