



Faithful to the Scriptures.

True to the Reformed Faith.

Obedient to the Great Commission.

Lord's Day 18

May 4th, 2025

Third Sunday of the Resurrection

WELCOME

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 (2nd century), the Nicene Creed (AD 381), the Definition of Chalcedon (AD 451), and the Athanasian Creed (5th 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 16th and 17th 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

CHURCH LIFE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS SUNDAY: MAY 4TH

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

1:00 Courtney Manor Service

5:00 Evening Worship: Catechetical Worship Service

Please Silence or Turn Off Your Devices

New Members Class: Continues on Tuesdays at 6:00 PM in the Lounge.

Theology Thursday: Book Club – Our study of Covenant Theology in the book *Sacred Bond: Covenant Theology Explored*, continues on Thursdays in the Lounge at 7:00 PM. Join us at 6:30 PM for charcuterie and fellowship.

Prayer Meeting – Back on starting next week on Sundays at 4:00 PM in the lounge. Note: if we have a Feast or a BBQ that day, there will be no prayer meeting.

Men's Breakfast – Join us for a hearty breakfast, encouragement, fellowship, and the singing of a robust hymn or two every third Saturday beginning May 17th. Bring an item to share: food sign-up sheet is on the board. Doors open at 8:00 am, breakfast starts at 9:00.

Ladies Night –

Join us on select Sundays after Sunday School for a hosted **Backyard BBQ and Evening Service**. BBQ begins at 1:00 pm and the service begins at 5:00. Look for a sign-up sheet with dates if you're interested in hosting.

Birthdays & Anniversaries –

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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, and 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 | Brynne McCrea, Piano

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

The Collect | Third Sunday of the Resurrection

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 of Christ’s resurrection – ever since...which is called the Christian Sabbath, and in the New Testament is called “The Lord’s Day.”

The Westminster Divines | WLC 116

Jesus said to the disciples, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

St. Luke | Luke 24:25–27

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”

St. Luke | Luke 24:45–48

“For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you...is always ‘Yes.’ For all the promises of God find their ‘Yes’ in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our ‘Amen’ to God for his glory.”

St. Paul | 2 Corinthians 1:19–20

~ THE DIVINE SERVICE ~

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*GOD'S GREETING

Revelation

1:4b–5a

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 18

*HYMN OF PRAISE

286 – Worship Christ, the

Risen King

*RESPONSORIAL

from Psalm 18; Mark

16:6

Minister: The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

†Congregation: **I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,
and I am saved from my enemies.**

Minister: The LORD lives, and blessed by my rock,
and exalted be the God of my salvation –
the God who gave me vengeance
and rescued me from my enemies.

†Congregation: **For this I will worship you, O LORD,
and sing praises to your name among the nations!**

Minister: Christ is risen!

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

*PRAYER OF ENTRANCE

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

READING OF THE LAW

Genesis 2:15–17;

3:1–15

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

Almighty 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

OUR OFFERINGS

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

Ruling Elder,

Mr. Kim Ziel

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.

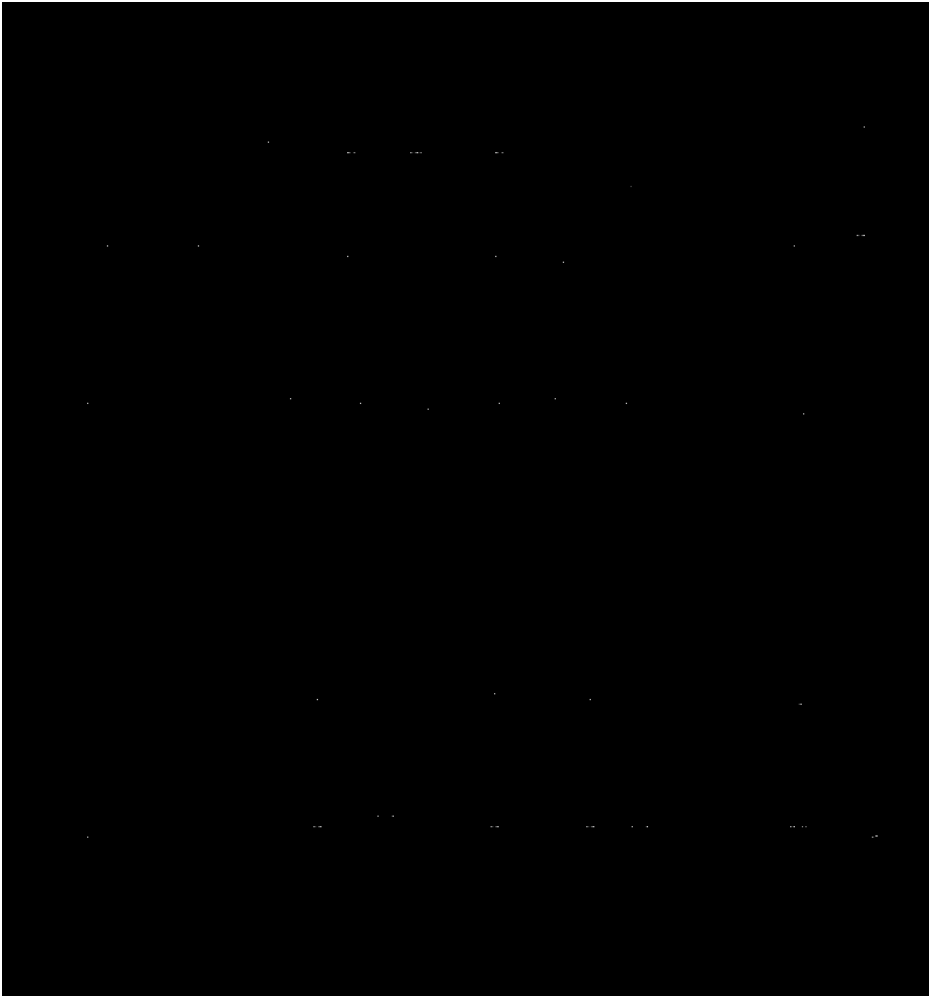
THE WEEKLY OFFERING

2 Corinthians

9:8–9

God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, 'He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever. Amen.

*THE OFFERING OF PRAISE



THE SERMON

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

Luke

22:13–48

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 Appearances:

The Disciples Learn from Risen Christ

THE DISCIPLES ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS

THE TEACHING OF CHRIST: HOW TO READ THE WORD

A SECOND TEACHING: WHAT TO DO WITH THE WORD

A THIRD TEACHING: WHAT GOES WITH THE WORD

SUMMARY: CHRIST IS PRESENT IN THE WORD & SACRAMENT

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

*HYMN OF APPLICATION

278 – *That Easter Day with Joy was*

Bright

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

"As they were talking...Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, 'Peace to you!'
But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. And he said to them,
'Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? See my hands and my feet,
that it is I myself. Touch me, and see...' And when he had said this, he showed them his
hands and his feet."

(Luke 24:36–40)

LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE

COMMUNION HYMN

427 – *Amidst Us Our Beloved*

Stands

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Sursum Corda (3rd

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

Luke

22:17–20

And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise, the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

*THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

DOXOLOGY & BENEDICTION

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hearts to heav'n and voices raise;
sing to God a hymn of gladness,
sing to God a hymn of praise:
he who on the cross a victim
for the world's salvation bled.
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory,
now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Glory be to God on high;
alleluia to the Savior,
who has won the victory;
alleluia to the Spirit,
fount of love and sanctity;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
To the Triune Majesty.

*BENEDICTION

Hebrews

13:20–21

*POSTLUDE

CATECHETICAL

WORSHIP SERVICE (5:00 PM)

PRELUDE

"How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place"
Colombia

St.

Old Irish Hymn Melody

PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER

"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

"This certainty is not a bare conjectural and probable persuasion, grounded upon a fallible hope; but an infallible assurance of faith, founded upon the divine truth of the promises of salvation, the inward evidence of those graces unto which these promises are made, the testimony of the Spirit of adoption witnessing with our spirits that we are children of God: which Spirit is the earnest of our inheritance, whereby we are sealed to the day of redemption."

The Westminster Divines | WCF 18.2

"When God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner place behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek."

Hebrews 13:17–20

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*GREETING

Titus 1:1b–3a,

4b

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm

103

*PSALM OF PRAISE

53 – Praise to the Lord, the

Almighty

*PRAYER OF ENTRANCE

READING & RESPONSES

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 22

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

34 – The God of Abraham

Praise

*WESTMINSTER CONFESSION

18.1, 2 – Of the Assurance of Grace &

Salvation

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.

This certainty is not a bare conjectural and probable persuasion,
grounded upon a fallible hope; but an infallible assurance of faith,
founded upon the divine truth of the promises of salvation,
the inward evidence of those graces unto which these promises are
made,
the testimony of the Spirit of adoption witnessing with our spirits
that we are children of God: which Spirit is the earnest of our inheritance,
whereby we are sealed to the day of redemption.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE READING & PREACHING OF THE WORD

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Hebrews

6:9–20

SERMON

Of the Assurance of Grace &

Salvation:

An Infallible Assurance

SERMON NOTES

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

*PSALM OF APPLICATION

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

Want

THE LITURGY OF THE UPPER ROOM

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed (Tune:

57)

LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE

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 *Journal of the American Medical Association* (JAMA) and the *New England Journal of Medicine* (NEJM).

These two journals are the most influential in the field of medicine, and their articles are widely cited in the literature. The *JAMA* is a weekly journal, while the *NEJM* is a bi-weekly journal.

The *JAMA* is published by the American Medical Association (AMA), and the *NEJM* is published by the Massachusetts Medical Society (MMS).

The *JAMA* is a general medical journal, while the *NEJM* is a specialty journal focusing on internal medicine.

The *JAMA* is a peer-reviewed journal, while the *NEJM* is a non-peer-reviewed journal.

The *JAMA* is a free journal, while the *NEJM* is a paid journal.

The *JAMA* is a journal of record, while the *NEJM* is a journal of first publication.

The *JAMA* is a journal of the American Medical Association, while the *NEJM* is a journal of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

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THE DOXOLOGY & BENEDICTION

*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 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 Gembariski (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 Shuart (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).

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.

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 4th**

INFORMATION

THE SESSION

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

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)

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

STATISTICS

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: APRIL 20TH

AM Service	62
AM Livestream	
AM AVG. 2025	66
AM AVG. 2024	64
PM Service	38
PM Livestream	---
PM AVG. 2025	14
PM AVG. 2024	14

GENERAL FUND GIVING

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 Leavine.

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 McDermand – Soli Deo Gloria.

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.**



“Appearance While the Apostles are at Table”

Duccio di Buoninsegna (c. 1308)