



Faithful to the Scriptures.

True to the Reformed Faith.

Obedient to the Great Commission.

Lord's Day 29

July 20th, 2025

WELCOME

Grace to you and Peace!

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

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

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

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

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

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

Soli Deo Gloria,

Rev. Scott C. McDermand II

CHURCH LIFE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS SUNDAY: JULY 20TH

9:55 Announcements & Prelude

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

11:15 Fellowship: Coffee, Tea, & Snacks

Please Silence or Turn Off Your Devices

THIS WEEK: JULY 20TH – JULY 26TH

This Lord's Day, we welcome **Rev. Brian Frick** to our pulpit. Pastor Frick is a Teaching Elder in the Great Lakes Presbytery (PCA) and is the highly talented Producer and Editor of the world-famous podcast, "The Heidelcast."

We will be taking a special diaconal offering over the next two weeks for the relief of those affected by the floods in Texas.

Birthdays & Anniversaries –

FOR YOUR CALENDAR: FUTURE EVENTS

Sunday, July 27th – Backyard BBQ & PM Service: join your church following the AM Service for BBQ, fellowship, and a short service of Word, Sacrament, and prayer in the backyard of Chris and Lisa Fluegge.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

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

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

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

THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL: That the Kingdom of God on earth would advance through the preaching of the gospel throughout the world; for Christians who are being persecuted: that they would be faithful witnesses to Jesus Christ and that their persecutors would be converted through this witness. This month, we pray in particular for the Christians in the war-torn Middle East, especially in Israel, Lebanon, Gaza, Palestine, and Syria.

PRELUDE & SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"O God, Most Holy are Your Ways" (Psalm 77)

V. Schumann (Vater Unser, 1539)

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

The Lord's Day | BCO 48-3

Let the people upon entering the church take their seats in a decent and reverent manner, and engage in silent prayer for a blessing upon themselves, the minister, and all present, as well as upon those who are *unable* to attend worship.

The Ordering of Public Worship | BCO 49-3

All who attend public worship are expected to be present in a spirit of reverence and godly fear, forbearing to engage in any conduct unbecoming to the place and occasion. Since the family, as ordained by God, is the basic institution in society, and God in the Covenant graciously deals with us, not just as individuals but also as families, it is important and desirable that families worship together.

The Ordering of Public Worship | BCO 49-4

The acceptable way of worshiping the true God is instituted *by himself*, and so limited to his own revealed will, that he may not be worshiped according to the imaginations and devices of men, or the suggestions of Satan, under any visible representations or any other way not *prescribed* in the Holy Scriptures.

The Westminster Divines | WCF 21.1

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

The Westminster Divines | WLC 154

~ THE DIVINE SERVICE ~

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*GOD'S GREETING

Galatians

1:3–5

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm

100

*HYMN OF PRAISE

1 – All People That on Earth Do

Dwell

*RESPONSORIAL

from Psalm 100; Psalm

124:5

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

Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

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

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

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

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

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

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

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

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

*PRAYER OF ENTRANCE

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

READING OF THE LAW

Exodus

20:1–11

Minister: The Word of God is living and active.

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

EXPOSITION OF THE LAW

Westminster Shorter

Catechism

Minister: Which is the fourth commandment?

†Congregation: **The fourth commandment is:**

**Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy;
for the Lord blessed the Sabbath-day, and hallowed it.**

Minister: What is required in the fourth commandment?

†Congregation: **The fourth commandment requires**

**the keeping holy to God
such set times as he hath appointed in his Word;
expressly one whole day in seven,
to be a holy Sabbath to himself.**

Minister: Which day of the seven hath God appointed to be
the weekly Sabbath?

†Congregation: **From the beginning of the world**

**until the resurrection Christ,
God appointed the seventh day of the week
to be the weekly Sabbath;
and the first day of the week ever since the resurrection,
which is the Christian Sabbath,**

and is to continue to the end of the world.

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

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

“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,”

and as the Apostle John also writes,

“If we say we have no sin,

we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”

Minister: What then, can we do?

†Congregation: **We must turn from our sin,**

and turn to Christ as he is offered in the gospel,

so that we would be renewed after his image,

as we die to our sin, and live unto righteousness.

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

*HYMN OF ASSURANCE

*389 – The Is the Day the Lord Has
Made*

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, Mr. Chris

Fluegge

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, Who art in heaven

Hallowed be Thy Name.

Thy Kingdom come,

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

Give us this day our daily bread;

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;

For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Amen.

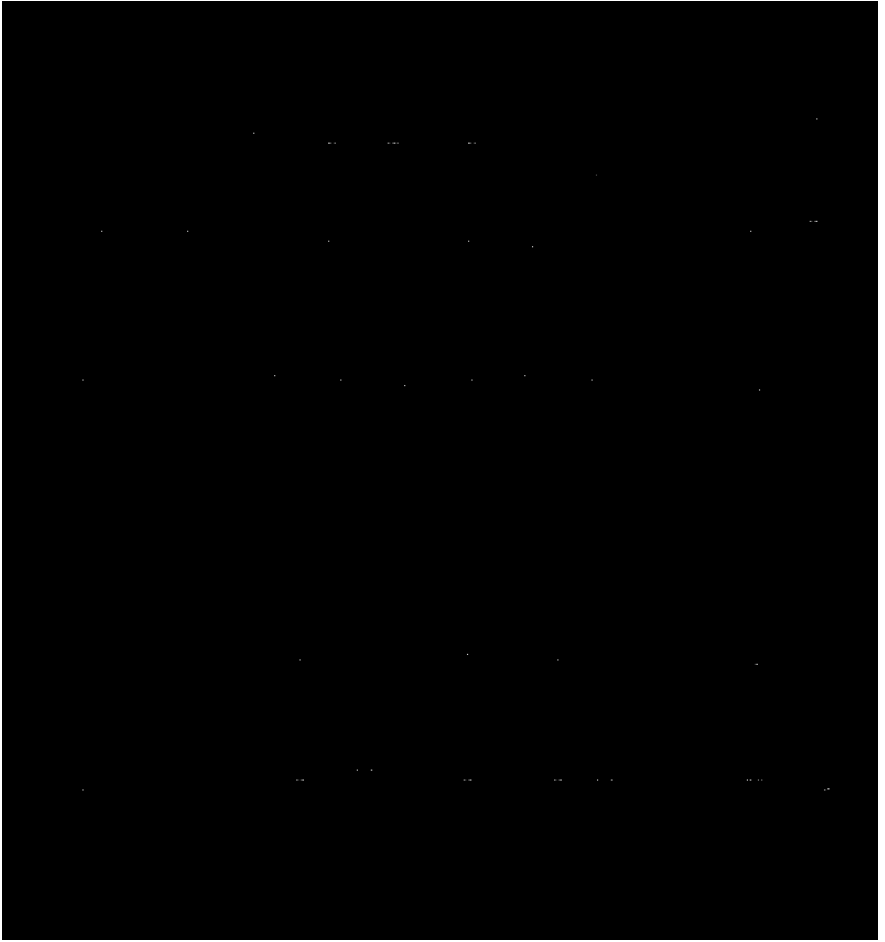
THE WEEKLY & DIACONAL OFFERINGS

2 Corinthians

8:1–4

We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints.

*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

Psalm 77

Minister: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON

Forward-

Pointing Past

SERMON NOTES

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

*PSALM OF RESPONSE

39 – *O God, Most Holy Are Your*

Ways

THE LITURGY OF THE UPPER ROOM

CONFESSION OF FAITH

NICENE CREED (AD 381)

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

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

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

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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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

(WSC 96)

LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE

COMMUNION HYMN

347 – *The Church's One*

Foundation

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

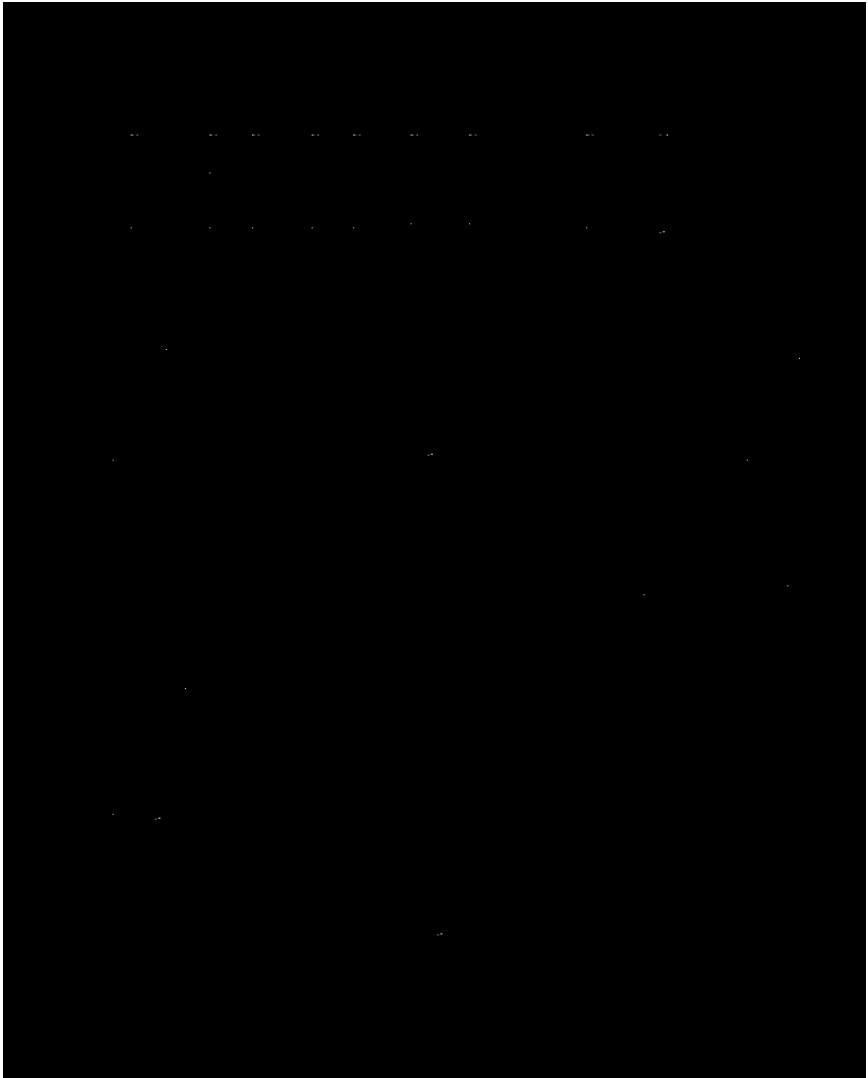
And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This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

*POSTLUDE

EXTENDED PRAYER LIST
(PRAYER MEETING BACK ON IN AUGUST)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH:

For the health of: Jackson Fluegge, Ashley Franzel, Julia Mayes, and Hailee McLeod; 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).

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

Redeemer Presbyterian, Detroit MI – Pastor Jon (Vanessa) Saunders, Assoc. Pastor Dan (Laura) Millward, Pastor of Sojourn, Sterling Heights Steve (Mandy) Van Noort, Pastor of Grace, Dearborn Jerry (Katherine) Riendeau, and Pastor of Immanuel Micah (Laura) Jelinek, Pastor of Christ Church, Southfield Adam (Adrianne) Thomas: The ministry of Redeemer continues to grow in the heart of the city. Our new member classes are consistently full. The Lord has not added to our numbers daily, but at least weekly and for this we give thanks. In a few weeks we will have the privilege of baptizing a former Muslim who recently came to faith in Christ. There are plenty of reasons for praise and yet the obstacles for planting are still significant. Trying to find permanent spaces for worship, working with young/non-believers and the overall stress of the call to plant is very real for the pastors and their families. We are excited that Rev. Adam Thomas has joined the team. He will be revitalizing a former OPC church that will soon join the PCA. **Christ Church, Ann Arbor MI –** Please pray for CCAA as we continue our search for a new Sr. Pastor. Pray that the search committee and the congregation would have wisdom and unity, and that the Lord would even now begin to prepare the heart of the next man. **Daniel (Abby) Eguluz, Missionary with Serge, Lima Peru-** Thank you for praying for our ministry of theological education to church leaders in Peru and the rest of Latin America. We praise God for the doors that He continues to open and the protection that our family enjoys amidst some social unrest. Please continue to pray for the edification of all the believers we serve and the Lord's ongoing provision and care.

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 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 Middle East, especially in Israel, Lebanon, Palestine, Gaza, and Syria.

INFORMATION & STATISTICS

THE SESSION

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

THE DIACONATE

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

CHURCH ATTENDANCE: JULY 13TH

AM Service	70
AM Livestream	
AM AVG. 2025	65
AM AVG. 2024	64
PM Service	---
PM Livestream	---
PM AVG. 2025	15
PM AVG. 2024	14

GENERAL FUND GIVING

July Giving	\$
July Budget	\$



“The Children of Israel Crossing the Red Sea”

Frederic Schopin, 1855