



We are a gospel-centered community
seeking to glorify God by making,
maturing, and multiplying disciples

The Lord's Day Service
August 9, 2026

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

*We are a gospel-centered community seeking to glorify God
by making, maturing, and multiplying disciples.*

First Presbyterian is a granddaughter church of the First Protestant Church of Detroit, later to be known as First Presbyterian Detroit, which was organized and planted by John Monteith in 1818.

On February 24, 1903, Pastor F.G. Ellet of First Presbyterian Church of Wyandotte (the Wyandotte church started in 1856 and reorganized in 1866) met with a few members who wished to start a mission to Trenton. Mr. A. W. Ford, who initiated the meeting, acted as a secretary. By June 1st of that same year, a petition was signed by 72 individuals and was presented to the Detroit Presbytery requesting that a Trenton Church be organized. The Original Petition read...

“We, the undersigned members and adherents of the Presbyterian Church, respectively petition the Presbytery of Detroit to organize a church in our midst. The town of Trenton has 1,200 inhabitants and is in the midst of a good farming community; has every prospect of growth as a manufacturing town, being already a delight and much sought summer resort on the bank of the Detroit River. There is only one other Protestant church, except a small Episcopal body. There is every indication of a successful work by our church and a much needed organization.”

On July 2, 1903, First Presbyterian Church of Trenton was organized with 39 charter members. The infant congregation began by meeting at the schoolhouse on the corner of Elm and Washington (now West Jefferson.) The first installed Pastor was George B. Crawford who served from 1903-1905.

Over 120 years later, First Presbyterian continues the faithful legacy of doctrinal integrity and evangelical mission.

Thank you for choosing to worship with us. We pray that the service and ministries may be a blessing to you.

In Christ,
Pastor Aaron Carr

~ ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD ~

Our liturgy of worship is built around a dialogue between God and His people.
God speaks through His word and His people respond.

YOU WILL NOTICE OUR LITURGY IS BUILT AROUND 4 G'S

GOD'S GREATNESS

OUR GUILT

GOD'S GRACE

OUR GRATITUDE

WHY WE DO THAT:

4 G's - You may have noticed that our Sunday morning liturgy contains headings which can be summarized as: Greatness, Guilt, Grace, & Gratitude. The Bible tells us which elements must be present in our worship (i.e. preaching, singing, prayer, etc.), yet it does not prescribe a specific order in which these must be done. We are, however, given principles such as, "all things should be done decently and in order" (1 Cor. 14:40). When we gather to worship as God's people, it should be done in a way that makes sense and in which the form and order of worship helps make the message clear. One may call this "gospel-formed worship" and that is our goal at First Pres.

The "4 G's" idea comes from the Heidelberg catechism question which tells us three general things which Christians must know: our sinfulness (guilt), how we are set free from that sin (grace), and how we are to thank God for that freedom (gratitude). We believe that a fourth "G" is also appropriate because it is when we recognize how great God is, we truly understand our own guilt. As you worship with us today and in the coming weeks, watch and listen for these movements in our services as we acknowledge and praise God for His greatness and might, confess our sins before the holy and awesome God, hear of the grace that is provided for us in the Lord Jesus Christ, and respond in gratitude to that grace which is so abundantly given.

REFLECTION BEFORE WORSHIP:

"When Christians gather to worship God on the Lord's Day, they take part in the most meaningful, significant, and wonderful activity possible." ~ D.G. Hart

SUNDAY MORNING

Order of Worship

~RECOGNITION OF GOD'S GREATNESS~

*Call to Worship

Psalm 34:3,8

³ *Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together!* ⁸ *Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!*

*Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn (CH 794, 9am)

Let All Things Now Living

*Song (11am)

Taste And See (Psalm 34)

Declaring our Faith

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the 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 men 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 sits on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I 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 worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy catholic † and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn (CH 813)

Gloria Patri

~ADMISSION OF OUR GUILT~

Prayer of Confession

Romans 6:12-13

¹² *Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions.* ¹³ *Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.*

Romans 5:19, 20b-21

¹⁹ *For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.* ²⁰ *...where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,* ²¹ *so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

CH = Celebration Hymnal

SH= Sing Hymnal

TPH = Trinity Psalter Hymnal

* The congregation is requested to stand, if able.

† catholic meaning the "whole or universal church"

There will be a volunteer in the hallway to direct the kids to their classes.

The children are welcome to worship with us for the remainder of the service if parents so desire.

~ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE~

***Hymn (CH 344)**

Grace Greater Than Our Sin

Old Testament Reading

Proverbs 9:1-18

¹ Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn her seven pillars. ² She has slaughtered her beasts; she has mixed her wine; she has also set her table. ³ She has sent out her young women to call from the highest places in the town, ⁴ "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" To him who lacks sense she says, ⁵ "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. ⁶ Leave your simple ways, and live, and walk in the way of insight." ⁷ Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse, and he who reproves a wicked man incurs injury. ⁸ Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you; reprove a wise man, and he will love you. ⁹ Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning. ¹⁰ The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. ¹¹ For by me your days will be multiplied, and years will be added to your life. ¹² If you are wise, you are wise for yourself; if you scoff, you alone will bear it. ¹³ The woman Folly is loud; she is seductive and knows nothing. ¹⁴ She sits at the door of her house; she takes a seat on the highest places of the town, ¹⁵ calling to those who pass by, who are going straight on their way, ¹⁶ "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" And to him who lacks sense she says, ¹⁷ "Stolen water is sweet, and bread eaten in secret is pleasant." ¹⁸ But he does not know that the dead are there, that her guests are in the depths of Sheol.

New Testament Reading

Matthew 11:28-30

²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Prayer of Illumination

Preaching of God's Word

Proverbs 9:1-18

~RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE~

***Hymn (CH 568, 9am)**

May The Mind Of Christ My Savior

***Song (11am)**

Flee From Sin (Run To Jesus)

***Song (11am)**

Jesus!

***Benediction**

Matthew 11:28

²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

***Doxology**

EVENING SERVICE

Conclude the Lord's Day with us this evening at 6pm

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 34:3,8

³Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together! ⁸Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

***Song**

Who Is Like The Lord (Psalm 113)

Confessing our Faith

The Westminster Shorter Catechism (WSC) is a tool that helps us learn and commit to memory what the Bible teaches in question and answer form.

Q37. What benefits do believers receive from Christ at death?

^{A.} The souls of believers are, at their death, made perfect in holiness, and do immediately pass into glory; and their bodies, being still united to Christ, do rest in their graves until the resurrection.

***Song**

Christ The Sure And Steady Anchor

Scripture Reading

Micah 7:18-20

¹⁷ Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. ¹⁹ He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. ²⁰ You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

Prayer of Illumination

Exhortation of God's Word

Micah 7:18-20

***Song**

Come Weary Souls

The Lord's Supper

***Benediction**

Matthew 11:28

²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEAL MINISTRY is looking for help! Planning the menu, ordering the food, and leading the team of volunteers in preparing the food is a paid position. Volunteers are needed for food prep, meal packaging, serving, clean up and delivery. If you are interested applying for the paid position or would like to serve in a volunteer position, please contact the church office at 734-676-1510 or call Jamie Barwinski for more information at 734-775-1836.

GOAL SPORTS FALL SOCCER REGISTRATION is now open. Fall Session will run on Saturdays from 10am - 11am beginning September 12 until October 17. Register at fpchurch.com. Registration will remain open until August 28!

OFFICER TRAINING First meeting for Officer Training (for Elders and Deacons) will be Thursday, August 13 at 6:00pm, in the virtual classroom.

ANNUAL FALL KICKOFF Join us for fun, food, and fellowship on Saturday, September 12 from 2–6pm at the home of the Merkeys. Register at fpchurch.com to attend and bring a dessert or side dish to share. Can't wait to see you there!

KINGDOM EXPLORERS registration is now open. This club is for girls and boys going into 1st - 5th grade. Club begins Wednesday, September 16 at 7pm. Register at fpchurch.com. For more information see Jon Blosser or Vicky Seitz.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY led by Neil McKinnie will begin Tuesday, September 15 at 6pm. They will be studying from the book *Respectable Sins* by Jerry Bridges. For more information see Neil McKinnie.

MORE INFORMATION

If you would like more information about our events or ministries, please visit our website at **fpchurch.com** or download the **Church Center App** on your phone. You can also call us at (734) 676-1510 or email the office at **office@fpchurch.com**.

THE WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday

Morning Worship - 9:00am & 11:00am - Sanctuary

Sunday School - 10:00am

Evening Service - 6:00pm - Sanctuary

Monday

Ministry Minded - 5:15pm - Virtual Classroom

Family Life - 7:15pm - Room 305

Wednesday

Jr. & Sr. High Small Groups - 7:00pm - Room 301

Young Adult Ministry - 9:00pm - The Merkey's Home

Thursday

Worship Team Rehearsal - 7:00pm - Sanctuary

Officer Training - 6:00pm - Virtual Classroom

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS



Our meal ministry is currently feeding approximately 100 people each week. Originally started during the pandemic to provide our seniors with a healthy, home cooked meal on a weekly basis, its focus expanded as our team built relationships with those who received the meals. The ministry has provided both the opportunity to care for our brothers and sisters in Christ and build bonds with others who haven't heard the gospel. We often hear of the impact the meal ministry has had not only on those who receive meals, but on those who serve.

Our current need for this program is the involvement of more of our people.

- We are searching for a person to head up the cooking portion each week. This paid position involves planning the menu, ordering the food, and leading the team of volunteers in preparing the food. Requires being on site for approximately 10 hours/week on Wednesday and Thursday plus time at home to plan and order. We are more than willing to mentor and train the right person.
- We also need volunteers for food prep, meal packaging, cleaning up, and meal delivery with your own vehicle. Volunteers may choose their hours and how often they would like to serve.

To apply or to volunteer, please contact the church office at 734-676-1510 or call Jamie Barwikowski for more information at 734-775-1836.

GIVING

Giving is an important part of worshipping God as we obediently and joyfully give from what has been generously provided to us. The faithful stewardship of God's people enables us to sustain our church-based ministries and programs, assist in the planting of new churches, and the sending of missionaries around the world. Options for giving:

- **Online giving** is available at fpchurch.com
- **Text giving** is available at (734) 672-3675
- **The Black Box** near the sanctuary exit is available for contributions by check or cash

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, typical of notebook paper. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the page.



If your children will be with us for the sermon, we hope they can use these prompts to help them listen and learn.

What is the BIG idea (main point of the sermon)?

Verses the preacher mentioned:

Draw a picture of something the preacher talked about.

What I learned today:

Words I didn't understand:

CHURCH OFFICERS

ELDERS

Elders oversee the spiritual care of the church through shepherding as well as oversight of various committees within the church.

Aaron Carr - Senior Pastor

Jerry Barwikowski- Administration

Jerry Bringard- Administration

Mark Merkey- Missions

Tom Montie- Family Life

Mark Prim- Missions

Mike Rozanski- Shepherding

Jim Scullion- Worship & Administration

Gary Westerbeek - Stated Clerk & C.P.
Residency

DEACONS

Deacons help steward the needs of the congregation by overseeing a variety of committees within the church.

Matt Berk- Welcome & Frontline Greeters

Eric Keel- Communion

Mike Overwater- Facilities/Security

Alex Piasecki- Congregational Care

Gary Siemers- Compassionate Care

Lee Shirley- Meal Ministry

Joe Strozeski- Mercy Ministry & Physical
Needs

Mike Thisse- Congregational Care

Our Elders & Deacons are assisted by Care Team Members in caring for our families.

Please direct your questions related to ministry times and rooms to:

Administrative Assistant - Desiree Merkey - dmerkey@fpchurch.com

Please direct your questions related to financial giving to:

Financial Administrator - Tracey Riley - triley@fpchurch.com



Worship Times: 9am, 11am, & 6pm

Sunday School: 10am

Website: fpchurch.com

**Facebook: First Presbyterian
Church of Trenton**

**A congregation of the
Presbyterian Church in America
First Presbyterian Church
2799 West Rd., Trenton, MI 48183
(734)676-1510**