



Faithful to the Scriptures.

True to the Reformed Faith.

Obedient to the Great Commission.

Lord's Day 15

April 13th, 2025

Palm Sunday

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), as codified in the ancient creeds of the Christian Church: The Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Definition of Chalcedon, and the Athanasian Creed.

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 bare 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, to pray and praise him, to receive the Sacraments, and to enjoy Christian fellowship. If you have any questions, feel free to connect with Pastor Scott or one of our elders.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Rev. Scott C. McDermand II

CHURCH LIFE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Sunday, April 13th

9:55 Announcements & Prelude

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

11:30 Feast: Palm Sunday Brunch

Please Silence or Turn Off Your Devices

FEAST TODAY: PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH – Join us after our worship service for our Palm Sunday Brunch. Everyone welcome.

Maundy Thursday Agape Feast – Join us for our annual Maundy Thursday Agape Feast followed by our Upper Room Liturgy on Thursday, April 17th at 6:00 pm. Check the sign-up sheet to see what needs to be brought. Please stay on theme. It is a meatless, Mediterranean/Middle-Eastern-style dinner. Dinner is downstairs at 6:00 pm followed by the Upper Room Liturgy, which is upstairs in the sanctuary.

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, 22nd at 6:00 PM. If you have never taken this class, I highly recommend it. Especially if you already know everything there is to know about Presbyterianism.

Theology Thursday: Book Club – There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for the next book that we will read. Let us know what you want to read and we will read it. Our next book study will begin on Thursday 7:00 PM

New Hymnals – Thank you to all of you who contributed to the new hymnals! If you would like to take an old hymnal home for family or private worship, feel free to grab a red hymnal from the couch in the Historical Room.

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.

Podcast – We also 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.

Birthdays & Anniversaries – We rejoice at the birth of Juniper Rain Fluegge on April 2nd – praise God and congratulations to parents Adam and Dana Fluegge and grandparents Chris and Lisa!

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Church Members in Need of Prayer: Michelle Green, Julia Mayes, Hailee McLeod; family of Donna Noble; those who serve as caretakers; all who are ill or traveling; long-term care residents: Pam Belew, Lorrain Dutcher, Bertha McTaggart, and Ann Thaut; 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. 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, Trustees, and 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.

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 more people would come to faith 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 and everlasting God, in your great love for the human race you sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon him our nature, and to suffer death upon the cross: Mercifully grant that we may walk in the way of his suffering, and also share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

The Collect | Palm Sunday

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 Book of Worship | BCO 48-3

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

The Psalmist | Luke 15:20–24

It pleased God, in his eternal purpose, to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, his only-begotten Son, to be the Mediator between God and man, the Prophet, Priest, and King; the Head and Savior of his Church, the Heir of all things, and Judge of the world; unto whom he did from all eternity, give a people to be his seed, and to be by him in time redeemed, called, justified, sanctified, and glorified.

Westminster Confession of Faith 8.1 | Of Christ the Mediator

I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

St. John | Revelation 7:9–10

~ THE DIVINE SERVICE ~

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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

(Psalm 118:19)

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*GOD’S GREETING

Revelation

1:4b–5a

*CALL TO WORSHIP

from

Psalm 118

*HYMN OF PRAISE

235 – All Glory, Laud,

and Honor

*RESPONSORIAL

from Psalm 118;

124:8

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: Hosanna, we pray, O LORD!
O LORD, we pray, give us success!

†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

Zechariah

9:9–13

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

*PSALM OF ASSURANCE

311 – Hail to the Lord's

Anointed

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, 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.

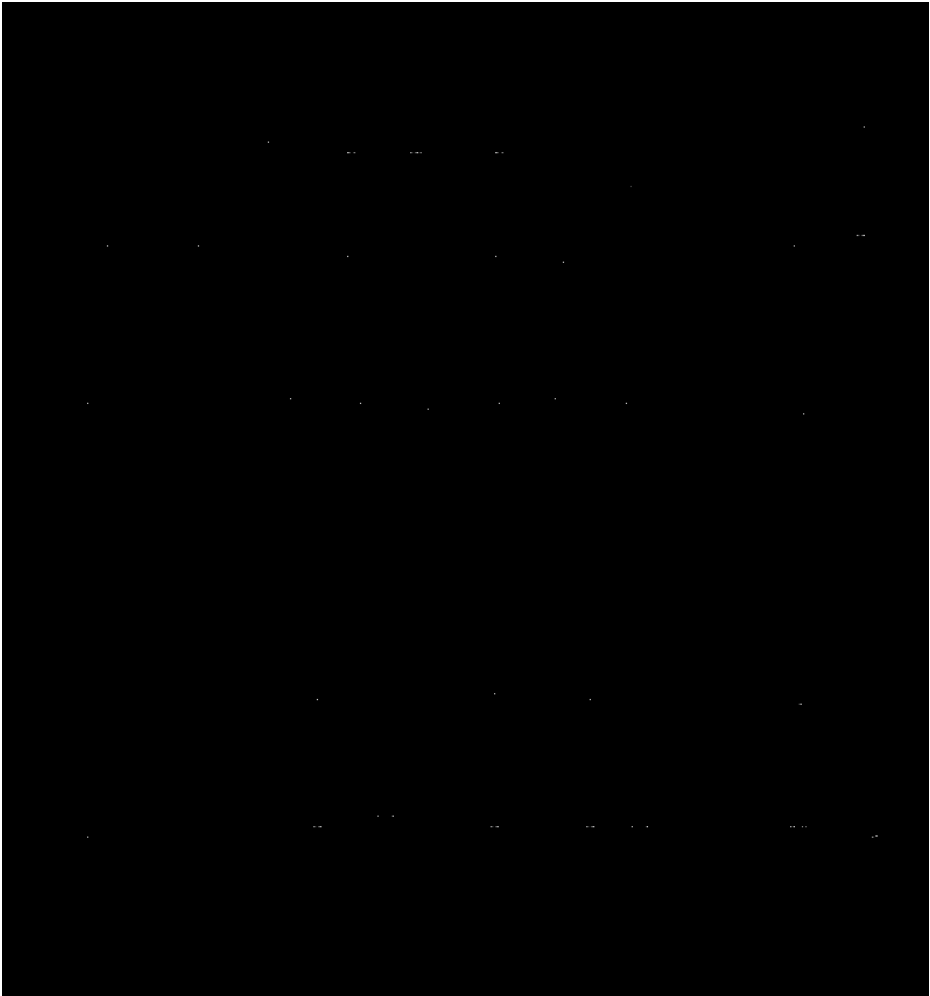
THE WEEKLY OFFERING

Luke

12:31–34

Seek his kingdom, and all these things will be added to you. Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom...Provide yourselves moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail...For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

*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

Matthew

21:1–17

Minister: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON

From Holy Week to the

Holy Trinity:

Palm Sunday: Jesus, the Prophet, Priest, and King

SERMON NOTES

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

237 – Ride On, Ride On

in Majesty!

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

"This is my body, which is given for you.
This cup that is poured out for is the new covenant in my blood."

(Luke 22:19, 20)

LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE

COMMUNION HYMN

Behold the Lamb (Communion

Hymn)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Sursum Corda (3rd

Cent.)

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

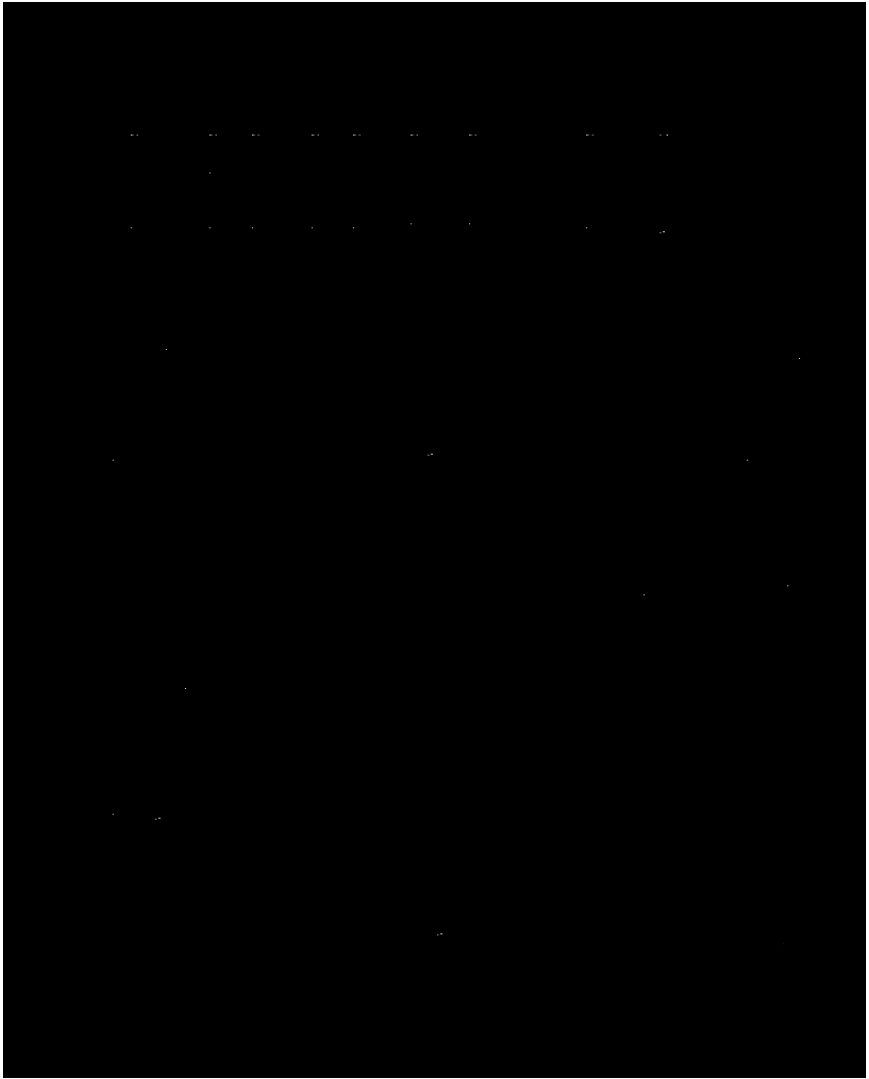
And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This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

2 Corinthians

13:14

*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, Hailee McLeod, and Ann Thaut; 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), Lorraine Dutcher (Huron County Medical Care Facility, Bertha McTaggart and the family of Donna Noble (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 Friends and Family Members: for the physical and spiritual health of: Deb Cleland (Lori McLeod's friend: praise for recovery); 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); Nicole Patterson; Libby Hill and Nancy McLeod (Allan McLeod's aunt and sister-in-law); Cecil Stuart (friend of the McLeod's); family of Tim Spitzley (Amanda McLeod's brother); 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 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.

Confex (Mwai) Makhalira—Evangelistic Missionary, MTW:

We thank God for his continued blessings upon us as a family and church. Please pray for our church's campus ministry. We are planning to expand our evangelism and discipleship ministry to university students in our city of Blantyre in 2025. Please pray for our campus Director, Robinson Katsulukuta, as he coordinates this ministry.

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, April 27th**

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 6TH

AM Service	69
AM Livestream	

AM AVG. 2025	65
AM AVG. 2024	64
PM Service	20
PM Livestream	
PM AVG. 2025	12
PM AVG. 2024	14
Wednesday PM (Lent)	---
Wednesday PM AVG	19
2024 AVG	23

GENERAL FUND GIVING

April Giving	\$
April Budget	\$
March Total	\$
March Budget	\$
5 th Sunday Offering	\$



“The Entry of Christ into Jerusalem”

Louis Felix Leullier (1811–82)