



Faithful to the Scriptures.

True to the Reformed Faith.

Obedient to the Great Commission.

Lord's Day 36

September 7th, 2025

WELCOME

Grace to you and Peace!

On behalf of the elders, deacons, and all the saints: Welcome to **First Presbyterian Church of Bad Axe**. We are pleased that you are here with us today to worship our Triune God. This bulletin contains a liturgy which will guide you through our worship services and prayer meeting. We invite you to join us after the service for coffee, fellowship, and snacks. Here's a bit of info about who we are and what we believe:

We are a Christian Church: Thus, we believe in the Holy Trinity: One God, in three persons: The Eternal Father, the Eternally-Begotten Son, and the Eternally-Proceeding Holy Spirit. As Christians, we confess the faith once for all delivered to the saints (Jude 1:3) codified in the ancient creeds of the Christian Church: The Apostles' Creed (2nd century), the Nicene Creed (AD 381), the Definition of Chalcedon (AD 451), and the Athanasian Creed (5th century).

We are a Protestant Church: As Protestants, although we trace our beliefs and practices to the Apostolic Church, we also have foundational roots in the Protestant Reformation of the 16th and 17th centuries. Protestants believe in the authority of the inspired Holy Scriptures over unbiblical Church tradition and that salvation is by God's *grace alone*, through *faith alone*, in *Christ alone*, and for the *glory of God alone* (Eph. 2:8–10).

We are a Reformed Church: Reformed Churches originated from different regions in Europe during the Protestant Reformation. These churches believe and confess the doctrinal summaries of the Holy Scriptures that arose from that time period. Our tradition comes from the Scottish and English Reformations; thus, we believe and confess the Westminster Standards, written in England during the 1640's.

We are a Presbyterian Church. Presbyterians believe that the biblical form of Church government is through trained, called, elected, and ordained elders. In the Greek New Testament, they are called *presbyters*, which is where the name "Presbyterian" comes from. Our Teaching and Ruling Elders preach, teach, shepherd, protect the Church from false doctrine, and make decisions on her behalf. We also have trained, called, elected, and ordained deacons who take care of the material needs of the Church.

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

Soli Deo Gloria,

Rev. Scott C. McDermand II

CHURCH LIFE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS SUNDAY: SEPTEMBER 7TH

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

THIS WEEK: SEPTEMBER 7TH – SEPTEMBER 13TH

First Sunday Offering – For Sanctuary improvements.

Sunday School – Starts back up today.

Sign-Up Sheets – please consider signing up for our Greeter or Lord's Supper Preparation Ministries.

PM Service – Join us at 5:00 pm for our evening worship service. Our current evening series is "Covenant Theology: I Will Be Your God."

Birthdays & Anniversaries –

FOR YOUR CALENDAR: FUTURE EVENTS

Diaconal Meeting – September 8th at 5:00 pm.

Backyard Service & BBQ: Sunday, September 21st – Join us after our morning worship service for a BBQ at 12:00 pm and our outdoor evening service at 3:00 pm. Hosted by the Knapps.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH IN NEED OF PRAYER: Ann Armstrong, Mark & Michelle Green, Julia Mayes, and Lisa Schember; expectant mother: Yvonne Krug; those who serve as caretakers; all who are ill or traveling; long-term care residents: Pam Belew (Courtney Manor), Bertha McTaggart, and Ann Thaut (Meadow Lanes); our shut-in ministry; and those who have ceased attending public worship regularly, that God would reveal to them their sin, and the necessity of worship and the communion of the saints.

OUR MISSIONARIES: Jim DeWitt (Latin America), Lynn Hacker (Zambia), the Kawachis (France), the Nachtergaeles (Belgium), the Shupes (British Colombia); the Wilsons (Middle East) as they work for the King and the advancement of the gospel of his kingdom; that we would be missionaries by sharing the gospel and inviting others to our church; that God would grant courage and the words to speak as we interact with our family and friends; and that we would not be ashamed of sharing the gospel, but always ready to provide a defense for the hope that is within us.

OUR CHURCH'S MINISTRIES: That the work of the Session, Diaconate, Sunday School program, Missions Committee, and of all the saints would glorify God and always be Great Commission-focused; that our service would edify the church and facilitate growth; that we would remain vigilant and faithful to the Word of God and our denominational standards; that our Sunday school classrooms would be full; that our members would take their public vows seriously and attend church on a regular basis; and that we would have better attendance at our PM services where the means of grace are offered; and that God would be glorified as we worship him.

OUR COUNTRY: That the civil magistrate would rule with justice and uphold laws; that they would protect and encourage the good and punish the evil; that the right to gather and worship God would be protected and the civil magistrate would not interfere in matters of faith and worship; that our leaders would come to know Christ: The King of kings and Lord of lords, and that their governing would demonstrate that knowledge; that Christians in the United States would live quiet, godly, and dignified lives; that Christians would direct others to God in the way they live their lives.

THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL: That the Kingdom of God on earth would advance through the preaching of the gospel throughout the world; for Christians who are being persecuted: that they would be faithful witnesses to Jesus Christ and that their persecutors would be converted through this witness. This month, we pray in particular for Christians in the eastern African countries of Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, and Sudan.

PRELUDE & SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

6277

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

Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

The Collect | For the Holy Scriptures

“And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.”

The Prophet Moses | Deuteronomy 6:6–7

“And when your children say to you, ‘What do you mean by this service?’ you shall say, ‘It is the sacrifice of the LORD’s Passover, for he passed over the houses of Israel in Egypt, when he struck the Egyptians but spared our houses.’”

The Prophet Moses | Exodus 12:26–27

As for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

St. Paul | 2 Timothy 3:14–17

“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.”

The Lord Jesus Christ | Matthew 28:18–20

~ THE DIVINE SERVICE ~

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*GOD'S GREETING

Ephesians

1:1b-2

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalms

99

*HYMN OF PRAISE

103 – Holy God, We Praise Your

Name

*RESPONSORIAL

From Psalms 99;

124:5

Minister: The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

†Congregation: **Let them praise your great and awesome name!**

Holy is he!

Minister: Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool!

Holy is he!

†Congregation: **Exalt the LORD our God,**

and worship at his holy mountain;

for the LORD our God is holy!

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

Deuteronomy

6

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;

Romans 8:1

*PSALM OF ASSURANCE

558 – That Man Is Blest Who, Fearing

God

OUR OFFERINGS

It belongs to those in the office of elder...to watch diligently over the flock committed to his charge, that no corruption of morals enter therein...They should pray with and for the people, being careful and diligent in seeking the fruit of the preached Word among the flock.

Book of Discipline | BCO 8-3

The Holy Scriptures teach that God is the owner of all persons and all things and that we are but stewards of both life and possessions; that God's ownership and our stewardship should be acknowledged; that this acknowledgment should take the form, in part, of giving at least a tithe of our income and other offerings to the work of the Lord through Church of Jesus Christ, thus worshipping the Lord with our possessions.

Book of Worship | BCO 54-1

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Teaching Elder, Rev. Scott

McDermand

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, Who art in heaven

Hallowed be Thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come,

Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.

THE WEEKLY OFFERING

Exodus 35:22,

29

All who were of a willing heart...presented an offering of gold to the LORD...All the men and women, the people of Israel, whose heart moved them to bring anything for the work that the LORD had commanded by Moses...brought it as a freewill offering to the LORD.

*THE OFFERING OF PRAISE



THE SERMON

It is required of those that hear the Word preached, that they attend upon it with diligence, preparation, and prayer; examine what they hear by the Scriptures; receive the truth with faith, love, meekness, and readiness of mind, as the Word of God; meditate upon, and confer of it; hide it in their hearts, and bring forth the fruit of it in their lives.

The Westminster Divines | WLC 160

*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON TEXT

Luke

1:1–4

Minister: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON

Kingdom Focused:

Discipleship Through Catechism

SERMON NOTES

MAKING DISCIPLES

CATECHESIS: GOD'S METHOD, NOT OURS

CATECHISM IN THE OT: WHEN YOUR CHILDREN ASK

CATECHISM IN THE NT: THE THINGS YOU HAVE BEEN TAUGHT

CATECHISM TODAY: AT HOME AND IN THE CHURCH

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

HYMN OF APPLICATION

94 – How Firm a

Foundation

THE LITURGY OF THE UPPER ROOM

CONFESSION OF FAITH

NICENE CREED (AD 381)

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,

of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again with glory,
to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;

And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

(Westminster Shorter Q.96)

LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE

COMMUNION HYMN

420 – *At the Lamb's High Feast We*

Sing

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Sursum Corda (3rd

Cent.)

Minister: Peace be with you.

†Congregation: **And also, with you!**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

†Congregation: **We lift them up to the Lord!**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

†Congregation: **It is good and right for us to give thanks.**

Minister: Let us pray to the Lord.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Luke

22:17–20

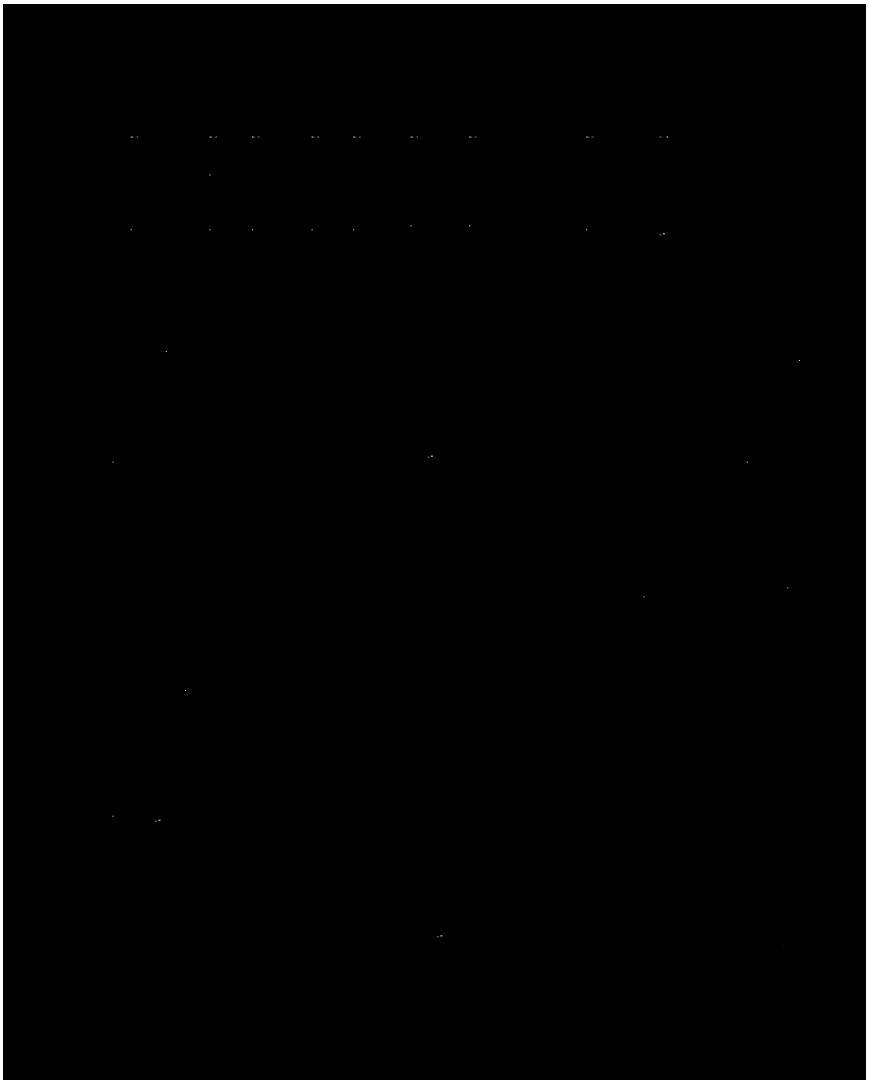
And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This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

*THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

DOXOLOGY & BENEDICTION

*DOXOLOGY



*BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians

13:14

*POSTLUDE

EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

(5:00 PM)

PRELUDE

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

Aberystwyth
Joseph Parry, 1879

PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER

Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark 300 cubits, its breadth 50 cubits, and its height 30 cubits. Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above, and set the door of the ark in its side. Make it with lower, second, and third decks. For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every sort into the ark to keep them alive with you.

The LORD through the Prophet Moses | Genesis 6:14–19

When God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

St. Peter | 1 Peter 3:20–22

He 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.

St. Peter | 2 Peter 2:5

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 by faith.

God doth not leave all men to perish in the estate of sin and misery, into which they fell by the breach of the first covenant, commonly called the Covenant of Works; but of his mere love and mercy delivereth his elect out of it, and bringeth them into an estate of salvation by the second covenant, commonly called the Covenant of Grace. The covenant of grace was made with Christ as the second Adam, and in him with all the elect as his seed.

The Westminster Divines | WLC 30, 31

The grace of God is manifested in the second covenant, in that he freely provideth and offereth to sinners a Mediator, and life and salvation by him; requiring faith as the condition...promising and giving his Holy Spirit to all his elect, to work in them that faith, with all other saving graces; and to enable them unto all holy obedience, as the evidence of the truth of their faith and thankfulness to God, and as the way which he hath appointed them to salvation.

The Westminster Divines | WLC 32

The covenant of grace was administered under the Old Testament, by promises, prophecies, sacrifices, circumcision, the Passover, and other types and ordinances, which did all fore-signify Christ then to come, and were for that time sufficient to build up the elect in faith in the promised Messiah, by whom they then had full remission of sin, and eternal salvation.

The Westminster Divines | WLC 34

Under the New Testament, when Christ the substance was exhibited, the same covenant of grace was and still is to be administered in the preaching of the Word, and the administration of the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's supper; in which grace and salvation are held forth in more fullness, evidence, and efficacy, to all nations.

The Westminster Divines | WLC 35

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*GREETING

1 Peter

1:1b–2

*CALL TO WORSHIP

From Psalm

104

*PSALM OF PRAISE

316 – The Mighty God, the

Lord

*PRAYER OF ENTRANCE

READING & RESPONSES

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis

6:5–8:22

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

319 – Day of Judgment! Day of

Wonders!

CONFESSIONAL STATEMENT

WCF 7.3, 5 – God's Covenant with

Man

8.6 – Of Christ the Mediator

Man by his fall,

having made himself incapable of life by [the covenant of works],
the Lord was pleased to make a second,
commonly called the covenant of grace:
wherein he freely offered unto sinners
life and salvation by Jesus Christ,
requiring of them faith in him that they may be saved,
and promising to give unto all those that are ordained unto life
his Holy Spirit, to make them willing and able to believe.

This covenant was differently administered in the time of the law
and in the time of the gospel:

under the law it was administered by promises, prophecies,

sacrifices, circumcision, the paschal lamb,
and other types and ordinances delivered to the people of the Jews,
all fore-signifying Christ to come,
which were for that time sufficient and efficacious,
through the operation of the Spirit,
to instruct and build up the elect in faith in the promised Messiah,
by whom they had full remission of sins and eternal salvation;
and is called the Old Testament.

Although the work of redemption was not actually wrought by Christ
until after his incarnation,
yet the virtue efficacy, and benefits thereof
were communicated unto the elect,
in all ages successively from the beginning of the world,
in and by those promises, types, and sacrifices,
wherein he was revealed and signified,
to be the seed of the woman which should bruise the serpent's

head,

and the Lamb slain from the beginning of the world,
being yesterday and today the same, and forever.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE READING & PREACHING OF THE WORD

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Hebrews 11:1–7, 39–40,

12:1–2

SERMON

Covenant Theology: I Will Be Your

God

The Noahic Covenant of

Grace

SERMON NOTES

THE NOAHIC COVENANT IN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

IN REFORMED THEOLOGY

IN THE HISTORY OF REDEMPTION

IN APPLICATION: THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

*HYMN OF APPLICATION

509 – *Jesus, Lover of My*

Soul

THE LITURGY OF THE UPPER ROOM

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed (p.

845)

LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE

COMMUNION PSALM

469 – *How Sweet and Awesome Is the*

Place

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,

(1, 2)

*BENEDICTION

Numbers

6:24–26

EXTENDED PRAYER LIST

"I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

(1 Timothy 2:1 – 4)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH:

For the health of: Ann Armstrong, Jackson Fluegge, Mark & Michelle Green, Julia Mayes, and Lisa Schember; expectant mother: Yvonne Krug; for all those who serve as caretakers in our congregation; for those who are ill; and for those who are traveling. **For those living in long-term care facilities:** Pam Belew (Courtney Manor), Bertha McTaggart and Ann Thaut (Meadow Lanes); that our shut-in ministry would be fruitful and that our members who are able, would participate in our shut-in ministry. **For non-attending members:** that God would reveal to them their sin 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, 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 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, 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: Linda Dumaw (Bonnie, Judy, and Sharon's friend: barn fire); Tom Fata (Annette Knapp's brother: colon cancer); Virginia Gembarski (Sharon Gisel's sister: Leukemia); Angie Gonzales (chronic pain); Megan Knight and baby (Pastor Scott's sister who is expecting); Libby Hill and Nancy McLeod (Allan McLeod's aunt and sister-in-law); Marge Mauer (Bonnie Perry's friend: stroke, surgery); Nicole Patterson (Gina's daughter: seizures); Cecil Shuart (friend of the McLeod's); Joe Yang (Pastor Scott's friend from seminary: colon cancer, chemotherapy); Bob Ziel (Kim's father: Courtney Manor, various health concerns); Anita (Kristin Smith's mother: Heart Surgery).

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) McDermant--

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 Church, Brighton MI— Pastor Andrew (Vanessa) Chesebro:** Praise God for bringing new visitors to our worship services, including several who are interested in membership! 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, small groups launching in September, 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 also for God's continued provision for our work in Malawi.

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 as false churches who teach things contrary to the 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."

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 in the East African countries of Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, and Sudan.

INFORMATION & STATISTICS

THE SESSION

Wayne Copeland	Ruling Elder, Missions
Chris Fluegge	Ruling Elder, Trustee
Scott McDermand	Teaching Elder, Moderator
Jim Philp	Ruling Elder, Clerk, Trustee
Kim Ziel	Ruling Elder

THE DIACONATE

Bob Hobkirk	Board Member, Trustee
Allan McLeod	Board Member
Scott McDermand	Advisory Member, Moderator
Sharon Carpenter	Diaconal Assistant
Dan Clarkson	Diaconal Assistant
Linda Herndon	Diaconal Assistant
Carol Holtrop	Diaconal Assistant
Lori McLeod	Diaconal Assistant
Alex Smith	Diaconal Assistant

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: AUGUST 31ST

AM Service	55
AM Livestream	
AM AVG. 2025	64
AM AVG. 2024	64
PM Service	11
PM Livestream	
PM AVG. 2025	16

PM AVG. 2024 14

GENERAL FUND GIVING

August Giving	\$
August Budget	\$



“The First Passover Feast”

Huybrecht Beuckeleer (1563)