



Faithful to the Scriptures.

True to the Reformed Faith.

Obedient to the Great Commission.

Lord's Day 31

August 3rd, 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: AUGUST 3RD

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

Please Silence or Turn Off Your Devices

THIS WEEK: AUGUST 3RD – AUGUST 9TH

Birthdays & Anniversaries –

FOR YOUR CALENDAR: FUTURE EVENTS

New PM Service Series – Join us starting next week for our new PM series, “Covenant Theology: I Will Be Your God.” Excludes Sundays when we have a Backyard BBQ & Service.

Courtney Manor Service – Next Sunday (August 10th) at 1:00 pm.

Men’s Breakfast: Saturday, August 16th – Sign-up sheet on bulletin board.

Ladies Night:

Backyard Service & BBQ: Sunday, August 24th – BBQ at 12:00 pm, PM Service at 3:00 pm.

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; 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

6277

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

Grant, Lord God, to all who have been baptized into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, that, as we have put away the old life of sin, so we may be renewed in the spirit of our minds, and live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Collect | For the Sanctification of the Baptized

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

"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much...No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

The Lord Jesus Christ | Luke 16:10, 13

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 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 6:4–7

"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich."

St. Paul | 2 Corinthians 8:9

~ THE DIVINE SERVICE ~

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*GOD'S GREETING

Galatians

1:3–5

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm

99

*HYMN OF PRAISE

100 – *Holy, Holy,*

Holy

*RESPONSORIAL

from Psalm 99; Psalm

124:5

Minister: The LORD reigns, let the peoples tremble!
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth quake!

†Congregation: **The LORD is great in Zion,
he is exalted over all the peoples.
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

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; Titus

2:14

*PSALM OF ASSURANCE

389 – This is

the Day

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

McDermind

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

Ephesians

5:2

Walk in love, as Christ also loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

*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

16:1–18

Minister: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON

You Cannot Serve God and

Money

SERMON NOTES

THE PARABLE

THE TEACHING OF CHRIST

THE APPLICATION

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

HYMN OF APPLICATION

642 – *Be Thou My*

Vision

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

252 – When I Survey the Wondrous

Cross

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

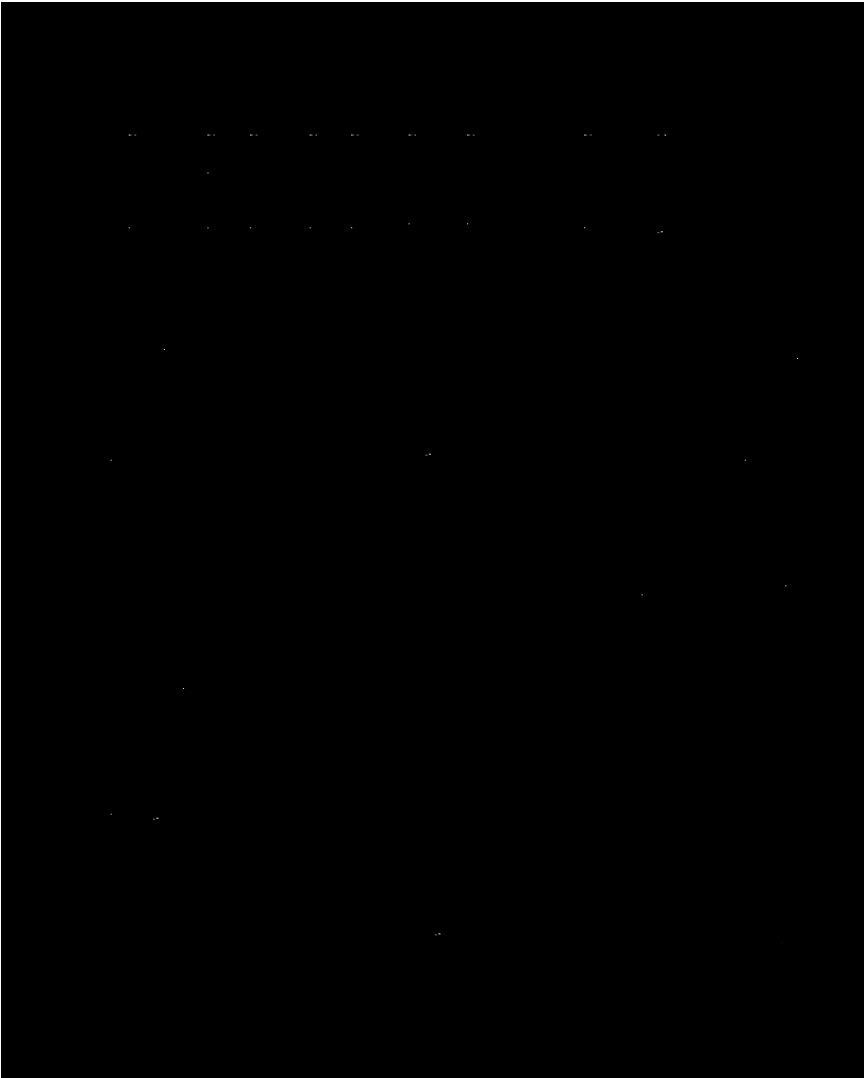
And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This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

Hebrews

13:20–21

*POSTLUDE

CATECHETICAL

WORSHIP SERVICE (5:00 PM)

PRELUDE

"Be Thou My Vision"

Slane

Old Irish Melody

PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER

"Such as truly believe in Christ, and endeavor to walk in all good conscience before him, may, without extraordinary revelation, by faith grounded upon the truth of God's promises, and by the Spirit enabling them to discern in themselves those graces to which the promises of life are made, and bearing witness with their spirits that they are the children of God, be infallibly assured that they are in estate of grace and shall persevere therein unto salvation."

The Westminster Divines | WLC 80

"This certainty is not a bare conjectural and probable persuasion, grounded upon a fallible hope; but an infallible assurance of faith, founded upon the divine truth of the promises of salvation, the inward evidence of those graces unto which these promises are made, the testimony of the Spirit of adoption witnessing with our spirits that we are children of God: which Spirit is the earnest of our inheritance, whereby we are sealed to the day of redemption."

The Westminster Divines | WCF 18.2

"And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace...And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless at the day of Jesus Christ."

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*GREETING

Titus 1:1b–3a,

4b

*CALL TO WORSHIP

From Psalm

103

*PSALM OF PRAISE

53 – Praise to the Lord, the

Almighty

*PRAYER OF ENTRANCE

READING & RESPONSES

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm

23

*PSALM OF RESPONSE

87 – The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not

Want

*WESTMINSTER CONFESSION

WLC 80,

81

- Q.** 80. Can true believers be infallibly assured
that they are in the estate of grace,
and that they shall persevere therein unto salvation?
- A.** Such as truly believe in Christ,
and endeavor to walk in all good conscience before him, may,
without extraordinary revelation,
by faith grounded upon the truth of God's promises,
and by the Spirit enabling them to discern in themselves
those graces to which the promises of life are made,
and bearing witness with their spirits
that they are the children of God,

be infallibly assured that they are in the estate of grace and shall persevere therein unto salvation.

- Q. 81.** Are all true believers at all times assured of their present being in the estate of grace, and that they shall be saved?
- A.** Assurance of grace and salvation not being of the essence of faith, true believers may wait long before they obtain it; and, after the enjoyment thereof, may have it weakened and intermitted, through manifold distempers, sins, temptations, and desertions; yet are they never left without such a presence and support of the Spirit of God, as keeps them from sinking into utter despair.

THE READING & PREACHING OF THE WORD

PASTORAL PRAYER

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Philippians

1:3–11

SERMON

Of the Assurance of Grace &

Salvation:

A Summary of the Reformed Doctrine of Assurance

SERMON NOTES

THE REFORMED VIEW OF ASSURANCE

AN INFALLIBLE ASSURANCE

THE HOLY SPIRIT'S ROLE IN ASSURANCE

ASSURANCE & THE USE OF ORDINARY MEANS

ASSURANCE: SHAKEN, BUT REVIVED

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

*PSALM OF APPLICATION

692 – *To You, O Lord, I*

Fly

THE LITURGY OF THE UPPER ROOM

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed (Tune:

57)

LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE

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

THE DOXOLOGY & BENEDICTION

*DOXOLOGY

Now to Him Who is Able (Tune:

66)

Now to him whose pow-r is able
to protect our stumbling feet,
and prepare our souls for glory
there with joy our King to meet
so that we may stand before him
faultless at his judgement seat-

To the only God our Savior,
through our Lord Christ Jesus' name,
be dominion, power, glory,
majesty and matchless fame,
from before the world's foundation,
now and evermore the same!

*BENEDICTION

1 Peter 5:10–11,

14b

*POSTLUDE

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 27TH

AM Service	64
AM Livestream	
AM AVG. 2025	65
AM AVG. 2024	64
PM Service	20
PM Livestream	---
PM AVG. 2025	15
PM AVG. 2024	14

GENERAL FUND GIVING

July Giving	\$
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“The Parable of the Unjust Steward”

Jan Luyken (1712)

