



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

The Lord's Day Service
September 20, 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:

"In God, are treasures that can never be emptied and pleasures that can never be ended."
~ Thomas Watson

SUNDAY MORNING

Order of Worship

~RECOGNITION OF GOD'S GREATNESS~

*Call to Worship

Psalm 150:1-2,6

¹ Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! ² Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! ⁶ Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

*Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn (CH 33)

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Declaring our Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate;
Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell;
The third day He rose again from the dead He ascended; into heaven
And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy †catholic church;
The communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
The resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn (CH 813)

Gloria Patri

~ADMISSION OF OUR GUILT~

Prayer of Confession

Psalm 27:1

²⁷ The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Assurance of Pardon

Hebrews 10:22

²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

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 139)**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Old Testament Reading

Joshua 1:6-9

⁶ Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. ⁷ Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. ⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. ⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

New Testament Reading (vs. 6-7 Sermon Text)

2 Timothy 1:1-7

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus, ² To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. ³ I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Illumination

Preaching of God's Word

2 Timothy 1:6-7

~RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE~

***Hymn (SH 594)**

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

The Lord's Supper

***Hymn (CH 343)**

Amazing Grace

***Benediction**

Hebrews 13:20-21

²⁰ Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, ²¹ equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

***Doxology**

EVENING SERVICE

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

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 150:1-2,6

¹ Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! ² Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! ⁶ Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

***Song**

Behold Our God

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.

Q42. What is the sum of the ten commandments?

^A The sum of the ten commandments is, to love the Lord our God, with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all our mind; and our neighbor as ourselves.

***Song**

Glorify Thy Name

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 6:16

¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Illumination

Preaching of God's Word

Ephesians 6:16

***Song**

Christ The Sure And Steady Anchor

***Benediction**

Hebrews 13:20-21

²⁰ Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, ²¹ equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNICANT'S CLASS is a class dedicated to children which explores declaring one's faith and the importance of the Lord's table. The class is provided for youth whose parents believe they are ready to become full communing members. This class begins Wednesday, September 23 at 5:00pm and will meet in room 305. Register at fpchurch.com.

WOMEN'S SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY will begin Saturday, September 26 at 10:15am in room 306. They will be studying the book of Luke. For more information go to fpchurch.com.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM Rehearsals for the Children's Christmas Program begin Sunday, October 18 during the 10am Sunday School hour. This is a great opportunity for all children (4 years-5th grade) to be able to share the Christmas story and will include a dance, choir, group singing, solo singing, instrument solos and individual speaking parts (small and large). Register at fpchurch.com to participate.

TRUNK OR TREAT our fall Trunk or Treat event on Wednesday, October 21 from 6:00-8:00pm. Candy donations are needed and can be dropped off in the main office. Please make sure they are individually wrapped candy and **NO NUTS** please! We also need individuals willing to decorate a trunk, those willing to participate please register at fpchurch.com.

TEACHER'S TRAINING Sunday, October 25 from 12:15pm - 1:45pm. This is a mandatory meeting for all teachers and volunteers helping in the PreK through 5th grade 10:00 and 11:00 classes. Lunch will be provided.

WOMEN'S ADVENT TEA Ladies, mark your calendars for Monday, December 7 from 6:30pm - 9:00pm. This year's Advent Tea speaker will be Karen Rozanski.

YOUTH MINISTRY SCHEDULE

- Sr. High Youth Group - Sunday Night 7pm
- Jr. High Youth Group - Wednesday Night 7pm

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

(No Choir this evening)

Sr. High Youth Group - 7:00pm

Monday

Faith and Fellowship - 9:30am - Room 305

Admin, Committee Mtg - 5:30pm - Virtual Classroom

Session- 6:30pm - Virtual Classroom

Tuesday

Men's Bible Study - 6:00pm - Room 305

Wednesday

Prayer Meeting - 6:30pm - Room 305

Jr. High Youth Group - 7:00pm - Room 301

Kingdom Kids - 7:00pm - Room 101,102 & Fellowship Hall

Women's Bible Study - 7:00pm - Room 302

Men's Bible Study - 7:00pm - Virtual Classroom

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

Thursday

Worship Team Rehearsal - 7:00pm - Sanctuary

Saturday

Goal Sports - 10:00am - Elizabeth Park

Slide Showdown (Sr. High) - 7:00pm - Room 304

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Join us for a day of fasting & prayer. September 24, 2026

Our PCA denomination has asked us to join for a day of prayer and fasting. Therefore, our Church Planting Network, the Detroit Project, is asking all its churches to set aside September 24, 2026. The following QR code provides a prayer guide, and physical copies are available at the welcome station.

See: (<https://byfaithonline.com/pca-call-to-prayer-and-fasting-for-revival/>)

Prayer Guide:



or visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/2h8zp5xz>



THE DETROIT PROJECT
CHURCH PLANTING INITIATIVE

————— *“Will you not revive us again, that your people
may rejoice in you? Show us your steadfast love,
O LORD, and grant us your salvation.”* —————

— Psalm 85:6-7

GIVING

Giving is an important part of worshiping 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, providing a template for writing. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



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**