



Faithful to the Scriptures  
True to the Reformed Faith  
Obedient to the Great Commission

January 31 2021  
Lord's Day 5

# G r e e t i n g s   &   W e l c o m e

We are pleased that you are here with us today to worship our Triune God. A typical Sunday morning service will last about 70 minutes. There is a nursery for nursing mothers where the service is televised. We also have mask-only sanctuary for those who want to remain in a more isolated environment.

This bulletin contains a **liturgy** (order of worship) which will guide you through our worship service. After the service, please join us for a time of fellowship, refreshments, and snacks in the lounge. Our Sunday school for all ages begins at 11:30 for anyone interested. Here is a little bit of information about who we are and what we believe:

We are a **Christian Church**. This means we believe in the doctrine of the Trinity – One God, in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – and we confess 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**. This means that whereas we can trace our beliefs and practices back to the Apostolic Church, we also have historical roots in the Protestant Reformation of the 16th and 17th centuries. Because we are Protestants, we believe that salvation is by God's grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, for the glory of God alone, as revealed in Scripture alone. This doctrine of salvation is one of the essential beliefs of the Protestant Reformation.

We are a **Reformed Church**. This means we believe in the doctrinal summaries of the Holy Scriptures that come from the Protestant Reformation. For us, that means we believe in the Westminster Standards, written at the Westminster Assembly in the 1640's. Thus, our beliefs do not change from day-to-day or year-to-year depending on who our pastor is, but our beliefs about what the Holy Scriptures teach have not changed for nearly 400 years.

We are a **Presbyterian Church**. As Presbyterians, we believe that the biblical, and thus, God-ordained way of governing his Church is through a polity of elders. Therefore, our elders are concerned with shepherding the flock of God, protecting the Church from false doctrine, and making spiritual decisions on her behalf. In addition to elders, Presbyterian churches also have deacons who take care of the physical needs of the flock of God.

As a Christian, Protestant, Reformed, and Presbyterian Church, we take the worship of God very seriously. **The Lord's Day Worship Service** is the most important event of the week for us. It is during this time that we gather together to hear the Word of God, pray, and receive the Sacrament of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Feel free to check out our Website, Facebook, and YouTube pages and like, subscribe, follow, and share!

Soli Deo Gloria,  
Pastor Scott McDermind



## W e e k l y   E v e n t s   &   A n n o u n c e m e n t s

This Sunday, January 31th

9:15 Hymn Sing  
9:50 Announcements & Prelude  
10:00 AM Worship Service  
4:00 Prayer Meeting  
4:35 Hymn Sing  
5:00-6:00 PM Worship Service



@badaxefirstpres

@badaxefirstpres



First Presbyterian  
Church of Bad Axe

C o m i n g   u p . . .

### **Hymn Sing**

Join us at 9:15 before the Morning Worship Service and at 4:35 before the Evening Worship Service as we practice the Lord's Day hymns and prepare to help the rest of the congregation in singing praises to our Triune God.

### **Chili Cookoff**

Join us for our Chili Cookoff on Wednesday, February 3rd at 7 pm. This will kick off our 2021 Family Night! Adult Bible Study (Sanctuary) and Youth Catechism (classrooms) begin at 6 pm followed by our Chili Dinner. Bring your best pot of Chili and don't forget to wear a hat. Prizes will be awarded to the best chilis, the most creative hat, the ugliest hat, and the classiest hat. Sign-up sheet in the Lounge.

### **Officer Training Class & Shepherding Class**

Our final Officer Training Class is on Tuesday, January 26th at 6 pm. Our Shepherding Classes begin on Tuesday, February 9th. This class is for the purpose of training elders; however, it is open for all. We will be meeting on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 6 pm.

### **Food Pantry**

The Food Pantry is for anyone in need. If you or someone you know needs food or toiletries, please let the deacons or Linda Herndon know. Currently, our pantry is stocked up on food items but needs deodorant and soap. Thank you for your help in this important ministry!

### **Birthdays & Anniversaries:**

# R e m e m b e r   i n   P r a y e r

## **Church Members**

Wayne Copeland (hip surgery), Sam Krohn (recovering from surgery), Sharon Pangborn (health concerns), Jan Sageman (broken foot), Sandy Sams (undergoing dialysis), Richard Stokan (recovering from surgery), and our shut-ins John & Pam Belew, Mark & Michelle Green, Bertha McTaggart, Donna Noble, and Nettie Whear.

## **Missionaries**

Jim DeWitt (Latin America), Lynn Hacker (Mukinge Hospital, Zambia), Satoshi & Cally Kawachi (France), Nachtergaele Family (Belgium), and Tim & Emily Wilson (Middle East).

## **Church Ministries**

The Session, Diaconate, Family Night, Bible Study, Sunday School Program, Finance Committee, and Revitalization Team. Pray that this work would glorify God, edify the church, and facilitate growth for our church.

## **Community**

That our witness would reach those in our community in need of the gospel. That we would be a light in a dark place, salt in a flavorless world, a city on a hill. That God would grant us the courage to invite our family, friends, and neighbors to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.

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## General Fund Giving

For January thus far: \$. Needed to meet the budget for January: \$.

# M o r n i n g   S e r v i c e   L i t u r g y

1 0 a m

## P r e l u d e

Prayerfully Consider

*"Many would dismiss this and any other story, because they are convinced that the tale of Noah and his ark is mere mythology, and in fact, actually impossible...But is it impossible? It is not, as a little investigation shall show." (James Montgomery Boice)*

*"In modern measurements, the ark would have been around 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high, yielding a displacement of about 43,000 tons. The inside capacity would have been 1.4 million cubic feet, with an approximate total deck area." (T. D. Alexander)*

*"Given their hundred-year building, planning, and preparation time, Noah and his family could possibly have adapted and installed many labor-saving devices. Dumbwaiters, carts, chutes, rails, and simple plumbing may well have greatly streamlined their work as animal keepers." (C. John Collins)*

*"What about the 'millions and millions' of species? There is some difficulty in determining what is meant by the biblical word 'kind,' as in 'two of every kind'...If this corresponds to our modern classification of 'family,' the maximum number of families represented on the ark would be about seven hundred. But suppose the word actually corresponds to our word 'species'? In that case, the number would be much higher - but not beyond the ark's capacity." (James Montgomery Boice)*

*"A peculiar feature of the flood narrative is the number of detailed chronological notices. By pinpointing the exact date of the flood within Noah's life, the text underlines that it was a real event." (T. D. Alexander)*

*"The heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God, and that by means of these the world that then existed was deluged with water and perished. But by the same word the heavens and earth that now exist are stored up for fire, being kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly." (2 Peter 3:5b-7)*

*"[God] did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly." (2 Peter 2:5)*

*"Just as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the days of the Son of Man." (Luke 17:26)*

*"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." (Luke 24:25-27)*

*"By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith." (Hebrews 11:7)*

## G r e e t i n g

! Corinthians 1:2-3

To the church of God that is sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

## C a l l   t o   W o r s h i p

Psalm 93

The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty;  
the LORD is robed; he has put on strength as his belt.  
Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.  
Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

The floods have lifted up, O LORD,  
the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring.  
Mightier than the thunders of many waters,  
mightier than the waves of the sea, the LORD on high is mighty!  
Your decrees are very trustworthy;  
holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.

## H y m n   o f   R e s p o n s e

#64 God the Lord, a King  
Remaineth

1 God, the Lord, a King remaineth,  
robed in his own glorious light;  
God hath robed him and he reigneth;  
he hath girded him with might.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
God is King in depth and height.

4 With all tones of waters blending,  
glorious is the breaking deep;  
glorious, beauteous without ending,  
God who reigns on heav'n's high steep.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Songs of ocean never sleep.

2 In her everlasting station  
earth is poised, to swerve no more;  
thou hast laid thy throne's foundation  
from all time where thought can soar.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Lord, thou art for evermore.

5 Lord, the words thy lips are telling  
are the perfect verity:  
of thine high eternal dwelling  
holiness shall inmate be.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Pure is all that lives with thee.

3 Lord, the water-floods have lifted,  
ocean floods have lift their roar;  
now they pause where they have drifted,  
now they burst upon the shore.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
For the ocean's sounding store.

## R e s p o n s i v e   P s a l m

Psalm 93:3-4; 124:8

Minister: The floods have lifted up, O LORD;

**Congregation: the floods have lifted up their voice, the floods lift up their roaring!**

Minister: Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea,

**Congregation: the LORD on high is mighty!**

Minister: Our help is in the name of the LORD;

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

## P r a y e r   o f   E n t r a n c e

## R e a d i n g   o f   t h e   L a w

1 John 1:5-10

5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Minister: The Law of the LORD is perfect,

**Congregation: The testimony of the LORD is true!**

Q. 13. What is sin?

**A. Sin is any want of conformity unto, or transgression of, the law of God.**

Q. 84. What doth every sin deserve?

**A. Every sin deserveth God's wrath and curse, both in this life, and that which is to come.**

Q. 85. What doth God require of us, that we may escape his wrath and curse, due to us for sin?

**A. To escape the wrath and curse of God, due to us for sin, God requireth of us faith in Jesus Christ, repentance unto life, with the diligent use of all the outward means whereby Christ communicateth to us the benefits of redemption.**

Q. 35. What is sanctification?

**A. Sanctification is the work of God's free grace, whereby we are renewed in the whole person after the image of God, and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.**

## S i l e n t   P r a y e r   o f   C o n f e s s i o n

Take this time to consider the words of the Apostle John: "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sin and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9-10)



**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.  
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!**

**For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.  
Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.  
Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive  
me.  
Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,  
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**

**Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.  
Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones that you have broken rejoice.  
Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from  
me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

**Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.  
Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation,  
and my tongue will sing aloud of your righteousness.  
O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.  
For you will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it;  
you will not be pleased with a burnt offering.  
The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

## Assurance of Pardon

1 John 1:9; Ephesians 1:7

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness; indeed, for we do not look to ourselves for the forgiveness of sins, but we look to the cross and we look to Christ, for in him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of all of our sins according to the riches of his grace.

## H y m n o f R e s p o n s e

#307 Nothing but the Blood of Jesus

What can wash away my sin?  
nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
what can make me whole again?  
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Refrain:

**O precious is the flow  
that makes me white as snow;  
no other fount I know,  
nothing but the blood of Jesus.**

For my cleansing this I see  
nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
for my pardon this my plea  
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

**Refrain**

Nothing can for sin atone  
nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
naught of good that I have done  
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

**Refrain**

This is all my hope and peace  
nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
this is all my righteousness  
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

**Refrain**

Now by this I'll overcome  
nothing but the blood of Jesus;  
now by this I'll reach my home  
nothing but the blood of Jesus.

**Refrain**

# THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*"Jesus came and said to them, '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)*

*"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 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." (WLC 165)*

*"I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you...And God said to Abraham, 'As for you, you shall keep my covenant, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations. This is my covenant, which you shall keep, between me and you and your offspring after you: Every male among you shall be circumcised. You shall be circumcised in the flesh of your foreskins, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and you. He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised. Every male throughout your generations, whether born in your house or bought with your money from any foreigner who is not of your offspring, both he who is born in your house and he who is bought with your money, shall surely be circumcised.'" (Genesis 17:7-13)*

*"In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross." (Colossians 2:11-14)*

*"I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your sin and uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh." (Ezekiel 36:26)*

*"Baptism is not to be administered to any that are out of the visible Church, and so strangers from the covenant of promise, till they profess their faith in Christ, and obedience to him; but infants descended from parents, either both or but one of them professing faith in Christ, and obedience to him, are in that respect, within the covenant, and to be baptized." (WLC 166)*

*"And Peter said to them, '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 and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.'" (Acts 2:38-39)*

# Words of Instruction on Baptism

According to the Directory for the Worship of God (DWG) in the Book of Church Order (BCO) 56-4 of the Presbyterian Church in America.

## Covenant Promises & Questions 2

DWG; BCO 56-5.

## Prayer for a Blessing to Attend the Ordinance of Baptism

DWG; BCO 56-6.

## The Sacrament of Baptism

### Hymn of Response

### #347 The Church's One Foundation

1 The church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation  
by water and the Word:  
from heav'n he came and sought her  
to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her,  
and for her life he died.

2 Elect from ev'ry nation,  
yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation  
one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
one holy name she blesses,  
partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses,  
with ev'ry grace endued.

3 Though with a scornful wonder  
men see her sore oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder,  
by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping,  
their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping  
shall be the morn of song.

4 The church shall never perish!  
Her dear Lord to defend,  
to guide, sustain, and cherish,  
is with her to the end;  
though there be those that hate her,  
and false sons in her pale,  
against or foe or traitor  
she ever shall prevail.

5 'Mid toil and tribulation,  
and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation  
of peace forevermore;  
ill with the vision glorious  
her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious  
shall be the church at rest.

6 Yet she on earth hath union  
with God the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion  
with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we,  
like them, the meek and lowly,  
on high may dwell with thee.

## P r a y e r   o f   t h e   C h u r c h

Pastor Scott McDermid

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.

S e r m o n

The Deluge: History or Myth?  
Genesis 6:9-8:19

Notes:

## H y m n   o f   R e s p o n s e

#119 I Sing the Almighty Power of God

1 I sing th'almighty pow'r of God  
that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad,  
and built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
the sun to rule the day;  
the moon shines full at his command  
and all the stars obey.

2 I sing the goodness of the Lord  
that filled the earth with food;  
he formed the creatures with his word,  
and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how your wonders are displayed  
where'er I turn mine eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread  
or gaze upon the sky!

3 There's not a plant or flow'r below  
but makes your glories known;  
and clouds arise and tempests blow,  
by order from your throne;  
while all that borrows life from you  
is ever in your care,  
and everywhere that man can be,  
you, God, are present there.

## P r a y e r   o f   A p p l i c a t i o n

## L i t u r g y   o f   t h e   U p p e r   R o o m

"Wash me clean from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin." (Psalm 51:2)

### N i c e n e   C r e e d

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth;  
and 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 men 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 sits on 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 I 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 worshipped and glorified;  
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
And I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**



## C o m m u n i o n   H y m n   #253 There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood

There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel's veins; and sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains: lose all their guilty stains, lose all their guilty stains; and sinners, plunged beneath that flood, lose all their guilty stains.	Then in a nobler, sweeter song I'll sing your pow'r to save, when this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue lies silent in the grave: lies silent in the grave, lies silent in the grave; when this poor lisping, stamm'ring tongue lies silent in the grave.
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The dying thief rejoiced to see  
that fountain in his day;  
and there have I, as vile as he,  
washed all my sins away:  
washed all my sins away,  
washed all my sins away;  
and there have I, as vile as he,  
washed all my sins away.

Dear dying Lamb, your precious blood  
shall never lose its pow'r,  
till all the ransomed church of God  
be saved, to sin no more:  
be saved, to sin no more,  
be saved, to sin no more;  
till all the ransomed church of God  
be saved to sin no more.

E'er since by faith I saw the stream  
your flowing wounds supply,  
redeeming love has been my theme,  
and shall be till I die:  
and shall be till I die,  
and shall be till I die;  
redeeming love has been my theme,  
and shall be till I die.

## E u c h a r i s t i c   P r a y e r

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.**

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## W o r d s   o f   I n s t i t u t i o n

1 Corinthians 11:23–26

"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."

## T h e   L o r d ' s   S u p p e r

The Lord's Supper is one of the two sacraments of the New Covenant, given to us by our Lord Jesus, as a means of communicating his grace unto us. The bread and the wine are signs of the body and blood of Jesus Christ, and seals of the spiritual benefits thereof. It is a covenant meal thus, it is to be set apart by New Covenant ministers and received by the covenant community. These holy mysteries have been given to us by the Son of God, in order that we would be spiritually nourished; insofar as we are sanctified, preserved, have our faith fed, and our union with Christ confirmed, by the power of the Holy Spirit, and the person and work of Jesus Christ in his incarnation, life, and death. Rather than a re-playing of his death, this feast is a proclamation and remembrance of the death of Jesus on the Cross. Not only that, but participating in the bread and the cup is a participation in the body and blood of Christ. It is a communion with the Mystical Body of Christ; and thus, communion with the rest of his Church. In this meal, God speaks to our all of our senses, because it is the Gospel made visible. Invited to come up to the Lord's Table and partake in this Holy Supper, are communicant members and baptized members of other Bible-believing, Gospel-preaching, Protestant churches. If this does not describe you, please remain in your seat and meditate on the profound mystery and power of the Lord's Supper. Inquirers may speak with the elders if they are interested in partaking in this Holy Meal.

## P r a y e r   o f   A p p l i c a t i o n

### D o x o l o g y

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise him all creatures here below,  
Praise him above ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### B e n e d i c t i o n

Hebrews 13:20-21

"Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen."

*"The Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words." (Romans 8:26)*

*"Prayer is means of grace; an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, by the help of his Spirit; with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgement of his mercies."  
(Westminster Standards)*

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**We pray for the health of:** Diana Bensinger (health concerns), Wayne Copeland (hip surgery), Sam Krohn (recovering from surgery), Sharon Pangborn (health concerns), Jan Sageman (broken foot), Sandy Sams (health concerns, dialysis), Richard Stokan (recovering from surgery, restored health).

**For our shut-ins:** John & Pam Belew, Mark & Michelle Green, Bertha McTaggart, Donna Noble, and Nettie Whear. That the Spirit would bless them with his presence, and if it is in his will, that he would enable them to worship publicly once again. For those who are lonely, that our church family would reach out to them.

**For non-attending members:** that the providence of God would bring them back to the body of Christ and that they would not forsake the communion of the saints and the public assembling of his people. That our officers, as well as the family and friends of non-attending members would have a heart to reclaim the lost sheep of our flock. That the Spirit of Christ would drive them to the Cross.

**For those in fear of Covid-19:** that the Lord would give them a sense of his power and strength and that he would grant them peace and comfort in Christ.

**For our College & Seminary Students:** Ryan Castro, Wil Hobkirk, Ashley Kerr, Brennan Winter, Chase Winter, and Cassie Ziel. That they would keep God first as they glorify him in their studies. That they would walk in his ways and stay on his path.

**For all of our ministries and small groups:** Session, Diaconate, Trustees, Sunday School teachers (and more students!), Family Night, and Revitalization Team. That those who participate in these would be blessed as they work for the glory of God. That these ministries would facilitate growth in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus. That God would raise up and send more faithful men to lead and serve our Church. That we would be faithful in obedience to the Holy Scriptures, the Westminster Standards, and the Book of Church Order.

## Prayer Meeting

**For our worship services:** That the Holy Spirit would work through the Ministry of the Word, Sacraments, and prayer for the salvation and preservation of God's people. That through these ordinary means the people of God would be built up in the faith once and for all delivered to the saints. That Christ 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 raise up singers or musicians from our midst who seek to glorify you with their gifts.

**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 raise and train their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord. That children would obey their parents. 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 and widowers: that the Lord would provide them support and fellowship through the church. That they would devote themselves to Christ and his Kingdom. For the family of: Sally Lapka, Gloria Belew, June Edwards, and Howard Randall. For the Shupe family: wisdom as they seek God's will for them and their next destination. That God would bless them and continue to use them for his Kingdom purposes.

### Our Extended Church Family

For the health of Ann Armstrong's niece Amanda (cancer), Chris Fluegge's mother Lorraine Dutcher (recovering at Courtney Manor), Allan and Lori McLeod's friends Chuck Erla (Covid) and Cecil Shuart (health concerns), Betsy Kish's friend Anthony Jobes (Covid), step-son Andy Kish (health concerns), and brother Jim Ribbens (major health concerns), Kurt Schember's brother Kevin Schember (Courtney Manor), Sharon Gisel's daughter Erika Shapiro (health concerns), Amanda McLeod's niece Amy Spitzley (heart problems), and Bonnie Perry's sister Bea Theaker (recovering and rehab from hip surgery) and friend Marge Maurer (biopsy results). That our loved ones, local and otherwise, would not forsake the gathering of the saints for public worship on the Lord's Day.

### Our Community

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 the gospel would go throughout the city via our social media presence and that there would be a need for church planting of Reformed Churches in the Thumb. For those who have lost jobs because of shut-downs, that small and family businesses would stay open, for the health of those working in the health-care/first responder industry, for provision for those in need.

# Prayer Meeting

## **Our Denomination**

Christ Church, Grand Rapids MI – Pastor Andrew (Lisa) VanderMaas; Assoc. Pastor Addison (Lynnette) Hawkins – Continued praise for God's multi-faceted provision through these tumultuous times. Prayer that the weary would find a welcome in Christ, that our focus on missions in the coming month February would bear fruit, and that God's people would find their rest in Him.

Good Shepherd, Kalamazoo MI–Pastor Neil (Leandra) Quinn – Please pray for our campus ministry team and their efforts to creatively reach students during this pandemic. Please also pray for wisdom as we seek to incrementally restart various ministries that have been on pause due to COVID. Praise the Lord for continued growth and unity as a church. Pray for our efforts to plan and prepare for particularization.

Heart City, Elkhart IN – Pastor Joel (Jamie) Irvin – Prayer requests: That we will remember the gospel is not about 'being right,' but knowing we are greatly loved. Pray for Brother Mark, who had a bad fall and has a compound fracture in his leg. Pray no infection will set in and for healing. Pray for our building projects, for wisdom in choosing contractors, and for someone who can retrofit our front doors with panic bars. Pray that God will open doors to us to declare the mystery of Christ in Elkhart!

North Park Presbyterian Church, San Diego, CA – Pastor Adriel (Ysabel) Sanchez – Pray for unity as a church, and continued faithfulness in 2021. Energy for Adriel and the other officers to continue to do the Lord's work.

New Life Presbyterian Church, La Mesa, CA – Pastor Trey (Alaina) Jasso – Pray for discernment and clarity for the search committee, strength for Trey to continue shepherding and ministering the Word and Sacrament, and wisdom for the elders.

## **Our Country**

That our local, state, and federal civil magistrates, as well as all governing bodies, would lead, rule, make and enforce laws according to John 19:11a; Romans 13:1–6; and Psalm 2:10–12, that the Church in the United States would live according to Romans 13:1–7; Titus 3:1; 1 Timothy 2:1–2; 1 Peter 2:13–17; and Acts 5:29 for the glory of God. That we would kiss the Son, lest he be angry. That churches across the country would remain open and able function for the purposes of God's Kingdom according to his laws. For our armed forces, veterans, and law enforcement – that the Lord would provide safety through them and comfort for them.

## **Our Missionaries**

This month, we are praying specifically for Satoshi and Cally Kawachi family and their labors for the Kingdom of God in France: Please pray (1) for God's blessings upon our efforts to reach out to our neighbors and new friends through more in-person interactions since Lockdown #2 was finally lifted in mid-December (though we have an extended daily curfew from 6pm – 6am).; (2) for His wisdom and guidance as we hope to resume our ministry to refugees/migrants in Italy, as well as, our participation in MBB meetings here in Europe from late-January on; (3) for a coffee shop ministry by a local church where they want Cally to offer Arts workshops in person after reopening the café from late-January on or via Zoom this winter.

## **The Universal Church**

For the gospel to go forth to all peoples, nations, and languages so that they would serve him who's dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away and who's kingdom is one that shall not be destroyed. For persecuted Christians throughout the world, that they would witness to the glory of God in their fiery trial of persecution. That the Lord would soften the hearts of the those who persecute so that they would be brought into the Church by the grace of God.

## **E v e n i n g   S e r v i c e   L i t u r g y**

5 p m

### **P r e l u d e**

*Prayerfully Consider*

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness." (2 Timothy 3:16)

"Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. Then he said, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.'" (Luke 24:27, 44)

"I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints." (Jude 1:3)

"When you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers." (1 Thessalonians 2:13)

## G r e e t i n g

Ephesians 1:1b-2

To the saints who are faithful in Chris Jesus:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

## C a l l   t o   W o r s h i p

Psalms 119:75, 169-175

I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant, for I do not forget your commandments.

Let my cry come before you, O LORD; give me understanding according to your word!

My lips will pour forth praise, for you teach me your statutes.

My tongue will sing of your word, for all your commandments are right.

Let your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts.

I long for your salvation, O LORD, and your law is my delight.

Let my soul live and praise you, and let your rules help me.

## H y m n   o f   R e s p o n s e

#1 All People That on Earth Do Dwell

All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with fear, his praise forth tell,  
come ye before him and rejoice.

The Lord ye know is God indeed;  
without our aid he did us make;  
we are his folk, he doth us feed,  
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,  
approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud, and bless his name always,  
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good,  
his mercy is forever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.



## P r a y e r   o f   E n t r a n c e

### O l d   T e s t a m e n t   R e a d i n g

Psalm 1

- 1 Blessed is the man  
    who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  
    nor stands in the way of sinners,  
    nor sits in the seat of scoffers;  
2 but his delight is in the law[b] of the Lord,  
    and on his law he meditates day and night.
- 3 He is like a tree  
    planted by streams of water  
    that yields its fruit in its season,  
    and its leaf does not wither.  
    In all that he does, he prospers.
- 4 The wicked are not so,  
    but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
    nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;  
6 for the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
    but the way of the wicked will perish.

### H y m n   o f   R e s p o n s e

#150 The Law of God is Good and Wise

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 The law of God is good and wise<br>and sets his will before our eyes,<br>shows us the way of righteousness,<br>and dooms to death when we transgress.       | 4 When men the offered help disdain<br>and wilfully in sin remain,<br>its terror in their ear resounds<br>and keeps their wickedness in bounds.       |
| 2 Its light of holiness imparts<br>the knowledge of our sinful hearts<br>that we may see our lost estate<br>and seek deliv'rance ere too late.                | 5 The law is good; but since the fall<br>its holiness condemns us all;<br>it dooms us for our sin to die<br>and has no pow'r to justify.              |
| 3 To those who help in Christ have found<br>and would in works of love abound<br>it shows what deeds are his delight<br>and should be done as good and right. | 6 To Jesus we for refuge flee,<br>who from the curse has set us free,<br>and humbly worship at his throne,<br>saved by his grace through faith alone. |

## C o n f e s s i o n   o f   F a i t h

### WCF 1.3 Of the Holy Scripture

The books commonly called Apocrypha, not being of divine inspiration, are no part of the Canon of the Scripture; and therefore are of no authority in the Church of God, nor to be any otherwise approved, or made use of, than other human writings.

### WCF 4 Of the Holy Scripture

The authority of the Holy Scripture, for which it ought to be believed and obeyed, dependeth not upon the testimony of any man or church, but wholly upon God (who is truth itself), the Author thereof; and therefore, it is to be received, because it is the Word of God.

## P a s t o r a l   P r a y e r

### N e w   T e s t a m e n t   R e a d i n g

Ephesians 2:11–22

11 Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— 12 remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility 15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. 17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

S e r m o n

Of the Holy Scripture  
The Canon of the Scripture

Notes:

## H y m n   o f   R e s p o n s e   #145 The Spirit Breathes Upon the Word

1 The Spirit breathes upon the Word,  
And brings the truth to sight;  
Precepts and promises afford  
A sanctifying light,  
A sanctifying light.

4 Let everlasting thanks be thine  
For such a bright display  
As makes a world of darkness shine  
With beams of heav'nly day,  
With beams of heav'nly day.

2 A glory gilds the sacred page,  
Majestic, like the sun:  
It gives a light to every age;  
It gives, but borrows none,  
It gives, but borrows none.

5 My soul rejoices to pursue  
The steps of him I love.  
Till glory break upon my view  
In brighter worlds above,  
In brighter worlds above.

3 The Hand that gave it still supplies  
The gracious light and heat:  
His truths upon the nations rise;  
They rise, but never set,  
They rise, but never set.

## P r a y e r   o f   A p p l i c a t i o n

### D o x o l o g y

#660 O God Beyond All Praising

O God beyond all praising, we worship you today  
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;  
for we can only wonder at every gift you send,  
at blessings without number and mercies without end:  
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,  
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,  
that we who know your favor may serve you as our King;  
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,  
we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:  
to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,  
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

### B e n e d i c t i o n

2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the  
fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all, now and forever. Amen.



## **C h u r c h   O f f i c e r s**

Wayne Copeland - Ruling Elder  
Adam Fluegge - Ruling Elder (Testing)  
Scott McDermant - Teaching Elder  
Jim Philp - Ruling Elder  
Kim Ziel - Ruling Elder

Bob Hopkirk - Deacon (Elect)  
Dennis Meinke - Deacon (Elect)

## **T r u s t e e s**

Joy Gentner (2022)  
Jim Philp (2022)  
Ann Thaut (2022)  
Kirk Winter (2024)  
Tracy Ziel (2024)