

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BAD AXE (EST. 1878)

A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

FAITHFUL TO THE SCRIPTURES

TRUE TO THE REFORMED FAITH

OBEDIENT TO THE GREAT COMMISSION

Lord's Day 8

February 22, 2026

First Sunday in Lent

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants



Parable of the Wicked Husbandmen

Marten van Valckenborch (1535–1612)

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. We invite you to join us after the service for coffee, snacks, and fellowship. 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) as codified in the ancient creeds and confessions of the Church: The Apostles' Creed (2nd century), the Nicene-Constantinopolitan 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. As Protestants, we believe in the authority of the inspired Holy Scriptures over unbiblical traditions. Protestants also believe that salvation is by God's *grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, for the glory of God alone* (Eph. 2:8-10).

We are a Reformed Church: Reformed Churches come from different regions, mostly in Western 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 called, trained, tested, elected, and ordained elders. In the Greek New Testament, elders are called *presbyters*, which is where the name "Presbyterian" comes from. Our Teaching Elder preaches and teaches, and our Ruling Elders come alongside of him to shepherd, lead, keep the Church from false doctrine, and make decisions on her behalf. We also have called, trained, tested, elected, and ordained deacons who take care of the material needs of the Church.

Reformed Presbyterian Churches hold the public worship of God in high esteem. Thus, our **Lord's Day Worship Services** are the most important events of the week. During this time, we gather together to hear the Word of God, receive the Sacraments (Baptism and the Lord's Supper), pray, praise, and enjoy Christian fellowship. If you have any questions, feel free to connect with me, or with one of our elders or deacons.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Rev. Scott C. McDermid II

ANNOUNCEMENTS: CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & EVENTS

THIS SUNDAY: FEBRUARY 22ND

- 9:55 Announcements & Prelude
10:00 **Morning Worship: Word, Sacrament, & Prayer**
11:15 Fellowship: Coffee, Tea, & Snacks
11:45 Sunday School
5:00 **Evening Worship: Word, Sacrament, & Prayer**

THIS WEEK

Lenten Devotions – Our Wednesday night Lenten Devotions continue on Wednesday night at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

Theology Thursday: Presbyterianism 101 Class – Join us for our New members' / Presbyterian Refresher class on Thursdays at 6:00 PM in the Lounge.

Birthdays & Anniversaries –

FUTURE EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR

St. Patrick's Day Dinner – Our St. Patrick's Day Dinner will be held after our PM service on Sunday, March 15th. Service begins at 5:00 PM and the feast at 6:15. Sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Great Lakes Reformed Conference 2026 – Hosted by Oakland Hills Community Church (OPC), this year's conference is on Saturday, March 21 beginning at 9:00 AM. This year's speaker is Dr. J.V. Fesko, who will be giving lectures titled, "Wisdom: Guidance for the Journey." Tickets are \$25. Let us know if you are interested in going by signing up.

Men's Breakfast - Men of the church: Join us on Saturday, March 28th for breakfast, fellowship, sharpening, and prayer. Kitchen opens at 8:00 AM, breakfast begins at 9:00. Sign-up and show up.

Palm Sunday Brunch - Our annual Palm Sunday Brunch will be held after our AM Service on Sunday, March 29th.

Backyard BBQ and Worship Service - If you are interested in hosting one of our Sunday BBQs and outdoor worship services in April through September, you can find the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Maundy Thursday - Our Maundy Thursday Feast and worship service will be held on Thursday, April 2nd at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Good Friday - Our Good Friday Service is on Friday, April 3rd at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH IN NEED OF PRAYER: Ann Armstrong, Mark & Michelle Green, Julia Mayes, and Lisa Schember; 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); for those who have ceased attending public worship, that God would reveal to them the necessity of worship on the Lord's Day and fellowship with the saints.

OUR MISSIONARIES: Jim DeWitt (Latin America), Lynn Hacker, the Kawachis (France), the Nachtergaeles (Belgium), the Shupes (British Colombia), and the Wilsons (Middle East), as they work as ambassadors of the King for the advancement of the Gospel of his Kingdom; that we would be missionaries by sharing the gospel and inviting people to our church; that God would grant courage and the words to speak as we interact with family and friends; 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 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; for the peace and purity of our church; that members would take their vows seriously and attend church regularly; that God would be glorified and we would be sanctified 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; for our local, county, state, and federal civil servants; for the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches; that our leaders in government would come to know Christ: The King of kings and Lord of lords, and that their governance 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 that we live as salt and light.

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 and martyred: that they would be faithful witnesses to Jesus Christ and that

their persecutors would be converted through this witness. This month we pray for Christians living under Islamic oppression and persecution in North Africa.

PRELUDE & SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

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Sovereign Grace (2011) | *Piano, Briynne McCrea*

Almighty God, whose loving hand has given us all that we possess: Make us always thankful for your loving providence and your gracious bounty; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, would be faithful stewards of your varied gifts, and honor you with the fruits of our faith, service, and with generosity of spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, together with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

The Collect | *Stewardship of God's Gifts*

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...The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The Psalmist | *Psalms 118:19-24*

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: 'Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,' and 'A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.'

St. Peter | *1 Peter 2:4-8*

Remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh...were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants...But

now in Christ Jesus you were once far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ...So then you are no longer strangers...but you are fellows citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.

St. Paul | *Ephesians 2:11-13, 19-21*

~ THE DIVINE SERVICE ~

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP

- *GOD'S GREETING *Galatians 1:3-5*
*CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 118*
*HYMN OF ENTRANCE *342 - Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*
*RESPONSORIAL *from Psalm 118 & 124:5*

Minister: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for his is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!

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

Minister: This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.

†Congregation: **The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.**

Minister: This is the day the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

†Congregation: **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!
We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

Minister: 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

Exodus 20:1–7

Minister: The Word of God is living and active.

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

EXPOSITION OF THE LAW

Westminster Larger Catechism

Minister: What is the third commandment?

†Congregation: **The third commandment is,**

**“Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain;
for the Lord will not hold him guiltless
that taketh his name in vain”**

Minister: What is required in the third commandment?

†Congregation: **The third commandment requires:**

**That the name of God, his titles, attributes, ordinances,
the Word, Sacraments, prayer, oaths, vows, his works,
and wherever else he makes himself known,
is to be used with holiness and reverence
in thought, meditation, speech, and writing;
by a holy profession, an answerable conversation,
with good use by ourselves and others;
and all for the glory of God.**

Minister: Christian, have you done this perfectly and perpetually?

†Congregation: **No, for as the Apostle Paul says,**

**“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”
and as the Apostle John also writes,
“If we say we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”**

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; Ephesians 1:7

*HYMN OF ASSURANCE

103 – Holy God, We Praise Your Name

OUR OFFERINGS

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Ruling Elder, Mr. Wayne Copeland

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

Malachi 3:10

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows
bountifully will also reap bountifully.

*THE OFFERING OF PRAISE

Doxology

DOXOLOGIES

567

Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:
praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Thomas Ken, 1674

OLD HUNDREDTH L.M.
Louis Bourgeois, 1551

THE SERMON

*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON TEXT

Luke 20:9-18

Minister: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON

The Gospel According to Luke: Passion Week

The Parable of the Wicked Tenants

SERMON NOTES

THE CONTEXT: PASSION WEEK

THE TEACHING: THE PARABLE OF THE WICKED TENANTS

THE APPLICATION: THE NEW COVENANT

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

355 – *We Are God's People*

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

LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE

COMMUNION HYMN

Behold the Lamb (Communion Hymn)

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

Gloria Patri

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in

the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

2nd cent.; tr.

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex) Irreg.
Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

*BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

*POSTLUDE

EVENING WORSHIP:
CATECHETICAL SERVICE (5:00 PM)

PRELUDE

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Ein Feste Burg
Martin Luther (1529)

PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER

The moral law is of use to all men, to inform them of the holy nature and will of God, and of their duty, binding them to walk accordingly; to convince them of their disability to keep it, and of the sinful pollution of their nature, hearts, and lives; to humble them in the sense of their sin and misery.

The Westminster Divines | *WLC 95, “Of what use is the moral law to all men?”*

The political use of the [moral] law...serves to restrain sin and encourage order in a community. It is the standard according to which wise rulers are to make and enforce the laws of their nations.

Keith Mathison | *The Three Uses of the Law*

The law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine.

St. Paul | *1 Timothy 1:9-10*

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer.

St. Paul | *Romans 13:1-4*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

- *GREETING *1 Peter 1:1b-2*
*CALL TO WORSHIP *from Psalm 72*
*PSALM OF PRAISE *311 – Hail to the Lord’s Anointed*
*PRAYER OF ENTRANCE

READING & RESPONSES

- OLD TESTAMENT READING *Psalm 2*
CONFESSIONAL STATEMENT *WCF 19.6 – Of the Law of God*

Although true believers be not under the law, as a covenant of works,
to be thereby justified or condemned;
yet it is of great use to them, as well as to others;
in that, as a rule of life informing them of the will of God,
and of their duty,
it directs and binds them to walk accordingly;
discovering the sinful pollutions of their nature, hearts, and lives;
so as, examining themselves thereby,
they may come to further conviction of,
humiliation for, and hatred against sin,
together with a clearer sight of the need they have of Christ,
and the perfection of his obedience.

- *PSALM OF RESPONSE *314 – O Wherefore Do the Nations Rage*
PASTORAL PRAYER

THE READING & PREACHING OF THE WORD

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 13:1-7

SERMON

Of the Law of God:

The Second Use of the Law: The Political Use

SERMON NOTES

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

*HYMN OF APPLICATION

150 – The Law of God Is Good and Wise

THE LITURGY OF THE UPPER ROOM

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

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

*DOXOLOGY

11 – Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God (1, 2)

*BENEDICTION

Hebrews 13:20–21

The Apostles' Creed



1. I be - lieve in God the Fa - ther, Mak - er of the heav'n and earth,
2. Suf - fered un - der Pon - tius Pi - late, cru - ci - fied, en - dur - ing hell,
3. At God's right hand he is seat - ed, 'til his com - ing, as he said;
4. I be - lieve the church of Je - sus ho - ly, cath - o - lic re - mains;



and in Je - sus Christ, our Sav - ior, God's own Son, of match - less worth;
laid with - in the grave so si - lent, as the proph - ets did fore - tell.
fin - al judg - ment will be met - ed to the liv - ing and the dead.
we are one thro' all the ag - es, the com - mun - ion of the saints.



by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ed, vir - gin Mar - y bore God's Son,
But the stone - sealed tomb was emp - tied on the third day; he a - rose:
I con - fess the Ho - ly Spir - it has been sent thro' Christ the Son
I be - lieve sins are for - giv - en, that our bod - ies will be raised,



he in whom I have be - liev - ed: God Al - might - y, Three in One.
in - to heav - en made his en - try, Might - y Con - queror of his foes.
to ap - ply sal - va - tion's mer - it; God the Spir - it, Three in One.
life with God is nev - er end - ed. A - men, let his name be praised!



~ DAILY LITURGY ~

{FOR FAMILY OR PERSONAL DEVOTION}

*"His delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates day and night."*

(Psalm 1:2)

GLORIA PATRI

OPENING PSALM

OPENING PRAYER

CONFESSION OF SIN

CONFESSION OF FAITH

OLD TESTAMENT READING

APPLICATION

HYMN OR PSALM

NEW TESTAMENT READING

APPLICATION

HYMN OR PSALM

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

DOXOLOGY

EXTENDED PRAYER LIST

*“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstance;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”*

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH:

For the health of: Ann Armstrong (cancer), Mark & Michelle Green, Tom & Julia Mayes, and Lisa Schember; 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 would participate. **For non-attending members:** that God would reveal to them their sin and grant them an 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 Visitors:** That God would continue to bring in families, couples, and individuals who seek to glorify him and grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ. Praise for recent visitors and that they would consider membership here in our local body of Christ. **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 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 and divorced:** that they would devote themselves to the Lord and to the ministries of the Church; and that God would grant marriage to those who desire it. **For our widows:** that the Lord would provide support and fellowship through the church; that they would devote themselves to Christ and serve His body. **For our College Students:** Regan Hobkirk and Hailee McLeod; 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 Family Members & Friends of our Church:** for the physical and spiritual health of: Amanda Armstrong (Ann’s niece: cancer); Linda Dumaw (Bonnie Perry, Judy Stokan, and Sharon Carpenter’s friend); Tom Fata (Annette Knapp’s brother: colon cancer); Virginia Gembariski (Sharon Gisel’s sister: Leukemia); 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); 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 as they take on numerous projects, wisdom and a view of the Great Commission for Trustees, for our Sunday School program: attendance (especially for children's catechism), Sunday School teachers, for those who serve in the Missions Committee; for a stronger local outreach; and for our men's and women's ministry's that they would be a blessing to us and to others. 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 this local body. That God would send or raise up more musicians and singers to serve him with their gifts, especially a second pianist so that our pianist would be able to receive days of rest. 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 PRESBYTERY:

New City Presbyterian, Ferndale MI – Senior Pastor is Tommy (Abigail) Myrick and Assistant Pastor Brennen (Tiffany) Winter - Please pray for our officers, deacon assistants, and staff as we serve the Lord's church with wisdom and guidance through love and grace. Please pray for our men's and women's ministries to take root and grow and provide a place of growing more like Christ. Please pray for our students and children's ministries that the Lord would provide men and women who love the Lord and desire to serve our covenant children in discipling and shepherding their hearts. Please pray that all who call New City their home will grow in their knowledge and love of the Lord and His church and will be blessed in using the gifts they are given to serve the church in the way the Lord leads them. **Knox Presbyterian Church, Harrison Twp MI – Pastor Douglas (Lesley) Graham; Associate Pastor Paul (Cecily) Davis; Asst. Pastor Jim (Sandy) Mascow** Please pray that God will be glorified and His

Word heard. **Trinity, Hudsonville MI - Pastor Jeremy (Marie) Visser & Dan Millward (Laura) and the Detroit Project.**

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. (1 Peter 3:15) 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 all of 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, domestically and abroad. **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 lose influence and the ability to witness because of hypocrisy in the church. That we would all "kiss the Son, lest he be angry." (Psalm 2) 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 the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches in our country. For the Church's 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 Nachtergaele's in Belgium. 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." That our new Missions budget would be a blessing to our foreign missionaries and facilitate more local outreach. **For persecuted Christians** throughout the world who are suffering because of the Cross. That they would be faithful witnesses to Jesus Christ, even unto death, and that their persecutors would be converted through their witness. This month

we pray in particular for Christians living under Islamic oppression and persecution in North Africa.

INFORMATION & STATISTICS

THE SESSION

Wayne Copeland	Ruling Elder, Missions
Chris Fluegge	Ruling Elder, Trustee
Scott McDermant	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 McDermant	Advisory Board Member, Moderator
Sharon Carpenter	Diaconal Assistant
Dan Clarkson	Diaconal Assistant
Greg Davis	Diaconal Assistant
Linda Herndon	Diaconal Assistant
Carol Holtrop	Diaconal Assistant, Secretary
Lori McLeod	Diaconal Assistant
Alex Smith	Diaconal Assistant

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: FEBRUARY 8TH

AM Service	76
AM Livestream	
AM AVG. (2026)	67
AM AVG (2025)	65
PM Service	9
PM Livestream	--
PM AVG. 2025	11
PM AVG. 2024	17

GENERAL FUND GIVING

February Giving	\$
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