



Faithful to the Scriptures.

True to the Reformed Faith.

Obedient to the Great Commission.

Lord's Day 16

April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Resurrection Sunday

**WELCOME**

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Grace to you and Peace!

On behalf of the elders, deacons, and all the saints: Welcome to **First Presbyterian Church of Bad Axe**. We are pleased that you are here with us today to worship our Triune God. This bulletin contains a liturgy which will guide you through our worship services and prayer meeting. We invite you to join us after the service for coffee, fellowship, and snacks. Here's a bit of info about who we are and what we believe:

**We are a Christian Church:** Thus, we believe in the Holy Trinity: One God, in three persons: The Eternal Father, the Eternally-Begotten Son, and the Eternally-Proceeding Holy Spirit. As Christians, we confess the faith once for all delivered to the saints (Jude 1:3) codified in the ancient creeds of the Christian Church: The Apostles' Creed (2<sup>nd</sup> century), the Nicene Creed (AD 381), the Definition of Chalcedon (AD 451), and the Athanasian Creed (5<sup>th</sup> century).

**We are a Protestant Church:** As Protestants, we trace our beliefs and practices to the Apostolic Church, but we also have historical roots in the Protestant Reformation of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. Protestants believe in the authority of the inspired Holy Scriptures over unbiblical Church tradition and that salvation is by God's *grace alone*, through *faith alone*, in *Christ alone*, and for the *glory of God alone* (Eph. 2:8–10).

**We are a Reformed Church:** Reformed Churches originated from different regions in Europe during the Protestant Reformation. These churches believe and confess the doctrinal summaries of the Holy Scriptures that arose from that time period. Our tradition comes from the Scottish and English Reformations; thus, we believe and confess the Westminster Standards, written in England during the 1640's.

**We are a Presbyterian Church.** Presbyterians believe that the biblical form of Church government is through trained, called, elected, and ordained elders. In the Greek New Testament, they are called *presbyters*, which is where the name "Presbyterian" comes from. Our Teaching and Ruling Elders preach, teach, shepherd, protect the Church from false doctrine, and make decisions on her behalf. We also have trained, called, elected, and ordained deacons who take care of the material needs of the Church.

Reformed & Presbyterian Churches hold the public worship of God and the communion of the saints in high esteem. Thus, **the Lord's Day Worship Service** is the most important event of the week. During this time that we gather together to hear the Word of God, receive the Sacraments (baptism and the Lord's Supper), to pray, to praise, and to enjoy Christian fellowship. If you have any questions, feel free to connect with Pastor Scott or with one of our elders or deacons.

*Soli Deo Gloria,*

Rev. Scott C. McDermand II

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## **CHURCH LIFE & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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## **THIS SUNDAY: APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>**

9:55 Announcements & Prelude

**10:00 Morning Worship: Word, Sacrament, & Prayer**

11:15 Fellowship: Coffee, Tea, and Snacks in the Lounge

11:45 Sunday School: All Ages

**5:00 Evening Worship: Catechetical Worship Service**

### **\*Please Silence or Turn Off Your Devices\***

**New Members Class:** As we do every year at Pentecost, we will be receiving new members into our Church. If you are considering membership, our **Presbyterianism 101 Class is beginning on Tuesday April, 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM.** If you have never taken this class, it is highly recommended, especially if you already know everything there is to know about Presbyterianism.

**Theology Thursday: Book Club** – Begins on Thursday at 7:00pm – please sign up today so that Pastor Scott knows who to put on the group text. We will be reading a book on Covenant Theology called “Sacred Bond.”

**Ladies Night** –

**Pub Trivia Benefit** –

**YouTube** – If you are unable to attend worship due to weather, illness, vacation, or if you have been otherwise providentially hindered, be sure to watch our livestream services on YouTube! Just type in “First Presbyterian Bad Axe” in the search bar, and you can subscribe to our channel and receive notifications. In addition to our live services, you can watch several years’ worth of sermons. You can also share these videos with your friends and family.

**Social Media** – Be sure to follow us on Instagram and Facebook where you can stay up to date with everything going on at our church. Just search for @badaxefirstpres

**Church App** – We have a church app for your smart phone. Go to the App Store and download “The Church App” for free on your mobile device and search for First Presbyterian Church of Bad Axe. You can watch all of our sermons from the past five years, give online, see upcoming events, request prayers, and get connected.

**Podcasts** – We have a Podcast where you can find audio versions of all of our sermons. Just search First Presbyterian Bad Axe on your favorite podcast app and subscribe. Also, check out the new Saturday morning podcast on “the Heidelberg,” it’s called *Superfriends Saturday*.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries** –

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

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**MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH IN NEED OF PRAYER:** Michelle Green, Julia Mayes, Hailee McLeod; the families of Lorraine Dutcher and Donna Noble; those who serve as caretakers; all who are ill or traveling; long-term care residents: Pam Belew (Courtney Manor), Bertha McTaggart, and Ann Thaut (Meadow Lanes); our shut-in ministry; and those who have ceased attending public worship regularly, that God would reveal to them their sin, the necessity of worship, and the communion of the saints.

**OUR MISSIONARIES:** Jim DeWitt (Latin America), Lynn Hacker (Zambia), the Kawachis (France), the Nachtergaeles (Belgium), the Shupes (British Colombia); the Wilsons (Middle East) as they work for the King and the advancement of the gospel of his kingdom; that we would be missionaries by sharing the gospel and inviting others to our church; that God would grant courage and the words to speak as we interact with our family and friends; and that we would not be ashamed of sharing the gospel, but always ready to provide a defense for the hope that is within us.

**OUR CHURCH'S MINISTRIES:** That the work of the Session, Diaconate, Sunday School program, Missions Committee, and of all the saints would glorify God and always be Great Commission-focused; that our service would edify the church and facilitate growth; that we would remain vigilant and faithful to the Word of God and our denominational standards; that our Sunday school classrooms would be full; that our members would take their public vows seriously and attend church on a regular basis; and that we would have better attendance at our PM services where the means of grace are offered; and that God would be glorified as we worship him.

**OUR COUNTRY:** That the civil magistrate would rule with justice and uphold laws; that they would protect and encourage the good and punish the evil; that the right to gather and worship God would be protected and the civil magistrate would not interfere in matters of faith and worship; that our leaders would come to know Christ: The King of kings and Lord of lords, and that their governing would demonstrate that knowledge; that Christians in the United States would live quiet, godly, and dignified lives; that Christians would direct others to God in the way they live their lives.

**THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL:** That the Kingdom of God on earth would advance through the preaching of the gospel throughout the world; for Christians who are being persecuted: that they would be faithful witnesses to Jesus Christ and that their persecutors would be converted through this witness. This month, we pray in particular for the Christians living under communist persecution in North Korea.

## **PRELUDE & SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

Baird and Altrogge, 2011 | Briynne McCrea, Piano

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

The Collect | Resurrection Sunday

The fourth commandment requires of all men the sanctifying or keeping holy to God such set times as he hath appointed in his Word, namely one whole day in seven; which was the seventh day from the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, and has been the first day of the week [the day in which Christ arose from the dead], and is to continue as such to the end of the world; which is called the Christian Sabbath, and in the New Testament is called "The Lord's Day."

The Westminster Divines | WLC 116

I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD...Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it...This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Psalmist | Psalm 118:17, 19–20, 24

And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here." And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and fear and astonishment had seized them.

St. Mark | Mark 16:5–8

According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

St. Peter | 1 Peter 1:4

## ~ THE DIVINE SERVICE ~

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

*"I shall not die, but I shall live,  
and recount the deeds of the LORD."*

(Psalm 118:17)

## THE CALL TO WORSHIP

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\*GOD'S GREETING

*Revelation*

*1:4b-5a*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

*from*

*Psalms 118*

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*277 – Christ the Lord Is*

*Risen Today*

\*RESPONSORIAL

*from Psalm 118;*

*124:8*

Minister: I shall not die, but I shall live,  
and recount the deeds of the LORD.

†Congregation: **The LORD has disciplined me severely,  
but he has not given me over to death.**

Minister: Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the LORD.

†Congregation: **This is the gate of the LORD!  
the righteous shall enter through it.**

Minister: Christ is risen!

†Congregation: **He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

\*PRAYER OF ENTRANCE

# THE CONFESSION OF SIN

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READING OF THE LAW

*Psalm*

118

Minister: The Word of God is living and active.

†Congregation: **Sharper than any two-edged sword.**

EXPOSITION OF THE LAW

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

CORPORATE CONFESSION

*Book of*

*Common Prayer*

**A**lmighty and most merciful Father,

We have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed too much the devices and desires of our hearts.

We have offended against Your holy laws.

We have left undone things which we ought to have done;  
and we have done things which we ought not to have done.

**O** Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.

Spare those, O God, who confess their faults.

Restore those who are penitent;

according to Your promises declared unto us in Christ Jesus.

Grant that we may hence live a godly, righteous, and sober life;  
to the glory of His name. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*1 John 1:9; Colossians*

1:13–14

8



## OUR OFFERINGS

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It belongs to those in the office of elder...to watch diligently over the flock committed to his charge, that no corruption of morals enter therein...They should pray with and for the people, being careful and diligent in seeking the fruit of the preached Word among the flock.

Book of Discipline | BCO 8-3

The Holy Scriptures teach that God is the owner of all persons and all things and that we are but stewards of both life and possessions; that God's ownership and our stewardship should be acknowledged; that this acknowledgment should take the form, in part, of giving at least a tithe of our income and other offerings to the work of the Lord through Church of Jesus Christ, thus worshipping the Lord with our possessions.

Book of Worship | BCO 54-1

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Teaching Elder, Rev. Scott*

*McDermand*

## 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.

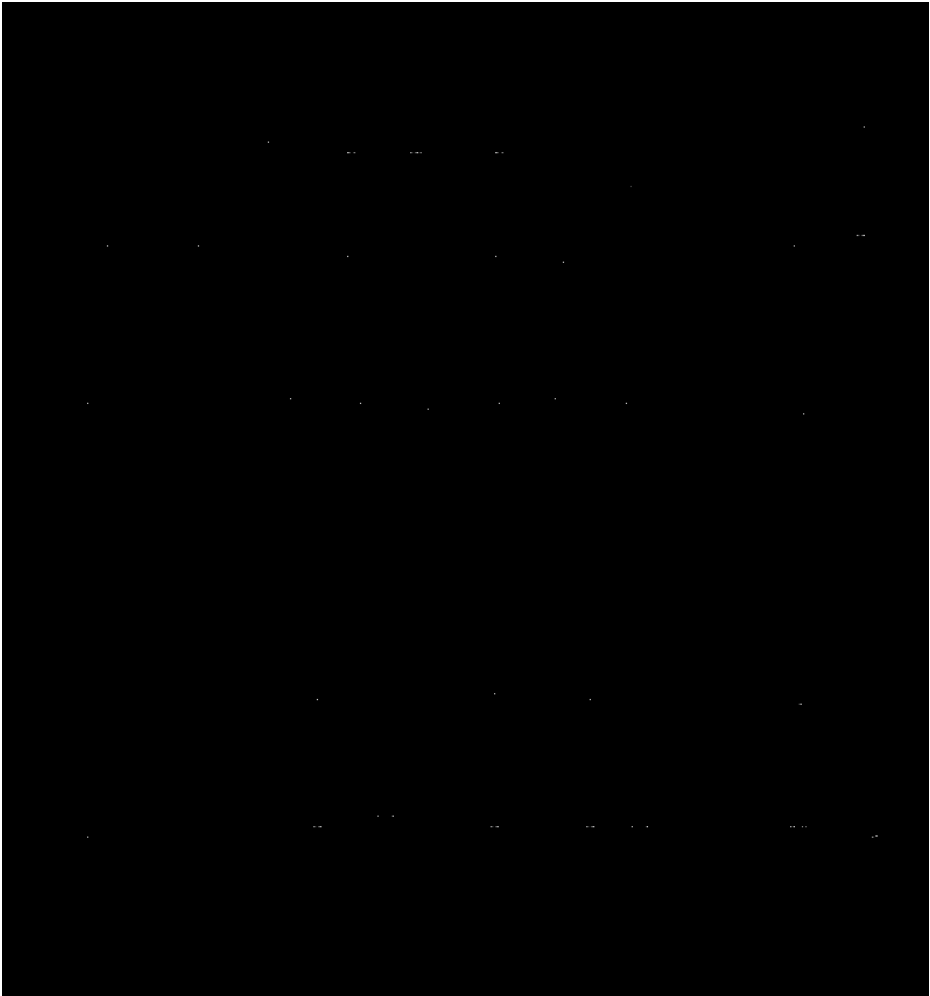
## THE WEEKLY OFFERING

*Galatians*

6:7–10

Whatever one sows, that will he also reap...the one who sows from the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap...So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

\*THE OFFERING OF PRAISE



## **THE SERMON**

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It is required of those that hear the Word preached, that they attend upon it with diligence, preparation, and prayer; examine what they hear by the Scriptures; receive the truth with faith, love, meekness, and readiness of mind, as the Word of God; meditate upon, and confer of it; hide it in their hearts, and bring forth the fruit of it in their lives.

The Westminster Divines | WLC 160

\*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON TEXT

*Mark*

16:1–8

Minister: The grass withers, the flower fades,

†Congregation: **But the Word of our God stands forever!**

SERMON

*From Holy Week to the*

*Holy Trinity:*

*Resurrection Sunday: He Has Risen; He is Not Here*

THE EMPTY TOMB

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THE ANGEL

---

THE GOSPEL

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THE RESPONSE

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THE CHRISTIAN LIFE: APPLICATION

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PRAYER OF APPLICATION

\*HYMN OF APPLICATION

268 – *Welcome,*

*Happy Morning*

## **THE LITURGY OF THE UPPER ROOM**

**CONFESSION OF FAITH**

**NICENE CREED (AD 381)**

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,  
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered and was buried;  
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
and he shall come again with glory,  
to judge both the living and the dead;  
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;  
who spoke by the prophets;

And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;  
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;  
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

"Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.  
Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on  
the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink."

(John 6:53–55)

### **LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE**

## COMMUNION HYMN

*In Christ*

*Alone*

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*Sursum Corda (3<sup>rd</sup>*

*Cent.)*

Minister: Peace be with you.

†Congregation: **And also, with you!**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

†Congregation: **We lift them up to the Lord!**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

†Congregation: **It is good and right for us to give thanks.**

Minister: Let us pray to the Lord.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*Mark*

*14:22–25*

And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

**\*THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**PRAYER OF APPLICATION**





## **DOXOLOGY & BENEDICTION**

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\*DOXOLOGY

283 – *Alleluia! Alleluia!* (1 &

3)

\*BENEDICTION

*Hebrews*

13:20–21

\*POSTLUDE

# CATECHETICAL

## WORSHIP SERVICE (5:00 PM)

### PRELUDE

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"Be Still My Soul"

Finlandia  
*Jean Sibelius (1899)*

### PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER

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"Such as truly believe in Christ, and endeavor to walk in all good conscience before him, may, without extraordinary revelation, by faith grounded upon the truth of God's promises, and by the Spirit enabling them to discern in themselves those graces to which the promises of life are made, and bearing witness with their spirits that they are the children of God, be infallibly assured that they are in estate of grace and shall persevere therein unto salvation."

The Westminster Divines | WLC 80

"Although hypocrites and other unregenerate men may vainly deceive themselves with false hopes and carnal presumptions of being in the favor of God and estate of salvation, which hope of theirs shall perish: yet such as truly believe in the Lord Jesus, and love him in sincerity, endeavoring to walk in all good conscience before him, may in this life be certainly assured that they are in a state of grace, and may rejoice in the hope of the glory of God, which hope shall never make them ashamed."

The Westminster Divines | WCF 18.1

"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through whom we also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy who has been given to us."

St. Paul | Romans 5:1-5

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## THE CALL TO WORSHIP

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\*GREETING

*Titus 1:1b–3a,*

*4b*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

*from Psalm*

*91*

\*PSALM OF PRAISE

*92 – A Mighty Fortress Is Our*

*God*

\*PRAYER OF ENTRANCE

## READING & RESPONSES

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OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Psalm*

*121*

WESTMINSTER CONFESSION

*18.1 – Of the Assurance of Grace &*

*Salvation*

Although hypocrites and other unregenerate men,  
may vainly deceive themselves  
with false hopes and carnal presumptions  
of being in the favor of God and the estate of salvation,  
which hope of theirs shall perish:  
yet such as truly believe in the Lord Jesus,  
and love him in sincerity,  
endeavoring to walk in all good conscience before him,  
may rejoice in the hope of the glory of God,  
which hope shall never make them ashamed

\*PSALM OF RESPONSE

96 – Now Unto the

*Hills*

PASTORAL PRAYER

## **THE READING & PREACHING OF THE WORD**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

*1 John*

*3:11–24*

SERMON

*Of the Assurance of Grace &*

*Salvation:*

*The Reformed Understanding of Assurance*

SERMON NOTES



PRAYER OF APPLICATION

\*PSALM OF APPLICATION

558 – *That Man Is Blest Who, Fearing*

*God*

## THE LITURGY OF THE UPPER ROOM

### THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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CONFESSION OF FAITH

*Apostles' Creed (p.*

*845)*

LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE

COMMUNION PSALM

87 – *The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not*

*Want*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*Sursum*

*Corda*

Minister: *Peace be with you.*

†Congregation: **And also, with you.**

Minister: *Lift up your hearts.*

†Congregation: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Minister: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

†Congregation: **It is good and right for us to give thanks.**

Minister: *Let us pray to the Lord.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*1 Corinthians*

*11:23–26*

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, 'This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## \*THE LORD'S SUPPER

## PRAYER OF APPLICATION

## **THE DOXOLOGY & BENEDICTION**

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### \*DOXOLOGY

*Now to Him Who is Able (Tune*

#66)

Now to him whose pow-r is able  
to protect our stumbling feet,  
and prepare our souls for glory  
there with joy our King to meet  
so that we may stand before him  
faultless at his judgement seat-

To the only God our Savior,  
through our Lord Christ Jesus' name,  
be dominion, power, glory,  
majesty and matchless fame,  
from before the world's foundation,  
now and evermore the same!

\*BENEDICTION

1 Peter 5:10–11,

14b

\*POSTLUDE

## **EXTENDED PRAYER LIST**

“For we do not have a high priest who is able to sympathize with our weakness,  
but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace,  
that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

(Hebrews 4:15–16)

### **PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH:**

**For the health of:** Jackson Fluegge, Ashley Franzel, Julia Mayes, and Hailee McLeod; for the families of Lorraine Dutcher and Donna Noble; for all those who serve as caretakers in our congregation; for those who are ill; and for those who are traveling. **For those living in long-term care facilities:** Pam Belew (Courtney Manor), Bertha McTaggart and Ann Thaut (Meadow Lanes); that our shut-in ministry would be fruitful and that our members who are able, would participate in our shut-in ministry. **For non-attending members:** that God would reveal to them their sin in and that he would grant them the understanding of the necessity of public worship and the means of grace; that by his Spirit, he would bring them back to the body of Christ so that they would not forsake the communion of the saints and the public worship on the Lord's Day for his glory and their edification.



**For our Families:** that husbands would love their wives as Christ loves the Church and that wives would submit to their husbands as the Church submits to Christ. That parents would take seriously their duty to raise and train their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. That fathers would act like men and bring their families to Church. That parents would bring their children to Sunday School every Lord's Day. That children would obey their parents and show respect to authorities in the home, church, and society.

**For our singles:** that they would devote themselves to the Lord and to the ministries of the Church; that God would grant marriage to those who desire it.

**For our widows:** that the Lord would provide them support and fellowship through the church; that they would devote themselves to Christ and serve His body. **For our College Students:** Mackenzie Copeland, Jackson Fluegge, Regan Hobkirk, Hailee McLeod, and Brennan Wissner; that they would glorify God in their studies; that they would attend a local church on the Lord's Day; and that God would grant them vocational clarity.

**For Visitors:** That God would continue to bring in families, couples, and individuals who seek to glorify him, learn the Bible and the Christian Faith, and come to a Reformed understanding of Scripture. Praise for recent visitors and that they would consider membership in our local body of Christ.

**For all of our ministries:** for faithfulness in our ordained officers, the ability to lead and shepherd for the Elders, strength and energy for the Diaconate, wisdom and a view of the Great Commission for Trustees, for our Sunday School program: attendance (especially for children's catechism), Sunday School teachers, and for those who serve in the Missions Committee. That those who participate in these would be blessed as they humbly serve for the glory of God. That these ministries would facilitate growth in the grace and knowledge Christ and be fruitful. That God would raise up and send more faithful men to lead and serve. That we would be faithful in obedience to the Holy Scriptures, the Westminster Standards, and the Book of Church Order. That God would bless our Church with more families, couples, and individuals who desire to glorify God, grow in Christ, and serve in our Church's ministries.

**For our worship services:** That the Holy Spirit would work through the Ministry of the Word, Sacraments, and prayer for the salvation, sanctification, and preservation of God's people. That through these ordinary means, we would be built up in the faith once and for all delivered to the saints. That we would worship God with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength. That Christ and him crucified

would be preached faithfully, week in and week out. That the gospel would go forth and people would be brought into the local body. That God would send or raise up more musicians and singers to serve him with their gifts. That our giving would increase and be congruent with the blessings that God blessed us with. That we would properly sanctify the Lord's Day and attend to the means of grace. That our members would have a higher view of the Lord's Day and the worship services, and this would be evident in the fruit of their attendance of our morning and evening services.

## FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS

**For Family Members & Friends of our Church:** for the physical and spiritual health of: Deb Cleland (Lori McLeod's friend: praise for recovery); Linda Dumaw (Bonnie, Judy, and Sharon's friend: barn fire); Tom Fata (Annette Knapp's brother: colon cancer); Virginia Gembarski (Sharon Gisel's sister: Leukemia); Angie Gonzales (chronic pain); Andy Kish (Betsy Kish's stepson); Megan Knight and baby (Pastor Scott's sister who is expecting); Libby Hill and Nancy McLeod (Allan McLeod's aunt and sister-in-law); Marge Mauer (Bonnie Perry's friend: stroke, surgery); Nicole Patterson (Gina's daughter: seizures); Cecil Stuart (friend of the McLeod's); Chip Vannest (Tammy Philp's brother); Brennan and Tiffany Winter (praise for a call to a PCA Church in Ferndale); Joe Yang (Pastor Scott's friend from seminary: colon cancer, chemotherapy); Bob Ziel (Kim's father: Courtney Manor, various health concerns).

## OUR DENOMINATION

**First Presbyterian Church, Bad Axe, MI – Pastor Scott (Vicki) McDermand:** Please pray for continued reform in our church according to the Word of God and our denominational standards; peace and unity in our church as we make these reforms; continued growth in the grace and knowledge of Christ; strength and wisdom for our leaders; our witness in our community; continued numerical

growth; and that God would bring more families to our church. Thank you for your prayers.

**Pathway Covenant Presbyterian, Brighton, MI – Pastor Andrew Chesebro:** Pray for our outreach and home gatherings leading up to Easter, as several of our members are seeking to invite under-churched neighbors to worship with us. Pray for more opportunities to meet new people, to show hospitality and share the gospel, and that the Lord would grow our church both in health and in numbers. Pray for depth and faithfulness in our ministry of God's Word, including our women's and young adult Bible studies, ongoing leadership training, and morning and evening worship.

**Taylor (Sarah) Wright – Stonebridge Presbyterian, Toledo, Ohio –** Praise for passed transfer exams and entrance into the PCA; balance for Pastor Wright as he works for the church, as a chaplain, a counselor, and leads his family.

### OUR COMMUNITY & COUNTRY:

**That in our community**, we would be faithful witnesses of our Lord Jesus Christ, ready to give a defense of the gospel and the hope that is in us. That we would be lights in a dark place, salt in a flavorless world, a city on a hill. That there would be a need for church planting Reformed Churches in the Thumb; for wisdom, provision, and buy-in regarding the starting a Christian School. That our local, state, and federal civil magistrates would lead, rule, make and enforce laws according to Scripture; that our state and federal laws would protect rather than allow for the destruction of the unborn. That our leaders would bend the knee to Christ and his Rule. For the protection of our armed forces, veterans, law enforcement, doctors, nurses, EMTs and all others serving in dangerous vocations.

**That the Church in the United States** would live according to God's Word and for his glory. That Christians would live quiet, godly, and dignified lives, setting an example for non-believers and bringing glory to God. That our lives and good works would bring God glory and direct others to him and his kingdom. That we would "kiss the Son, lest he be angry." That God would raise up leaders who seek to bring him glory as they serve on behalf of the community, county, state, and federal levels. For protection from government overreach and that the right to gather and worship would be protected regardless of the circumstances. That the Church in the United States would grow and thrive from a robust preaching of the

Gospel and the whole counsel of God. That God would remove dead branches from the true church as well false churches who teach things contrary to Word of God or preach a false gospel. That he would be glorified in all of this.

### OUR MISSIONARIES & THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH:

**Pray for all of our missionaries:** Jim DeWitt (Latin America), Lynn Hacker (Zambia), the Kawachi's (France), the Nachtergaele's (Belgium), and the Wilsons (Middle East), and the Shupes (Canada). This month, we pray in particular for the Aaron Shupe and family: as they transition from West Africa to a new ministry to refugees in British Colombia. For our congregation: that we would be missionaries in our own contexts by inviting and bringing our family, friends, and neighbors to participate in the many opportunities for worship, fellowship, and learning that our Church offers. As Jesus said, "Lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest." (Jn. 4:34).

**For persecuted Christians** throughout the world who are suffering because of the Cross. That they would be faithful witnesses to Jesus Christ and that their persecutors would be converted through this witness. This month we pray in particular for Christians living under communist oppression, labor camps, and prisons in North Korea.

**\*Our Prayer Meeting will be back on Sundays at 4:00 PM  
beginning on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.**

## INFORMATION

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### THE SESSION

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Wayne Copeland	Ruling Elder, Missions
Chris Fluegge	Ruling Elder, Trustee
Scott McDermand	Teaching Elder, Moderator
Jim Philp	Ruling Elder, Clerk, Trustee
Kim Ziel	Ruling Elder

### THE DIACONATE

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Bob Hobkirk	Board Member, Trustee
Allan McLeod	Board Member
Scott McDermand	Advisory Member, Moderator
Sharon Carpenter	Diaconal Assistant
Dan Clarkson	Diaconal Assistant
Linda Herndon	Diaconal Assistant
Carol Holtrop	Diaconal Assistant, Clerk
Lori McLeod	Diaconal Assistant
Alex Smith	Diaconal Assistant

**CHURCH OFFICE (989-269-7161)**

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Church Office Hours	(M–F, 8:00am–12:00pm)
Scott McDermand	(T–F, By appointment)

**STATISTICS**

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**CHURCH ATTENDANCE: APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup>**

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AM Service	81
AM Livestream	
AM AVG. 2025	66
AM AVG. 2024	64
PM Service	---
PM Livestream	---
PM AVG. 2025	12
PM AVG. 2024	14
Wednesday PM (Lent)	14
Wednesday PM AVG	18
2024 AVG	23

**GENERAL FUND GIVING**

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April Giving	\$
April Budget	\$

March Total	\$
March Budget	\$

### **Easter Lilies and Monetary Donations**

*Given to the Glory of God and in Memory of the Following People:*

Ann Armstrong in Memory of Jack and Eunice Armstrong, and Ruth Armstrong.

Sharon Carpenter in Memory of Larry Carpenter, Sherman and Eva Day, Larry Miller and Samantha Miller, and Clayton and Nancy Day.

Wayne and Marcia Copeland in Memory of Richard and Thelma Ashmun, Rick Ashmun, Beverly Donahue, and Ken and Oneita Copeland;

Sharon Gisel in Memory of David Gisel and Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Leaveine.

Linda Herndon in Memory of Lester and Emma Gingrich, Joe and Phyllis Maurer, Roy and Mildred Wade, Bill and Mary Beal, Troy Grigg, and Nancy Drummond.

The Hobkirk Family in Memory of Robert Hobkirk and Heather Burkhard.

The Mark and Kim Kerr Family in Memory of Robert Kerr, and Bob and Gail Sturm.

Betsy Kish and Family in Memory of Al Kish, Marv and Peg Ribbens, and Jim Ribbens.

Scott and Vicki McDermid – Soli Deo Gloria and in memory of all the humans who died.

Gail Pankratz – Frank Ahearn and John and Jane Donnelly.

Bonnie J. Perry in Memory of B.J., Florence and Terry Perry, Bea Theaker, Darwin Farnum, Jerry Laughlin, Margaret McKichan, and Lorraine Brandon.

Jim and Tammy Philp in Memory of our parents, Al and Katherine Philp, Bob and Dorothy Vannest; and brother-in-law, Gerald Nelson.



Judy Stokan and Family in Memory of Richard Stokan, Jimmy Morell, Mr. & Mrs. Clare Chappel, Mr. & Mrs. Elton Stokan, Carol Stokan Krohn, and Mr. & Mrs. Art Morell.

Kim and Tracy Ziel in Memory of Tom and Ginny Tageson and Lucille Ziel.

**\*If you donated a lily, feel free to take it home after the service this morning. Thank you for your donation.**



## “The Three Marys at the Tomb”

Peter von Cornelius (ca. 1822)