

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BAD AXE (EST. 1878)

A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (PCA)

FAITHFUL TO THE SCRIPTURES

TRUE TO THE REFORMED FAITH

OBEDIENT TO THE GREAT COMMISSION

Lord's Day 10

March 8, 2026

Second Sunday of Lent

"The God of the Living"



*The Pharisees & Sadducees Tempt Jesus*

Tissot (1836–1902)

James

# WELCOME

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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. We invite you to join us after the service for coffee, snacks, and fellowship. Here's a bit of info about who we are and what we believe:

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

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

**We are a Reformed Church:** Reformed Churches come from different regions, mostly in Western 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 called, trained, tested, elected, and ordained elders. In the Greek New Testament, elders are called *presbyters*, which is where the name "Presbyterian" comes from. Our Teaching Elder preaches and teaches, and our Ruling Elders come alongside of him to shepherd, lead, keep the Church from false doctrine, and make decisions on her behalf. We also have called, trained, tested, elected, and ordained deacons who take care of the material needs of the Church.

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS: CONGREGATIONAL LIFE & EVENTS**

### **THIS LORD'S DAY**

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

### **THIS WEEK**

**Lenten Devotions** – Our Wednesday night Lenten Devotions continue on Wednesday night at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

**Theology Thursday: Presbyterianism 101** – Our New Members' and Presbyterian Refresher class continues on Thursday at 6:00 PM in the Lounge. All are welcome.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries** –

### **UPCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

**St. Patrick's Day Dinner** – Our St. Patrick's Day Dinner will be held after our PM service on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Service begins at 5:00 PM and the feast at 6:15. Sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

**Ladies Night** –

**Right to Life Annual Benefit Dinner** – "Focus on Life" with special guest speaker, Haili Gusa. She is the Speaking and Training Coordinator of Protect Life Michigan. If you are going to attend the

Dinner, please sign up on the bulletin board by today. We'd like to get at least eight people to sign up so that the church can purchase a table.

**Great Lakes Reformed Conference 2026** – Hosted by Oakland Hills Community Church (OPC), this year's conference is on Saturday, March 21 beginning at 9:00 AM. This year's speaker is Dr. J.V. Fesko, who will be giving lectures titled, "Wisdom: Guidance for the Journey." The church will be paying for the tickets, so let us know if you going by signing up!

**Men's Breakfast** – Men of the church: Join us on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> for breakfast, fellowship, sharpening, and prayer. Kitchen opens at 8:00 AM, breakfast begins at 9:00. Sign-up and show up.

**Palm Sunday Brunch** – Our annual Palm Sunday Brunch will be held after our AM Service on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Backyard BBQ and Worship Service** – If you are interested in hosting one of our Sunday BBQs and outdoor worship services in April through September, you can find the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

**Maundy Thursday** – Our Maundy Thursday Feast and worship service will be held on Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

**Good Friday** – Our Good Friday Service is on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

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MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH IN NEED OF PRAYER: Ann Armstrong, Mark & Michelle Green, Julia Mayes, and Lisa Schember; 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); for those who have ceased attending public worship, that God would reveal to them the necessity of worship on the Lord's Day and fellowship with the saints.

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

OUR CHURCH'S MINISTRIES: That the work of the Session, Diaconate, Sunday School program, Missions Committee, and of all the saints would glorify God and 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; for the peace and purity of our church; that members would take their vows seriously and attend church regularly; that God would be glorified and we would be sanctified 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; for our local, county, state, and federal civil servants; for the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches; that our leaders in government would come to know Christ: The King of kings and Lord of lords, and that their governance 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 that we live as salt and light.

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 and martyred: that they would be faithful witnesses to Jesus Christ and that their persecutors would be converted through this witness. This month we pray for Christians living under heavy Islamic persecution in Somalia, Eritrea, and Sudan.

## PRELUDE & SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Slane | *Piano, Brynne McCrea*

O God, our Eternal King, by the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ on the first day of the week, your conquered sin, put death to flight, and gave us the hope of everlasting life: Redeem all our days by his victory; forgive our sins, banish our fears, make us bold to praise you and to do your will as we wait for the consummation of your Kingdom on the great and last Day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, together with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

The Collect | *Lord's Day Worship*

You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the Living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the Mediator of a new covenant, and to his sprinkled blood...Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

The Preacher to the Hebrews | *Hebrews 12:22–24, 28–29*

The fourth commandment requireth of all men the sanctifying or keeping holy to God such set times as he hath appointed in his Word, namely one whole day in seven; which from the beginning of the world to the resurrection of Christ, was the seventh day of the week; and from the resurrection of Christ is the first day of the week, and is to continue to the end of the world; which is the Christian Sabbath, and in the New Testament is called The Lord's Day.

Westminster Divines | *WLC 116, "What is required in the fourth commandment?"*

That the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to him.

The Lord Jesus Christ | *Luke 20:37–38*

## ~ THE DIVINE SERVICE ~

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## CALL TO WORSHIP

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\*GOD'S GREETING

*Revelation*

*1:4a–5b*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

*from Hebrews*

*12*

\*PSALM OF ENTRANCE

*345 – Glorious Things of Thee Are*

*Spoken*

\*RESPONSORIAL

*from Hebrews 12 &*

*124:5*

Minister: You have come to Mount Zion  
and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem!

†Congregation: **And to innumerable angels in festal gathering,  
and to the assembly of the firstborn  
who are enrolled in heaven!**

Minister: And to God, the judge of all,  
and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect!

†Congregation: **And to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant,  
and to his sprinkled blood.**

Minister: Therefore, let us be grateful for receiving a Kingdom  
that cannot be shaken,

†Congregation: **and thus, let us offer to God acceptable worship,  
with reverence and awe,  
for our God is a consuming fire.**

Minister: Our help is in the Name of the LORD!

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

\*PRAYER OF ENTRANCE

## **THE CONFESSION OF SIN**

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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 Larger*

*Catechism*

Minister: What is the fourth commandment?

†Congregation: **The fourth commandment is,  
“Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.”**

Minister: What is required in the fourth commandment?

†Congregation: **The fourth commandment requires:  
The sanctifying, or keeping holy to God  
such set times as he hath appointed in his Word,  
namely one whole day in seven;  
which, from the beginning of the world  
to the resurrection of Christ,  
was the seventh day of the week,  
and has been the first day of the week ever since,  
and is to continue to the end of the world;  
which is the Christian Sabbath,  
and in the New Testament is called “The Lord’s Day.”**

Minister: How is the Sabbath, or Lord’s Day to be sanctified?

†Congregation: **The Sabbath, or Lord’s Day is to be sanctified  
by a holy resting all that day,  
not only from such works that are at all times sinful,**

**but even from such worldly employments and recreations  
that are on other days lawful;  
and making it our delight to spend the whole day,  
in the public and private exercises of God's worship,  
except for time taken up in works of necessity and  
mercy;  
and to that end, we are to prepare our hearts  
beforehand,  
with such foresight, diligence, and moderation,  
in order to do away with, and free ourselves  
from worldly business, that we may be all the more free  
and prepared for the duties of the Lord's Day.**

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."**

## 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*

4:25

\*HYMN OF ASSURANCE

*389 – This Is the Day the Lord Has*

*Made*

## **OUR OFFERINGS**

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Ruling Elder,*

*Mr. Jim Philp*

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

*James*

1:17

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father  
of Lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

\*THE OFFERING OF PRAISE

*Doxology*



## **THE SERMON**

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\*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON TEXT

*Luke*

20:27–40

Minister: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON

*The Gospel According to*

*Luke:*

*Passion Week: The God of the Living*

SERMON NOTES

**THE SADDUCCEES: A RIDICULOUS QUESTION**

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**JESUS ANSWERS: THE GOD OF THE LIVING**

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**APPLICATION: SONS OF THE RESURRECTION**

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PRAYER OF APPLICATION

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE

34 – *The God of*

*Abraham Praise*

## 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

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LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE

COMMUNION HYMN

*420 – At the Lamb's High Feast We*

*Sing*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

*Sursum Corda (3<sup>rd</sup>*

*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

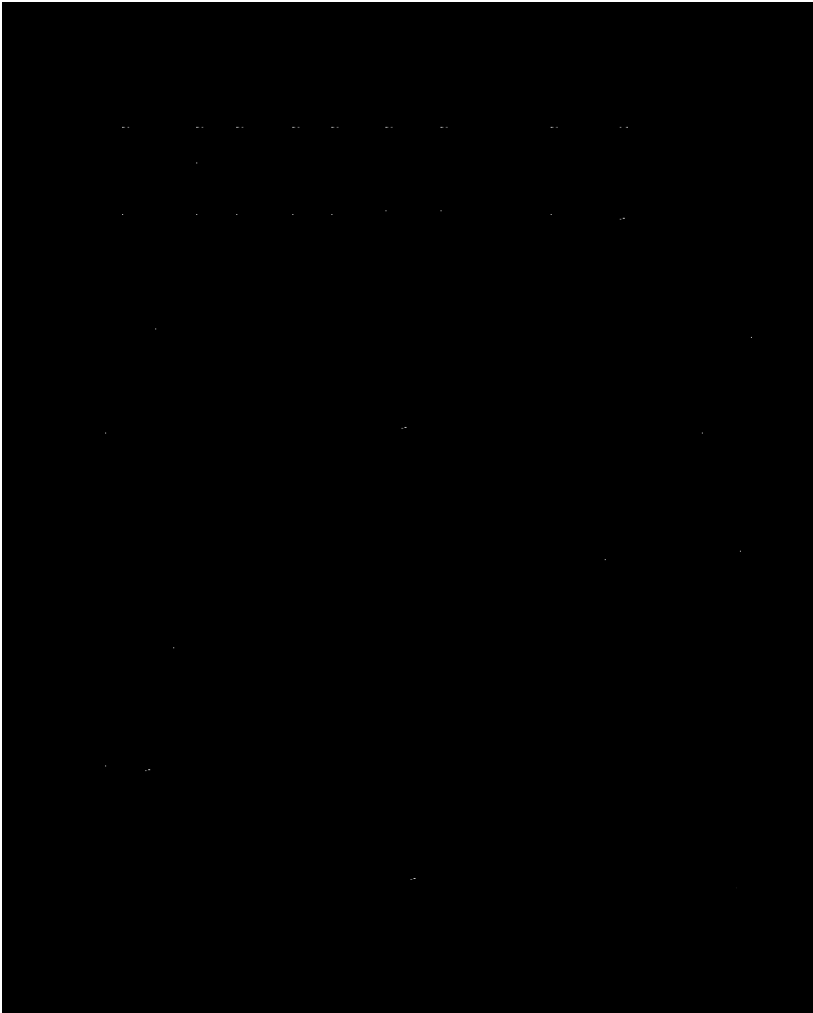
## **DOXOLOGY & BENEDICTION**

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\*DOXOLOGY

*Gloria*

*Patri*



\*BENEDICTION

*Numbers*

6:24–26

\*POSTLUDE

**EVENING WORSHIP:**  
**CATECHETICAL SERVICE (5:00 PM)**

## **PRELUDE**

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“Take Time to Be Holy”

Holiness

*George C. Stebbins (1890)*

## **PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER**

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None of the aforementioned uses of the law are contrary to the gospel, but do sweetly comply with it; the Spirit of Christ subduing and enabling the will of man to do freely and cheerfully that which the will of God, revealed in the law, requireth to be done.

The Westminster Divines | *WCF 19.7*

I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleanness, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

The Holy Prophet Ezekiel| *Ezekiel 36:25–27*

Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe...So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Jesus Christ you are all sons of God, through faith.

St. Paul| *Ephesians 2:21–22, 24–26*

When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

St. Paul| *Galatians 4:4–5*

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

## THE CALL TO WORSHIP

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\*GREETING

*1 Peter*

*1:1b-2*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

*from Psalm*

32

\*PSALM OF PRAISE

*43 – You Righteous, in the*

*Lord Rejoice*

\*PRAYER OF ENTRANCE

## READING & RESPONSES

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OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Ezekiel*

*36:22-32*

CONFESSIONAL STATEMENT

*WCF 19.7 – Of the Law of*

*God*

None of the aforementioned uses of the law  
are contrary to the grace of the gospel,  
but do sweetly comply with it;  
the Spirit of Christ subduing and enabling the will of man  
to do freely and cheerfully  
that which the will of God, revealed in the law,  
requireth to be done.

\*PSALM OF RESPONSE

*149 – Teach Me, O Lord, Your Way of*

*Truth*

PASTORAL PRAYER

## **THE READING & PREACHING OF THE WORD**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Matthew*

5:17–20

SERMON

*Of the Law of*

*God: Not Contrary to the Gospel*

SERMON NOTES

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

## THE LITURGY OF THE UPPER ROOM

### THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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LORD'S SUPPER PREFACE

CONFESSION OF FAITH

*Apostles'*

*Creed*

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

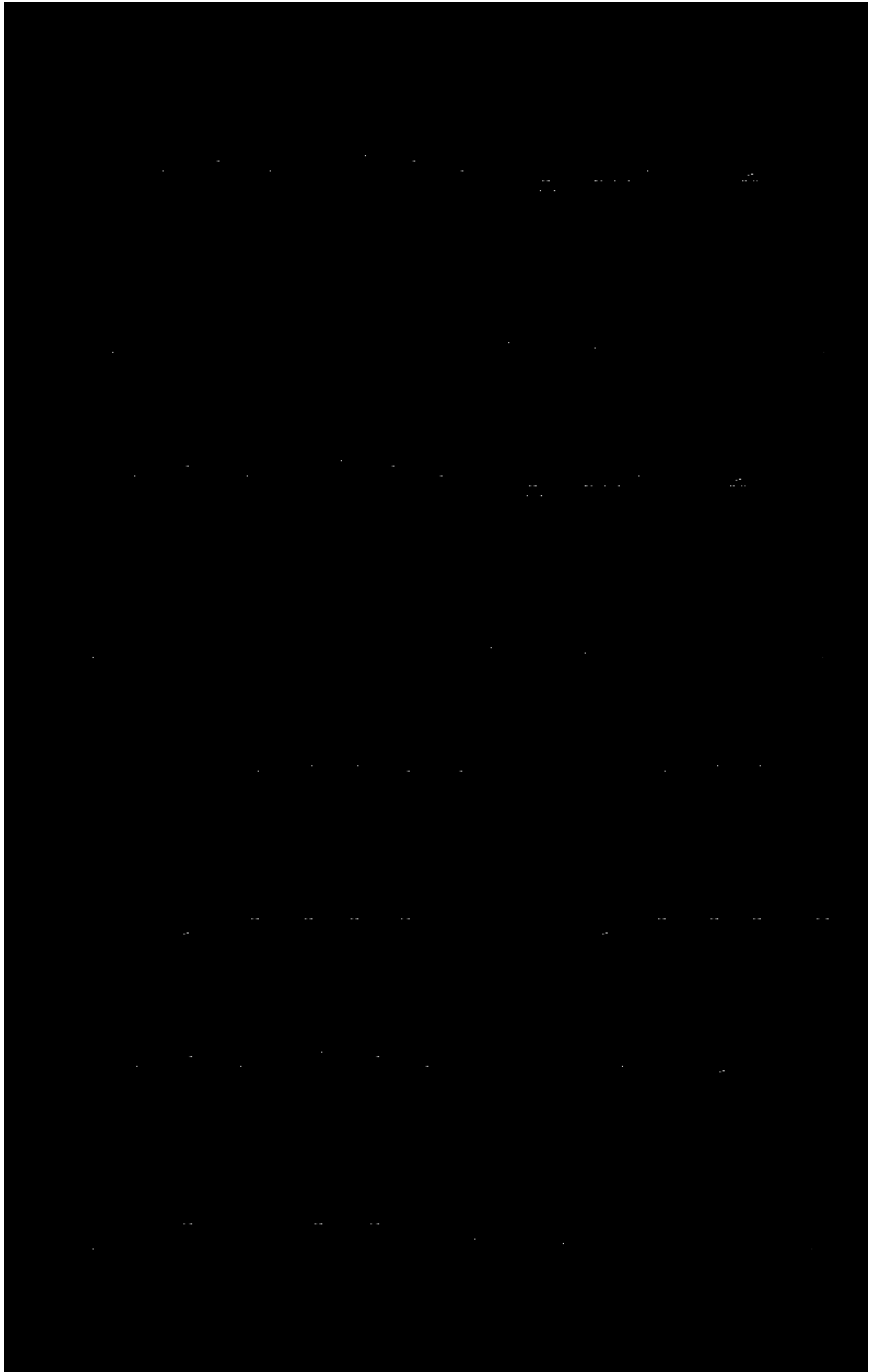
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\*BENEDICTION

13:20–21

*11 – Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God*

*Hebrews*



# ~ DAILY LITURGY ~

## {FOR FAMILY OR PERSONAL DEVOTION}

*“His delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and on his law he meditates day and night.”*

(Psalm 1:2)

GLORIA PATRI

OPENING PSALM

OPENING PRAYER

CONFESSION OF SIN

CONFESSION OF FAITH

OLD TESTAMENT READING

APPLICATION

HYMN OR PSALM

NEW TESTAMENT READING

APPLICATION

HYMN OR PSALM

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

DOXOLOGY

## EXTENDED PRAYER LIST

*“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstance;  
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”*

(1 Thessalonians 5:16–18)

## PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH:

**For the health of:** Ann Armstrong (cancer), Mark & Michelle Green, Tom & Julia Mayes, and Lisa Schember; 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 would participate.

**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 and grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ. Praise for recent visitors and that they would consider membership here 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 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 and divorced:** that they would devote themselves to the Lord and to the ministries of the Church; and that God would grant marriage to those who desire it. **For our widows:** that the Lord would provide support and fellowship through the church; that they would devote themselves to Christ and serve His body. **For our College Students:** 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: Amanda & Jack Armstrong (Ann’s niece and brother: cancer); Andrea Bouverette Droulliard (Linda Herndon’s friend, Beth Bouverette’s daughter: learning to walk again

after heart transplant); Linda Dumaw (Bonnie Perry, Judy Stokan, and Sharon Carpenter's friend); Tom Fata (Annette Knapp's brother: colon cancer); Virginia Gembariski (Sharon Gisel's sister: Leukemia); 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); Bob Ziel (Kim's father: Courtney Manor).

**For all of our ministries:** for faithfulness in our ordained officers; Elders: the ability to lead and shepherd their flocks; Diaconate: strength and energy; Trustees: wisdom and a view for the Great Commission; Sunday School program: faithful attendance, growth, and discipleship; Sunday School teachers: knowledge and joy; Missions Committee: participation in local missions and outreach; for a stronger local outreach; Men's and Women's ministry: better participation and being a blessing to us and to others. That those who participate in these various ministries 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 and act like men; that we would be faithful in obedience to the Holy Scriptures, the Westminster Standards, and the Book of Church Order; that God would continue to 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 this local body; that God would send or raise up more musicians and singers to serve him with their gifts, especially a second pianist so that our pianist would be able to receive days of rest; 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 that this would be evident in the fruit of their attendance of our AM and PM services.

## OUR PRESBYTERY:

**Redeemer Presbyterian, Holland, MI, - Pastor Charles Byrd (Lisa)** Pray for the Lord's continued blessing on the church, numerical growth, and an increased joy in knowing our Lord. Pray for the Lord's blessing on our efforts to reach the over-churches in Holland with the saving gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray the Lord would raise up biblical counselors for the Shepherd's Way of Holland Biblical Counseling Center.

**Covenant Presbyterian, Holland MI – Pastor Ken (Laurie) Klett** — We recently experienced the sudden unexpected passing of one of our long-time members who was a wife, mother and grandmother of members and who was super-involved in congregational life. We are all trying to process this and minister to the family and one-another moving forward. We are hoping to participate in Boardwalk Chapel, Wildwood NJ evangelistic mission once again this summer, but we are short of commitment. We would appreciate prayers for more participants from within and outside of our church. The Lord's continued blessing on our worship services and ministries and new inspiration for outreach into our community. We have a number of family members serving in the military. Prayer for them and their families would be comforting at this time.

**Trinity PCA, DeMotte IN (TE S Van Eck)** – Praise that TE Van Eck has recovered from a heart-attack. Pray for his cardio therapy. Pray for members with health issues.

## OUR COMMUNITY & COUNTRY:

**That in our community**, we would be faithful witnesses of our Lord Jesus Christ, ready to give a defense of the gospel and the hope that is in us. (1 Peter 3:15) 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 all of 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, domestically and abroad.

**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 lose influence and the ability to witness because of hypocrisy in the church. That we would all "kiss the Son, lest he be angry." (Psalm 2) 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 the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches in our country.

For the Church's 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." That our new Missions budget would be a blessing to our foreign missionaries and facilitate more local outreach.

**For persecuted Christians** throughout the world who are suffering because of the Cross. That they would be faithful witnesses to Jesus Christ, even unto death, and that their persecutors would be converted through their witness. This month we pray in particular for Christians living under Islamic oppression and persecution in Somalia, Eritrea, and Sudan.

## INFORMATION & STATISTICS

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## **THE SESSION**

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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**

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

## **CHURCH ATTENDANCE: MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>**

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AM Service	68
AM Livestream	
AM AVG. (2026)	66
AM AVG (2025)	65
PM Service	14
PM Livestream	
PM AVG. 2025	11
PM AVG. 2024	17

## **GENERAL FUND GIVING**

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March Giving	\$
March Budget	\$

