

# 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 19

May 11, 2026

Pascha: The Sixth Sunday of the Resurrection

"Do You Love Me?"



*Martyrdom of St. Peter*

Caravaggio (1601)

**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.

*Soli Deo Gloria,*

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

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

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

### **THIS WEEK**

**Ascension Thursday Service & Feast** – Join us on Thursday at 6:00 pm for our annual Ascension Service followed by our Ascension Feast. Sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

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

**Men's Breakfast** – Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 AM. Kitchen opens at 8:00.

**Pentecost Feast** – Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> following our AM Worship Service. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

## **REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

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**MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH IN NEED OF PRAYER:** Ann Armstrong, Mark & Michelle Green, Julia Mayes, Lisa Schember, and the family of Kurt 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); expectant mother Maddie Wissner and baby, 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 Islamic persecution in Nigeria.

# PRELUDE & SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

1177

Slane | *Piano, Briynne McCrea*

O God, whose blessed Son made is the Good Shepherd of your people; Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, together with the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Opening Prayer | *Sixth Sunday of Pascha*

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep...I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep...I lay down my life that I may take it up again...I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.

The Lord Jesus Christ | *John 10:11, 14–15, 18*

Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, where are you going?” Jesus answered him, “Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward.” Peter said to him, “Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you.” Jesus answered, “Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times.”

St. John | *John 14:36–38*

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Feed my lambs.” He said to him a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” He said to him, “Tend my sheep.” He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said, to him, “Feed my sheep.”

St. John | *John 21:15–17*

# ~ THE DIVINE SERVICE ~

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### CALL TO WORSHIP

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\*GOD'S GREETING

*Revelation*

*1:4b-5a*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

*from Psalm*

*118*

\*HYMN OF ENTRANCE

*Now with Joyful Exultation*

*(1-3)*

\*RESPONSORIAL

*from Psalm*

*118*

Minister: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures forever!

†Congregation: **Blessed is he who come in the name of the LORD!**  
**We bless you from the house of the LORD.**

Minister: Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter through them  
and give thanks to the LORD.

†Congregation: **This is the gate of the LORD;**  
**the righteous shall enter through it.**

Minister: Christ is risen!

†Congregation: **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

\*PRAYER OF ENTRANCE



the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are employed in the public sector has increased from 10.5 million to 12.5 million (12% of the population).

There are a number of reasons for this increase. One of the main reasons is the growth of the public sector. The public sector has grown from 10.5 million in 1990 to 12.5 million in 2000. This is due to a number of factors, including the growth of the public sector, the increase in the number of people who are employed in the public sector, and the increase in the number of people who are employed in the public sector.

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# THE CONFESSION OF SIN

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READING OF THE LAW

*1 Peter*

5:1–11

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

*Romans 4:25;*

8:1

\*HYMN OF ASSURANCE

*I Know That My Redeemer*

*Lives*

## **I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES**

**Samuel Medley**

**(1775)**

I know that my Redeemer lives, glory, hallelujah!  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives, glory, hallelujah!  
Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground, glory, hallelujah!  
The dead's alive and the lost is found, glory, hallelujah!

He lives, He lives, who once was dead, glory, hallelujah!  
He lives my everlasting Head, glory, hallelujah!  
Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground, glory, hallelujah!  
The dead's alive and the lost is found, glory, hallelujah!

He lives, triumphant from the grave, glory, hallelujah!  
He lives, eternally to save, glory, hallelujah!  
Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground, glory, hallelujah!  
The dead's alive and the lost is found, glory, hallelujah!

He lives to bless me with his love, glory, hallelujah!  
He lives to plead for me above, glory, hallelujah!  
Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground, glory, hallelujah!  
The dead's alive and the lost is found, glory, hallelujah!

He lives to silence all my fears, glory, hallelujah!  
He lives to wipe away my tears, glory, hallelujah!  
Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground, glory, hallelujah!  
The dead's alive and the lost is found, glory, hallelujah!

He lives to calm my troubled heart, glory, hallelujah!  
He lives all blessings to impart, glory, hallelujah!

Shout on, pray on, we're gaining ground, glory, hallelujah!  
The dead's alive and the lost is found, glory, hallelujah!

## **OUR OFFERINGS**

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### 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

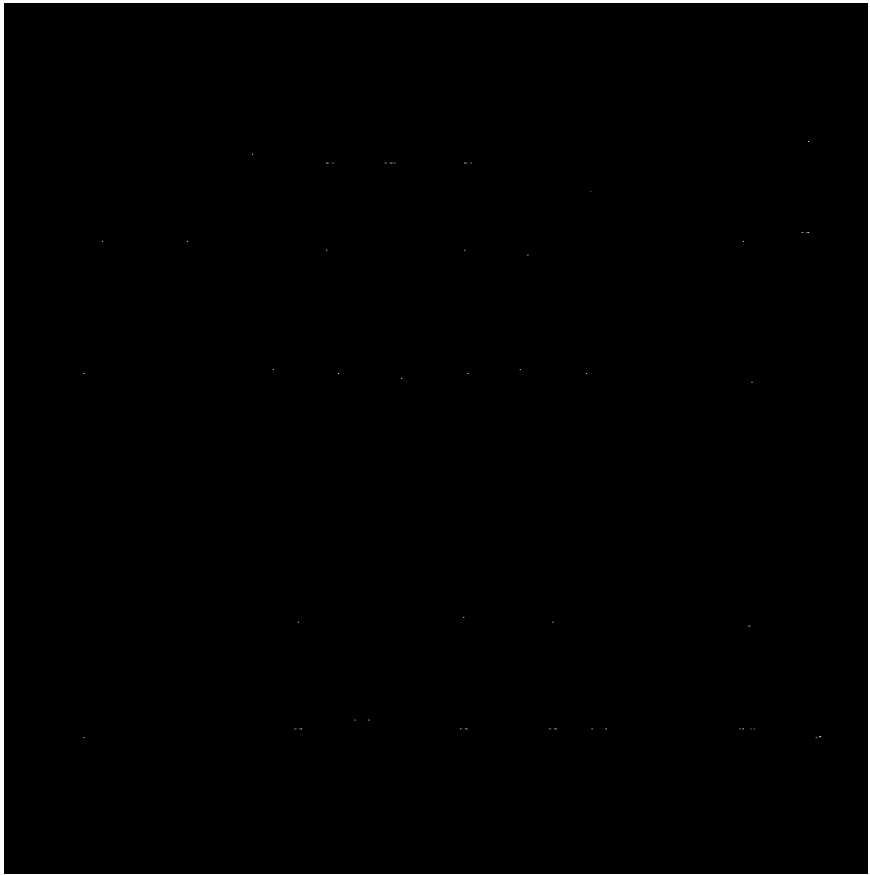
*Psalm*

96:8-9

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and  
come into his courts! Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness;  
tremble before him, all the earth!

### \*THE OFFERING OF PRAISE

*Doxology*



## THE SERMON

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\*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON TEXT

*John*

21:15–19

Minister: The grass withers, the flower fades,

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

SERMON

*The Gospel According to John: Passion, Pascha,*

*Pentecost*

*Pascha: Do You Love Me?*

SERMON NOTES

PRAYER OF APPLICATION

\*HYMN OF APPLICATION

184 – *The King of Love My*

*Shepherd Is*

## 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

*424 – Shepherd of Souls, Refresh*

*and Bless*

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

*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Alleluia, alleluia!

Hearts to heav'n and voices raise:  
sing to God a hymn of gladness,  
sing to God a hymn of praise.  
He, who on the cross a victim  
for the world's salvation bled,  
Jesus Christ, the King of glory,  
now is risen from the dead.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to God on high!  
Alleluia! to the Savior  
who has gained the victory!  
Alleluia! to the Spirit,

Fount of love and sanctity!  
Alleluia, alleluia  
to the Triune Majesty!

\*BENEDICTION

*Hebrews*

13:20–21

\*POSTLUDE

## EVENING WORSHIP CATECHETICAL SERVICE

### PRELUDE

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“And Can it Be”  
Sagina

*Thomas Campbell, 1825*

They who, upon pretense of Christian liberty, do practice any sin, or cherish any lust, do thereby destroy the end of Christian liberty; which is, that, being delivered out of the hands of our enemies, we might serve the Lord without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.

The Westminster Divines | *WCF 20.3, Of Christian Liberty*

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery...For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

St. Paul | *Galatians 5:1, 13*

Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.

St. Peter | *1 Peter 2:16*

Now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

St. Paul | *Romans 6:23–24*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

\*GREETING

*Galatians*

*1:3–5*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Luke*

*1:68–75*

\*PSALM OF PRAISE

*O Praise the LORD, His Deeds*

*Make Known*

\*PRAYER OF ENTRANCE

WESTMINSTER CONFESSION

*Page*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Psalm*

*1*

PSALM OF RESPONSE

558 – *That Man Is Blest*

*Who, Fearing God*

PASTORAL PRAYER

NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Romans*

6

SERMON

*Of Christian*

*Liberty, and of Liberty of Conscience:*

*The Abuse of Christian Liberty*

1) THE FREEDOM OF CHRISTIAN LIBERTY

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2) THE ABUSE OF THAT FREEDOM

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### 3) THE DESTRUCTION OF CHRISTIAN LIBERTY

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### 4) THE END OF CHRISTIAN LIBERTY

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PRAYER OF APPLICATION

\*HYMN OF APPLICATION

529 – *Love Divine, All Loves*

*Excelling*



# ~ WESTMINSTER CONFSSION OF FAITH ~

## CHAPTER 20, PARAGRAPHS 1, 3

### OF CHRISTIAN LIBERTY & LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE

THE LIBERTY which Christ hath purchased  
for believers under the gospel  
consists in their freedom from the guilt of sin,  
the condemning wrath of God,  
the curse of the moral law;  
and in their being delivered from this present evil world,  
bondage to Satan, and dominion of sin,  
from the evil of afflictions,  
the sting of death, the victory of the grave,  
and everlasting damnation;  
as also in their free access to God,  
and yielding obedience unto him,  
not out of slavish fear, but a childlike love and willing mind.

They who, upon the pretense of Christian liberty,  
do practice any sin, or cherish any lust,  
do thereby destroy the end of Christian liberty;  
which is, that, being delivered out of the hands of our enemies,  
we might serve the Lord without fear,  
in holiness and righteousness before him,  
all the days of our life.

# 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

*11 – Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God*

(1, 2)

\*BENEDICTION

*2 Corinthians*

*13:14*



# ~ 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:** Expectant mother Maddie Wissner and baby; Ann Armstrong (cancer), Mark & Michelle Green, Tom & Julia Mayes, Lisa Schember, and the families of Alan Moulds and Kurt 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 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:** Jackson Fluegge, 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 Gembarski (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:

**Rev. Walter (Mynda) Lorenz (Pastor at Large of GLP):** Ask anyone, "What is the most difficult, discouraging, defeating thing you deal with in your church, or home, or life for that matter?" and they most likely will answer that it is conflict amongst people. Your pastors and elders of our Gt. Lks. Presbytery has assigned some of us to work on providing a conference this September on "Biblical Conflict Resolution." --- Please pray that God will give us wisdom in pursuing this work and that our Lord will be graciously and powerfully at work helping us all to avoid falling prey to the schemes of the evil one, and to pursue "...the wisdom that comes from heaven (which) is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness." (James 3:17, 18)

**New City Presbyterian, Ferndale MI— Senior Pastor is Tommy (Abigail) Myrick and Assistant Pastor Brennen (Tiffany) Winter** – Thanking and praising God for His daily provisions and guidance. Please pray for our officers, deacon assistants, and staff as we serve the Lord's church with wisdom and guidance through love and grace. Please pray for

our men's and women's ministries to take root and grow and provide a place of growing more like Christ. Please pray for our students and children's ministries that the Lord would provide men and women who love the Lord and desire to serve our covenant children in discipling and shepherding their hearts. Please pray that all who call New City their home will grow in their knowledge and love of the Lord and His church and will be blessed in using the gifts they are given to serve the church in the way the Lord leads them. Praying we continue to grow in our Awe of the Lord and may His Name be praised in all things.

**Great Lakes Presbytery:** Praise the Lord for his continued faithfulness to our Presbytery. May he continue to lavish his grace upon us to raise up more faithful ministers, plant more faithful churches, and remain steadfast in faithfully preaching his holy, inerrant, authoritative, and sufficient Word. And please pray for our new committee members and officers who are faithfully carrying out the work of the Presbytery. May the Lord bless their labors as they seek to serve the congregations of the GLP.

## 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 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 Nigeria.

## **INFORMATION & STATISTICS**

## **THE SESSION & DIACONATE**

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
Bob Hobkirk	Deacon, Trustee
Allan McLeod	Deacon
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 OFFICES**

Church Office	M–F, 8:00–12:00
Pastor’s Office	T–F, By Appointment

## **CHURCH ATTENDANCE: MAY 3<sup>rd</sup>**

AM Service	66
AM Livestream	
AM AVG. (2026)	66
AM AVG (2025)	65
PM Service	12
PM Livestream	
PM AVG. 2025	15
PM AVG. 2024	17

## **GENERAL FUND GIVING**

May Giving	\$
May Budget	\$