FIRST PRES

WHERE TRUTH AND MISSION MEET

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

The Lord's Day Service
November 1, 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 reorganzied 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:

"Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music." ~ Martin Luther

SUNDAY MORNING

Order of Worship

~RECOGNITION OF GOD'S GREATNESS~

***Call to Worship** **Psalm 90:1-2**

[1] Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. [2] Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

***Prayer of Invocation**

Hymn (TPH 90A, 9am)** ***Psalm 90A

Song (11am)** ***Only A Holy God

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 ***Gloria Patri***

~ADMISSION OF OUR GUILT~

Prayer of Confession **Matthew 3:8**

[8] Bear fruit hin keeping with repentance.

Assurance of Pardon **Joel 2:12-13**

[12] "Yet even now," declares the LORD,"return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; [13] and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

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 (TPH 51B)** ***Psalm 51B

Old Testament Reading **Jeremiah 18:1-11**

[1]The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: [2] "Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." [3] So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. [4] And the vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to do. [5] Then the word of the LORD came to me: [6] "O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter has done? declares the LORD. Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. [7] If at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will upluck up and break down and destroy it, [8] and if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will relent of the disaster that I intended to do to it. [9] And if at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, [10] and if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will relent of the good that I had intended to do to it. [11] Now, therefore, say to the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: 'Thus says the LORD, Behold, I am shaping disaster against you and devising a plan against you. Return, every one from his evil way, and amend your ways and your deeds.'

New Testament Reading **2 Timothy 2:20-26**

[20] Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable. [21] Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable,he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work. [22] So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart. [23] Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. [24] And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, [25] correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, [26] and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Illumination

Preaching of God's Word **2 Timothy 2:20-26**

~RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE~

Hymn (TPH 351)** ***How Deep The Father's Love For Us

The Lord's Supper

Hymn (SH 256, 9am)** ***There Is A Redeemer
Song (11am)** ***Jesus!

***Benediction** **1 Peter 5:10-11**

[10]And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. [11] To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

***Doxology**

EVENING SERVICE

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

***Call to Worship** **Psalm 90:1-2**

[1] Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. [2] Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Song** ***God The Uncreated One (King Forevermore)

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.

Q50. **What is the required second commandment?**

A. The second commandment requireth the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire, all such religious worship and ordinances as God hath appointed in his Word.

Song** ***How Great Thou Art

Scripture Reading **Revelation 2:1-7**

[1]"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: 'The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands. [2] "'I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. [3] I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. [4] But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. [5] Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. [6] Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. [7] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.'

Reader: This is the word of the LORD.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Illumination

Exhortation of God's Word **Revelation 2:1-7**

Song** ***Come Ye Sinners Poor And Needy

***Benediction** **1 Peter 5:10-11**

[10]And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. [11] To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18 at 7pm. Dinner will be provided at 6pm prior to the meeting. Please mark your calendars!

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE mark your calendars and join us for our Thanksgiving Eve Service Wednesday, November 25 at 7:00pm.

HOSTESSES NEEDED FOR WOMEN'S ADVENT TEA! Ladies, please prayerfully consider hostessing a table for this year's Advent by Candlelight event on Monday, December 7 from 6:30-8:30PM. This long-standing First Pres tradition is a beautiful evening intended to reflect on the birth of Jesus Christ and to prepare our hearts and minds for a Christmas season focused on HIM. Hostessing a table is truly a blessing to you as the hostess and the ladies at your table! To sign up as a hostess or to ask any questions about the hostessing process, please contact Jen McConnell at jenmcconnell@magi-caltravel.com OR call (734) 308-0603. This year's Advent Tea guest speaker will be Karen Rozanski and our special music guests will be Tammy French, Mary Scullion, and Fran Webster.

CHOIR PRACTICE meets on Sunday night following the evening service.

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
New Members Class - 10:00am - Chapel
Evening Service - 6:00pm - Sanctuary
Sr. High Youth Group - 7:00pm -Room 302
Jr. High Boys Small Group - 7:00pm - Room 304
Jr. High Girls Small Group - 7:00pm - Cry Room
Choir Practice - 7:15pm - Sanctuary

Monday

Faith and Fellowship - 9:30am - Room 305
Congregational Care Meeting - 6:30pm Room 306
Missions Meeting - 7:00pm - Room 305
Ministry Minded - 5:00pm - Virtual Classroom

Tuesday

Men's Bible Study - 6:00pm - Room 305
Sr. High Boys Small Group - 7:00pm - The Payne's Home

Wednesday

Communicants Class - 5:30pm - Room 305
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
Sr. High Girl Small Group - 7:00pm - The Payne's Home

Saturday

Goal Sports Flag Football - 10:00am - Elizabeth Park
Women's Bible Study - 10:15am - Room 305

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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

SERMON NOTES

FP KIDS

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:

What I learned today:

Draw a picture of something the preacher talked about.

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

Sam Payne - Assistant 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
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