



Faithful to the Scriptures.

True to the Reformed Faith.

Obedient to the Great Commission.

Lord's Day 30

July 27th, 2025

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, although we trace our beliefs and practices to the Apostolic Church, we also have foundational 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, 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: JULY 27TH

- 9:55 Announcements & Prelude
- 10:00 Morning Worship: Word, Sacrament, & Prayer**
- 12:00 Backyard BBQ at the Fluegge's House
- 4:00 Backyard Evening Service

Please Silence or Turn Off Your Devices

THIS WEEK: JULY 27TH – AUGUST 2ND

Join us for our Backyard BBQ and PM service today at 12pm and 4pm at the home of Chris and Lisa Fluegge. Address: 420 West Huron. Parking on John Street.

This is the last week that we will be taking a special diaconal offering for the relief of those affected by the floods in Texas.

Birthdays & Anniversaries –

FOR YOUR CALENDAR: FUTURE EVENTS

Saturday, August 16th – Men's Breakfast. Sign-up sheet on bulletin board.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH IN NEED OF PRAYER: Ann Armstrong, Mark & Michelle Green, Julia Mayes, and Lisa Schember; expectant mother: Yvonne Krug; those who serve as caretakers; former pastor Jan Dykshoorn (recovery from heart surgery); 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 in the war-torn Middle East, especially in Israel, Lebanon, Gaza, Palestine, and Syria.

PRELUDE & SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"The Power of the Cross"

Getty and Townend (2005) | Briynne McCrea (Piano)

It is the duty of every person to remember the Lord's Day; and to prepare for it before its approach. All worldly business should be so ordered, and seasonably laid aside, as that they may not be hindered thereby from sanctifying the Sabbath, as the Holy Scriptures require.

The Lord's Day | BCO 48-3

The outward and ordinary means whereby Christ communicateth to us the benefits of redemption are, his ordinances, especially the Word, Sacraments, and prayer; all which are made effectual to the elect for salvation.

The Westminster Divines | WSC 88

Baptism is a Sacrament of the New Testament, wherein Christ hath ordained the washing with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, to be a sign and a seal of ingrafting into himself, of remission of sins by his blood, and regeneration by his Spirit; of adoption, and resurrection unto everlasting life; and whereby the parties baptized are solemnly admitted into the visible Church, and enter into an open and professed engagement to be wholly and only the Lord's.

The Westminster Divines | WLC 165

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

St. Paul | Romans 6:3–4

All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

The Westminster Divines | WLC 154

~ THE DIVINE SERVICE ~

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*GOD'S GREETING

1 Peter 1:1b,

2

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm

100

*PSALM OF PRAISE

1 – All People That on Earth Do

Dwell

*RESPONSORIAL

from Psalm 100; Psalm

124:5

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

†Congregation: **Know that the LORD, he is God!**

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

†Congregation: **For the LORD is good;**

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

Leader: Our help is in the name of the LORD!

†Congregation: **Who made heaven and earth!**

*PRAYER OF ENTRANCE

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

READING OF THE LAW

Romans

6:1–14

Minister: The Word of God is living and active.

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

EXPOSITION OF THE LAW

Westminster Larger

Catechism

Minister: How is our Baptism to be improved upon by us?

†Congregation: **The needful but much neglected duty**

of improving upon our baptism

is to be performed by us all our life long,

especially in times of temptation,

and when we are present at the administration of it to others,

by a serious and thankful consideration of its nature,

the purposes for which Christ instituted it,

the privileges and benefits conferred and sealed by it,

and our solemn vows made therein;

by being humbled for our sinful defilement

and for the ways in which we fall short of it

and walk contrary to the grace of Baptism and our vows

therein;

by growing up to assurance of pardon for our sin;

by drawing strength from the death and resurrection of Christ,

into whom we are baptized;

**for the putting to death of sin and walking in newness of life;
by endeavoring to live by faith,
and having a way of life in holiness and righteousness,
as those who have given their up names to Christ in Baptism;
and by walking in brotherly love,
since we are baptized by the same Spirit into one body.**

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; Titus

3:5–6

*HYMN OF ASSURANCE

457 – Come, Thou

Fount of

Every Blessing

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

Matthew

28:16–20

Minister: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON

Baptism: What is it, and Why Should I

Care?

SERMON NOTES

THE INSTITUTION OF CHRIST

A SEAL OF THE COVENANT OF GRACE

A SIGN OF THE BLOOD OF CHRIST

A SIGN OF REGENERATION BY THE SPIRIT

A SIGN OF SANCTIFICATION BY THE MERIT OF CHRIST

FOR BELIEVERS AND THEIR CHILDREN

INCORPORATION INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST

THE EFFICACY OF BAPTISM

IMPROVING UPON OUR BAPTISM

THE VOWS AND DUTIES OF PARENTS

THE LITRUGY OF HOLY BAPTISM

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

(Matthew 28:18–20)

“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children.”

(Acts 2:38–39)

“Baptism is a sacrament of the New Testament, ordained by Jesus Christ...for the solemn admission of the party baptized into the visible Church...to be unto him a sign and seal of the covenant of grace, of his ingrafting into Christ, of regeneration, of remission of sins, and of his giving up unto God, through Jesus Christ, to walk in newness of life.”

(WCF 28.1, Of Baptism)

THE COVENANT PROMISES

Acts 2:39; Gen. 17:17; Acts

16:31

BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS

Directory of Worship: BCO

56-5

12

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles Creed (p.

845)

BAPTISMAL PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Directory of

Worship:

BCO 56-6; Mt. 28:19

HYMN OF RESPONSE

415 – Baptized into Your Name Most

Holy

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

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 & DIACONAL OFFERINGS

1 Corinthians

16:1–2

Now concerning the collection for the saints: as I directed the churches of Galatia, so you also are to do. On the first day of every week [the Lord's Day], each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper.

*THE OFFERING OF PRAISE



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

"The Lord's Supper is a Sacrament, wherein, by giving and receiving bread and wine, according to Christ's appointment, his death is shown forth; and worthy receivers are, not after a corporal or carnal manner, but by faith, made partakers of his body and blood, with all his benefits, to their spiritual nourishment and growth in grace."

(WSC 96)

LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE

COMMUNION HYMN

Next Page – The Power of the

Cross

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

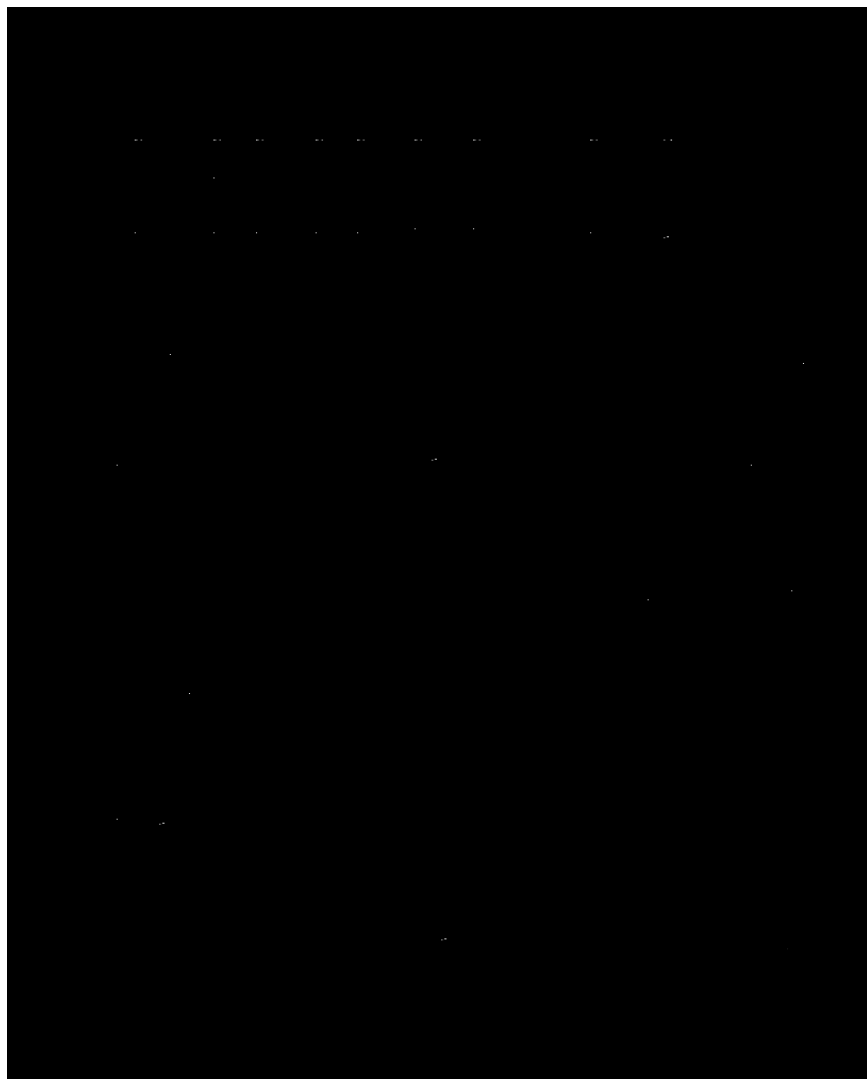
And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This 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

*DOXOLOGY



*BENEDICTION

Hebrews

13:20–21

*POSTLUDE

INFORMATION & STATISTICS

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
Lori McLeod	Diaconal Assistant
Alex Smith	Diaconal Assistant

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: JULY 20TH

AM Service	69
AM Livestream	
AM AVG. 2025	65
AM AVG. 2024	64
PM Service	---
PM Livestream	---
PM AVG. 2025	15
PM AVG. 2024	14

GENERAL FUND GIVING

July Giving	\$
July Budget	\$



"St. Peter Preaching at Pentecost"

Masolino de Panicale (c. 1426)